Newsletter

Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership

Foreword: Darryn Allcorn, Chief Nurse, NHS Devon ICB

The start of 2023 for the partnership has been a busy one which saw our first Conference, which we hope you agree was a huge success. The day focussed on the role of the partnership and learning from the national review of Star and Arthur. The day was exceptionally well attended and we would like to thank all those who made the day such a success and we will make this an annual event, for those who missed the day the event is still available on line.

There is much to do across the partnership, as we continue to grow in strength and see the work of our groups continue to deliver improvements and increasing positive impact on young people and their families across Torbay.

We thank you for your continued support and commitment and hope you find the latest newsletter informative.

Darryn Allcorn

Chief Nurse, NHS Devon ICB
TSCP Executive Group Chair

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, any suggestions or comments are welcomed **tscp@torbay.gov.uk**

TSCP Harmful Sexual Behaviour Guidance
(click here)

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**

All safeguarding concerns raised will be assessed by highly experienced staff who will explore your concerns with you and where appropriate make decisions about what should happen next.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Torbay Council Children's Services ■ Devon and Cornwall Police ■ NHS Devon ICB

Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Conference 2023

The first **Torbay Safeguarding Children's Partnership Conference (TSCP)** was held on the 31 January. The theme of the conference was to learn from the tragic deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson and to provide an opportunity to update colleagues and multi-agency partners on the significant progress made by the TSCP. The Keynote speaker was Nancy Meehan, who delivered inspirational messages about a hard-hitting topic, followed by presentations on a variety of TSCP work streams.

We were pleased to have 82 delegates in the room who were able to come together, meet each other and network following almost 3 years of meeting virtually. It was also fantastic to see we had a further 84 hits on the live stream from colleagues who were not able to attend in person but were able to engage in the learning. It has been great to hear the positive feedback below and the enthusiasm to deliver the conference annually. We are keen to start planning next year's event so please let us know if you have any ideas or topics you would like to hear about.

View the full TSCP Conference here

'It was a great day and I preferred it being in person as this allows professional relationships to develop.'

'I thought it was a great day, very informative and I really liked the "local speakers" it helped to have the local context and provided a picture of Torbay. It was good to be sat in multi-agency tables, as you got to hear and see things from other service perspectives. Thoughts for next time... perhaps a few more activities and or workshops'

'The whole day/stream was seamless and highly informative. The quality of information shared and coordinated across partners was excellent. Streaming enabled me to multitask whilst maintaining my CPD.

Changes to i-Learn for non-council staff and volunteers

Recent changes have been made to i-learn for non-Council staff to make access to the site and navigation a little easier.

Non-Council staff now have just two buttons on the home screen. A purple one for any multi-agency TSCP training, and a blue one for training offered by the Learning Academy to the wider multi-agency workforce. It is recommended these buttons and subsequent menus are used rather than the search function when looking for courses so that you find the most up to date versions.

The sign-up process has been streamlined, new staff can now create their own account on the i-learn sign-in page **https://torbay.learningpool.com** using the 'Create new account' function. These will then be approved by the Learning and Development team within two working days (often the same day). The previous online form will be disabled in coming months. If you think you already have an account, don't be tempted to create a second one, either use the 'Forgotten username or password' function, or email **Learning&DevelopmentHub@torbay.gov.uk** for a password reset. Duplicate accounts cannot be merged.

You can also sign up to or unsubscribe from the **e-flyer distribution list** on your i-learn home page by clicking on the green button, which will take you to this **form**. If you have suggestions for any future changes, then please do get in touch.

TSCP Training - Spring 2023

DASH Risk Assessment Training. Link: Course: DASH Risk Assessment Training (learningpool.com)

Graded Care Profile 2 Information Session Link: Course: Graded Care Profile 2 Information Session (learningpool.com)

Graded Care Profile 2 Link: Course: Graded Care Profile 2 (learningpool.com)

Foundation Awareness of Harmful Sexual Behaviour Link: Course: Foundation Awareness of Harmful Sexual Behaviour Course (learningpool.com)

Technology Assisted Harmful Sexual Behaviours Foundation Course Link: Course: Foundation Awareness of Harmful Sexual Behaviour Course (learningpool.com)

Safeguarding Officers Induction for Community, Faith, Sports, and Voluntary Sector Organisations Link: Course: Safeguarding Officers Induction - Community, Faith, Sports and Voluntary Sector (learningpool.com)

ICPC and Core Group Training Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=820

Exploring Child in Need and Child Protection Core Groups Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=1039

Introduction to Family Group Conferences in Torbay Link: Course: Introduction to Family Group Conferences in Torbay (learningpool.com)

Child Exploitation in Torbay Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=1014

Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation Link: Course: Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation (learningpool.com)

Recognising and Responding to Child Criminal Exploitation Link: Course: Recognising and Responding to Child Criminal Exploitation (learningpool.com)

Understanding Modern Slavery and the National Referral Mechanism Link: Course: Understanding Modern Slavery and the National Referral Mechanism (learningpool.com)

Understanding the Importance of Children and Young People Who Go Missing Link: Course: Understanding the Importance of Children and Young People Who Go Missing (learningpool.com)

Safeguarding Children Foundation (Level 3 Child Protection) 2021-23 Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=825

Safeguarding Children Refresher (Level 3 Child Protection) 2021-23 Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=826

Safeguarding Children Foundation (Level 3) 2023-24 Link: Course: TSCP: Safeguarding Children Foundation (Level 3) 2023-24 (learningpool.com)

Safeguarding Children Refresher (Level 3) 2023-24 Link: Course: TSCP: Safeguarding Children Refresher (Level 3) 2023-24 (learningpool.com)

First Responder Modern Slavery Link: https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=809

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

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence updates

A mapping exercise of domestic violence services across England and Wales carried out by the Independent Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC) has provided insights into the variance in service provision, sustainability, and funding arrangements between geographic areas.

Although the data is not available at Local Authority level at this time, the report shows that commissioning spend per head of population in the South West is the lowest outside of Greater London and the South West had the lowest number of services ceasing due to limited funding across England and Wales. This is important to note in view of the recent Women's Aid research which highlighted the impacts of the prevailing cost of living crisis on domestic abuse services and the risk of some services closing.

The mapping report "A Patchwork of Provision" can be found at
https://domesticabusecommissioner.uk/national-mapping-of-domestic-abuse-services/

CAPVA (Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence)

The DAC office has shared three Briefing Papers for people summarising issues around CAPVA that cover:

1. What do we mean by Child Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse: Definitions. Impact. Who does it affect? What are the indicators? What ages does it start?
2. Why does it happen? Contributing factors. Case Studies
3. What can we do about it? Case Studies to demonstrate effectiveness of strategies outlined.

To access the documents below, click on the paperclip icon in the left hand side bar. If you are unable to access these please email **tscp@torbay.gov.uk** *for a copy*

Baker and Bonnick (2022) CAPVA Briefin

Baker and Bonnick (2022) CAPVA Briefin

Baker and Bonnick (2022) CAPVA Briefin

Torbay's new Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

The final version of the new 2023 to 2030 DASV Strategy is progressing through the Council's governance process and is expected to be approved by full Council on 23rd February,

The Delivery Plan to support the Strategy will be co-produced with people with lived experience of domestic abuse and sexual violence, multi-agency partners and stakeholders, and staff, with oversight by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group. Work will commence on the Plan in March.

TSCP Group Chairing Opportunity

Since the inception of the TSCP in 2020 all partnership groups have been chaired by either the local authority, police or health colleagues. As part of the process of sharing safeguarding responsibility and improving agency diversity across the partnership, we would like to increase the breadth of agencies who take on the role of chair within the various TSCP groups. We would particularly welcome interest from education and early years colleagues as these agencies play such a significant role in the early identification of neglect and abuse and subsequent care planning. TSCP groups currently meet every six to eight weeks (currently under review), with the chair being supported by the TSCP Business Team and the deputy chair to ensure the work of the group progresses in a timely manner. If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, supporting the work of the TSCP or have any further questions please email **neil.cotton@torbay.gov.uk**

National reviews and documents

New review examining the role of social work in the decision making process of mother and baby units in prison
The Chief Social Worker for Children and Families, Isabelle Trowler has published **a report** with findings from a case review examining how decisions to grant or refuse a place on a mother and baby unit in prison are made. The report includes recommendations which are relevant to local authority children's social care, prisons, the Department for Education and the Ministry of Justice. You can also read Isabelle's reflections on the process and the review's findings in **this blog**.

Independent Report on Hesley Group Children's Homes On 26 October 2022, the independent child safeguarding practice review panel published phase one findings from its **national review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings**. The report outlines the shocking abuse and safeguarding failures in three dual-registered children's homes/residential special schools for disabled children in Doncaster, owned by the private provider the Hesley Group. The Secretary for State of Education responded to the report in a **written statement** and is convening a roundtable discussion with providers of residential special schools and children's homes in the new year. The second phase of the Panel's review will be published in spring 2023 and will provide recommendations to government to improve safeguarding in the residential special school and care system.

Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel Annual Report The independent Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel has published its third annual report. **Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: annual report 2021 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)** The report examines 379 serious child safeguarding incident notifications submitted in 2021 and shares evidence and learning for those working in the child safeguarding and protection system. It includes six cross-cutting practice themes to make a difference in reducing serious harm and preventing child deaths caused by abuse or neglect.

Alongside this, the Panel has also published an analysis of local child safeguarding practice reviews and examples of rapid reviews for serious incidents, and a joint report with What Works Children's Social Care analysing safeguarding partners' yearly reports.

We hope these documents provide rich and valuable insight for safeguarding partners to draw from and use in local areas.

Rapid Review Process

A number of questions and queries have been raised with the TSCP about the Rapid Review process, particularly in respect of timescales and information required within the chronology. The Rapid Review process and timescale are determined by **Working Together 2018**, meeting the 15 working day timescale for completion of the review is widely acknowledged to be challenging.

To support this process in Torbay a flowchart explaining the Rapid Review stages has been produced (please see final page of this newsletter). The stages within the flowchart helps explain why the window for completion and submission of the required chronology information is limited. We appreciate at times collating the required information to this timescale can be difficult, however the chronology is an essential component of the Rapid Review process that would potentially impair learning if not completed properly.

In respect of the required quality of Rapid Review chronologies, please consider and follow the guidance in the bullet points below;

- Please can you check the information you provide prior to submission to ensure it is free of typos and spelling mistakes. The information you supply is used in the format it is submitted to the TSCP and may need to be directly shared with the DfE and/or National Panel.
- Names within chronology submissions need to be recorded, rather than initials used.
- Chronology information must be accurate and be a description of key incidents and interventions in line with the guidance in part 2.4 of the chronology request document sent to you by the TSCP.
- Chronology information must be free of acronyms that multi-agency partners may not be familiar with. If in doubt please avoid the use of a specific acronym.

If you have any further questions, please email **tscp@torbay.gov.uk**

Serious Safeguarding Incident / Rapid Review Flowchart

Working day 1	Referring agency reviews Serious Incident threshold in Working Together 2018 and submits a Serious Incident referral to the TSCP generic email in-box if threshold is deemed met.
Working days 1 to 5	TSCP Business Team advise the LA of the referral, designated LA/TSCP officers review referral information against threshold before sanctioning LA online notification to National Panel and initiating a Rapid Review. Designated officers agree chair, attendees, date, and scope of Rapid Review meeting. LA reports event to safeguarding partners if Rapid Review threshold is deemed unmet.
	Serious Incident scoping form sent to all relevant agencies to complete chronology and supporting information sections.
Working days 5 to 9	Completed scoping/supporting information returned by agencies. All documentation shared with those attending the Rapid Review meeting.
Working days 9 to 12	**Rapid Review meeting held to:** • Review the facts about the Serious Incident presented in the documentation. • Agree any immediate actions required. • Consider the information against the criteria for a Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR). • Decide whether a CSPR or alternative learning review should take place or if all learning has been identified within the Rapid Review. • Chair to complete the Rapid Review Report template and agree final recommendation to the TSCP Executive Group.
Working days 12 to 14	**Rapid Review Endorsement meeting** TSCP Executive Group analyse the nature and content of the Rapid Review Report and endorse or seek amendment to the report's recommendation/s as required.
Working day 15	Final TSCP approved Rapid Review Report and accompanying letter sent to National Panel. TSCP partners (and the agency who made the referral) informed of the outcome of the Rapid Review