Newsletter

Torbay

Foreword from Darryn Allcorn, Chief Nurse and Chair of the TSCP Executive Group

As the Chief Nurse for Devon Clinical Commissioning Group and the Integrated Care System Devon, it is a real privilege to take up the role of chair of Torbay Safeguarding Children's Partnership, especially at a time when the group is growing in stature and leading the challenges we face moving to the recovery phase of the pandemic. The role of Chair will rotate on a yearly basis between the three lead partner agencies but we will all ensure that we maintain a focus upon strength based approaches to support children and young people's independence, resilience, strengths and capabilities understanding and responding to young people's experience. We will listen to the voice of children, young people, and their families in setting direction and ensuring our priorities are informed by what matters to individuals. The four priority areas identified by the partnership for this year are: neglect, exploitation, domestic abuse, and mental health. The Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive Group will oversee what is done by the safeguarding partner organisations and remain constantly curious in setting direction and enabling the many subgroups established within the partnership.

I look forward to working with you

Kind regards

Darryn

Escalation/Professional Differences policy

Recent audit activity has highlighted a lack of understanding across the safeguarding partnership in respect of when and how to escalate concerns via the Professional Differences policy. An updated version of the policy has been agreed by local agencies and can be found <u>here.</u> Please discuss with your line manager if you are aware of a situation where the policy requires enacting.

Who are the TSCP and what do we do?

Following the governments Wood Report, commissioned in 2016, into the role and functions of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB's) and their duties as part of local safeguarding arrangements it was decided that a new approach was needed as the LSCB model was not meeting the required outcomes for children and families. In 2019, in line with the Wood report's findings, Safeguarding Children Partnerships were created, based on the joint sharing of safeguarding responsibilities across local agencies. Torbay's partnership is overseen by an Executive Group who take responsibility for setting priorities and managing arrangements in our area. The Executive Group comprises three equal partners: the police, local authority, and health, with each member of the group being at a level of seniority that gives them the authority to influence significant changes to policy and practice within their respective agency.

To see the full new arrangements document on the TSCP website, follow **<u>this link</u>**

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Torbay Council Children's Services Devon and Cornwall Police NHS Devon CCG

TSCP Training:

TSCP level 3 training is currently available through i-learn either as the Safeguarding Children Foundation – your first level 3 course or the Safeguarding Children Refresher for those who need to update their learning. Both courses have recently been recommissioned by the TSCP Learning and Development Group. We consistently receive high praise for these courses and expect this to continue. Our commissioned trainers have worked hard to move this onto a live online format during the lockdown but we look forward to returning to class-based learning when it is deemed safe to do so. Please note charges do apply for these courses.

The Learning and Development Group has also agreed with the Business Group and the Quality Assurance Group that the Best Practice Forums will be back but must link to the following areas of learning:

- Multi-Agency Case Audits completed by the Quality Assurance Group
- Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and/or
- Child Death Overview Panel

We have the first Best Practice Forum taking place online on 14th July – you can book on here.

We have been running a range of online webinars across the Autumn and Spring some of which have been one off events – e.g. Gambling Awareness for Youth Facing Professionals but we have also been offering the following courses which you can still book onto:

Managing Allegations Against Members of Staff – book here Introduction to Family Group Conferences – book here

We have also been busy upgrading and adding to our e-learning offer which you can **find here** and added a new section to the i-learn site for Counter Terrorism which you can **find here** for everything PREVENT and CHANNEL related.

We are also looking to expand to the **Training section** on the TSCP website – if you've got a fantastic resource please let us know so we can share.

Please remember that if you have attended a course or watched one of our recorded webinars it's really important to complete the evaluations – we do act on feedback and report on this. But more importantly for you it enables you to access more resources on the i-learn course page and your certificate of attendance/ completion.

Need to get in touch? tscptraining@torbay.gov.uk or 01803 208263

Multi Agency Case Audits (MACAs)

The Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership is committed to reviewing practice to ensure that all partners are compliant with their statutory duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

One of the ways in which we do this is to carry out MACAs focused on key themes identified by the Partnership Executive or through other Partnership Groups.

Updates on the learning will be captured in future Newsletters and learning disseminated through the Best Practice Seminars.

Torbay's Children Services Restorative Practice Journey



Hello, my name is Bexs Rushton and I'm the Restorative Practice Lead for Torbay's Children Services appointed in February 2021.

Torbay Children's Services are embarking on an ambitious journey to embed restorative practice across our workforce and partner agencies to build better relational and restorative ways of working with our children and families. This was in part due to recognition that restorative practice was achieving more positive outcomes for children and families in other local authorities (Tower Hamlets, Leeds¹ etc) in comparison to the previously used ²Signs of Safety Model (SofS).

The essence of working restoratively is that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes in their behaviour when those in positions of authority do things *with* them, rather than *to* them or *for* them³.

When we work with and alongside children and families using a high support and high challenge approach, rather than make decisions about them in isolation, there is strong evidence to say that outcomes for children and their families are greatly improved.

Training Update

So far, we have restoratively trained 44% of our Children's Service workforce, with an ambitious aim to reach 100%. We recognise the importance of bringing our partner agencies (from both the statutory and voluntary sector) along on our journey and have designed a basic awareness course to help you understood more about the benefits of working in a restorative and relational way. The level 3 safeguarding training has also been linked to introduce Restorative Practice and ensure there is a 'golden thread' throughout training.

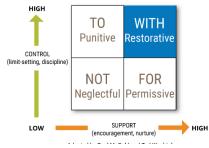
An outline of the course and future delivery dates can be found below:

Restorative Practice Basic Awareness – 4 hours (online)

This course will enable learners to develop basic knowledge of restorative practice which will help you to create and maintain better relationships, become more self-aware and recognise the importance of working 'WITH' others to build meaningful, trusting and respectful 'relationships' with children and families and each other.

Future Training Dates:

- Tuesday 13th July 2021 9.30am 1.00pm
- Tuesday 20th July 2021 9.30am 1.00pm
- Thursday 23rd September 2021 9.30am 1.00pm
- Thursday 14th October 2021 9.30am-1.00pm
- Tuesday 16th November 2021 9.30am 1.00pm



Spaces can be booked via ilearn http://torbay.learningpool.com. For any queries relating to the above training please contact Learning&DevelopmentHub@torbay.gov.uk

If you have any queries or questions about Restorative Practice or would like to know more about our restorative journey so far, please feel free to drop me an email rebecca.rushton@torbay.gov.uk or give me a call on **01803 208569**.