

## Foreword from Supt Ed Wright Chair of the TSCP Business Group

Having been recently appointed as the partnerships and local policing Superintendent I am pleased to announce that I have been appointed as the new chair for the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Partnership Business Group.

Having spent a number of years working within public protection and investigating serious crime, I have witnessed first hand the results and harrowing impact of neglect, harm and exploitation of children. I am pleased to join this partnership to work collaboratively across all agencies to continue to build on safeguarding improvements and prevention to those most vulnerable in our society.

Safeguarding and collaboration has made great improvements over the years, and I look forward to building on these improvements to take the partnership from strength to strength and can bring experience of leading in such areas as County Lines, Exploitation, Domestic Abuse, Child Protection and Performance Management. My experiences and knowledge fit with the current focus of the TSCP around Learning & Development, Quality Assurance, Child Exploitation, Youth Offending, Neglect and Mental Health.

Together we will make Torbay a safe and child-friendly environment.

*Ed Wright*

## New Neglect Strategy and Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2)

The TSCP has published a new [Neglect Strategy \(linked here\)](#) to tackle neglect. The strategy collates recent research and publications from a host of national bodies and explains the reasoning behind a move towards providing long term support to boost parenting capacity, and away from 'diagnosing' neglect when everything has gone wrong for a family.

- We are calling for a reversal in the year-on-year reductions in funding for children's universal services.
- Practitioners need to work with families to a restorative practice model to boost parenting capacity and improve children's long-term health, wealth and wellbeing, but make good quality assessments and statutory interventions when required.
- Please use this link to join the Restorative Practice Awareness Course:  
<https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=893>

**We invite you to join a webinar on 17<sup>th</sup> February introducing the implementation on GCP2 please see joining instructions on Page 3 of this newsletter**

## 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*

## TSCP Harmful Sexual Behaviour Group

The Torbay harmful sexual behaviour group is a strategic partnership between key statutory and non-statutory agencies. It is a sub-group of the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Partnership and will be operational as an initial term from December 2021 – December 2022.

The Partnership will have an overview of and drive the development and delivery of multi-agency responses to harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) across Torbay. The main activities will be to achieve the [recommendations of the HSB Multi- Agency Case Audit of 2021](#).

These activities will include informing shared policy, protocols, commissioning cycles, service development and actively contributing to other forums addressing sexual behaviours.

**Use this link to view the outcome of the TSCP Quality Assurance Harmful Sexual Behaviour MACA (multi-agency case audit), associated report, and learning page to share amongst your agencies.**

The [Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service](#), run by [SWGfL](#) in partnership with the [Marie Collins Foundation](#), is now available to safeguarding professionals across England and provides the tools to equip and empower practitioners to address the alarming normalisation of harmful sexual behaviour in children and young people.

The telephone and email support, which is funded by the Home Office and developed in collaboration with the Department for Education, is available **Monday – Friday, 8am to 8pm**. Call: 0344 255 0623 Email: [hsbs@swgfl.org.uk](mailto:hsbs@swgfl.org.uk)

### How will it support you?

The Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service is for education and safeguarding professionals and will provide:

1. Advice on individual cases or incidents of harmful sexual behaviour, to ensure an appropriate response both for children displaying this behaviour and others affected by it
2. Guidance on policy development on tackling harmful sexual behaviour
3. Relevant resources, best practice and contacts around harmful sexual behaviour, both locally and nationally

Click here to [Find out more about the service](#)

### Why act now?

The service has been established in response to the 2021 Ofsted review, which revealed a prevalence of child-on-child sexual harassment and abuse so widespread that, for some children, incidents are 'so commonplace that they see no point in reporting them' and 'consider them normal'.

### What is Harmful Sexual Behaviour?

Developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour which is displayed by children and young people (under the age of 18) and which may be harmful or abusive. It can be displayed towards younger children, peers, older children or adults. It can be harmful to the children and young people who display it, as well as those it is directed towards. [Get in touch today](#)

## Child Exploitation Training in Torbay

This three hour course will support practitioners in Torbay to consider the current context of exploitation in the community. All courses will take place via zoom between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

Dates available are 7<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 5<sup>th</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> April.

**Further dates are available to book on the course page, see link below.**

**Aim:** Increase the confidence of the Torbay Children and Young people's workforce in engaging young people.

### Learning Objectives:

- Explain the local processes, policy and threshold documents for Child Exploitation.
- Consider the role of Local Safeguarding Partnerships and the importance of working together.
- Discuss the local profile and how this is developed.

**Trainer:** Katie Buckley, Exploitation Team Manager

**Target Audience:** Children and Young Peoples Workforce

**Cost:** FREE

**Link:** [Child Exploitation Training in Torbay](#)

## Graded Care Profile 2 Webinar 17th February invitation...

The TSCP Executive Group have approved the implementation of Graded Care Profile 2 training in Torbay. For more information on what this means, a GCP2 Webinar hosted by Samantha Kyriacou - Implementation Relationship Manager (NSPCC), is being held on **17<sup>th</sup> February 2:00pm – 3:30pm** and is open for you to attend.

Please click the link below to join or email [tscp@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:tscp@torbay.gov.uk) and we will add you to the outlook invitation

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

## Perplexing Presentations and Fabricated Illness new guidance

The online South-West Child Protection Procedures have been updated, with guidance around Perplexing Presentations now needing to be considered when assessing concerns and/or risk in situations of suspected Fabricated or Induced Illness.

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health led on the formulation of this new guidance, with a link to the updated procedures being available here:

[Fabricated or Induced Illness/Perplexing Presentations \(proceduresonline.com\)](#)

## Professional Differences policy

The TSCP Business Group have approved recent updates to the partnership's Professional Differences policy that are designed to improve accountability and oversight. The updated policy is now available to view 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](mailto:neil.cotton@torbay.gov.uk) who will assist.