

TSCP Harmful Sexual Behaviour task and finish group

In Summer 2021, a Multi-Agency Case Audit on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) was completed. From this a series of learning and recommendations were made, which resulted in the TSCP setting up a 12 month Task and Finish group to identify and roll-out a partnership wide HSB Assessment Tool. For the interactive learning page; click here: [tscp-qa-group-hsb-maca-learning-page-v1-pdf.pdf \(torbaysafeguarding.org.uk\)](https://www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk/tscp-qa-group-hsb-maca-learning-page-v1-pdf.pdf)

The group has representation from VCS organisations, Police, Primary and Secondary Schools, the Integrated Care Board, local NHS Trust, Torbay Council and others. There is an ambitious programme of work, but this Autumn, please look out for two things in particular.

The first is a new training package on offer via i-learn. The training provider is AIM and the courses will equip practitioners and safeguarding managers to work through and support, identify and work with harmful and problematic sexual behaviours. The training and checklist tool have been made available to the whole Torbay workforce, due to funding being provided by Devon Integrated Care Board and for the training from Safer Communities. It does mean a departure from the Brook Traffic Light Tool for some, but the AIM checklist is also based on the Hackett continuum model. Using the AIM checklist will bring consistency to where there are abusive or violent concerns, where an 'AIM 3' assessment may be completed by Youth Justice or MASH professionals. This means that there can be a confidence and assurance in where referrals may be necessary.

Secondly coming this Autumn will be a new policy and guidance document, which will be for all working within the TSCP and will support practitioners and managers alike. The task and finish group are keen to support your organisation and your professional practice to make a difference where these challenging issues arise.

If you have any feedback, ideas, resources or suggestions you wish to make, please get in touch with the TSCP team at tscp@torbay.gov.uk or if you want more information about the group: [Quality Assurance Group - Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Who to contact if you think a child is at risk of abuse:

In an emergency always call the police on 999

Torbay Council's Children's Services **01803 208100**

Devon and Cornwall Police Non-Emergency Number: **101**

NSPCC: **0808 800 5000**

Professional Differences policy

The Professional Differences Policy is available on the TSCP website here:

<http://www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk/publications/policies/> alongside the recording document that must be used if invoking an escalation.

Please familiarise yourself with the policy and be aware of the stages and timescales that must be followed.

If you are unsure whether the policy applies to a particular situation, we would advise that you email the TSCP Business Manager at neil.cotton@torbay.gov.uk who will assist.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Graded Care Profile 2 is Coming to Torbay



What is the Graded Care Profile 2?

GCP2 is an assessment tool that helps practitioners take a strengths-based approach to measuring the quality of care a child is receiving and supports them to identify neglect.

It can be used where neglect is suspected (assess the current quality of care and monitor progress after interventions) and where quality of care is of interest (targeting resources, understanding educational, emotional or behavioural outcomes for a child).

This is an update of the original Graded Care Profile and includes:

- **more accessible language,**
- **obesity and online safety as areas,**
- **enhanced guidance to support the ease of use by practitioners and**
- **aligned to current legislative context.**

All amendments have been tested with a focus group of practitioners followed by further testing for reliability and validity.

Who Can Use the Tool?

- **Professionals involved in evaluating the care of a child.**
- **It can also be used by:**
 - **parents or carers who wish to evaluate their care of a child themselves.**
 - **Young people who want to evaluate care that they receive from a parent or carer.**

How Can I Find Out More?

Practitioners from across the workforce will be undertaking a train the trainer course on 29th and 30th September. We will then have courses being delivered from October. **Book your place here.**

We will also be rolling out information sessions.

To request a session for your team please email GCP2@torbay.gov.uk

To find out more about what is happening in the TSCP Neglect Group [click here.](#)

1	Always met All the child's needs are always met, and the parent goes the extra mile. The child is always first.
2	Met All essential needs are always met. The child is priority.
3	Met most of the time Most of the time the essential needs of the child are met. The child and the carer are at par.
4	Not met most of the time Most of the time the essential needs of the child are not met. Child is considered second.
5	Never met The child's essential needs are not met. May be due to intentional disregard. The child is last or not considered.

TSCP Training

If you have any navigation issues, or want further information on training, please get in touch: tscptraining@torbay.gov.uk

Position of Trust Loophole Closed

Position of Trust Loophole Closed

We know it's illegal for teachers, care workers and youth justice workers to have sex with 16 or 17-year-olds in their care. However, are you aware a loophole in the law that means other adults who hold a position of power over a young person has now been closed?

The law has now been extended to include any adult who holds a position of power over 16 or 17-year-olds.

Positions of trust: Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 factsheet - GOV.UK
(www.gov.uk)

Why it has been changed

Those who carry out certain activities in a sport or religion are particularly influential over a child's development. For example, sports coaches have unique opportunities for physical contact, and can hold major influence over a young person's career and future development.

Similarly, those who carry out certain activities in a religious situation often have significant influence over a young person's spiritual and religious development, often against a background of emotional vulnerability or immaturity.

Both situations also have very high levels of trust, influence, power and authority and (particularly in the case of those involved in a religion) these figures are well established, trusted and respected in the community.

What has been done?

In Spring 2019 the Ministry of Justice conducted a review of the law in this area. This review found strong evidence for extending the law to cover situations involving activities taking place in a sport or in a religion.

This law ([Sexual Offences Act 2003 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk)) has been extended to include all adults in a position of trust

Written by Chrissie Slaney, District Safeguarding Officer Methodist church

TSCP Website links and information

The TSCP website is updated regularly with useful information and links to support safeguarding of children and young people, and you in your own practice. Click on the links below for more information in each area:

- [Child Safeguarding Practice Review reports and NSPCC Repository](#)
- [TSCP Quality Assurance audit reports and learning pages](#)
- [Managing allegations against adults working with children](#)
- [TSCP training schedule and guidance](#)
- [Information and advice for children and young people](#)

We are in the process of building a new website, if there are any areas you would find helpful to access on this, please let us know tscp@torbay.gov.uk

Voice of the Child and Disguised Compliance

Devon and Cornwall Police were asked to develop short bitesize videos to raise awareness internally with officers and staff around the 'voice of the child' and 'disguised compliance'. The videos have been used for briefings and as CPD material.

The videos have been adapted for Partners agencies to benefit from this piece of work for use in training or CPD, or as you wish.

The videos can be accessed via the links below:

Voice of the child:

<https://vimeo.com/527849152/a563760575>

Disguised compliance:

<https://vimeo.com/582669298/d11ee7f534>

First Steps project

The First Steps project was started by professionals (doctors, therapists, and parents) in Torbay and Devon in October 21.

We aim to join up people around the child with developmental needs, and shift the focus from medical-focussed assessment towards child-centred support. The goal is to empower families and those working with them, to be able to understand, describe and support their child's needs right from the beginning.

In the last six months we have:

- created a handbook for families for primary and preschool children which SENDCOs, family support workers and parent experts are using with families to start small peer support group workshops
- begun holding monthly multi-professional drop-ins for professionals working with children to access advice and discuss cases (anonymised)
- begun organising joint clinics for families of children under 5, with doctors/therapists and health visitors/preschool professionals

We are now working on:

- turning the handbook into an app for families for children of all ages, with the help of families
- signposting to practical needs-based workshops for families of children of all ages regardless of diagnosis
- training for professionals at all levels to be able to recognise and support neurodiversity using child-centred language ("First Steps Champion training")
- joint clinics for over 5s with doctors/therapists and school or early help professionals

JOIN US

- **If you've got any families or young people who might be happy to be interviewed and give their views, or test out an app**
- **Any parent experts who might be interested in coaching other parents**
- **If you'd like to come to a clinic, drop-in, or take part in First Steps training**
- **Or if you can provide feedback and ideas about any part of our project, please send an email to lisa.teoh1@nhs.net**

