

TSCP Business Plan 2025-2028

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

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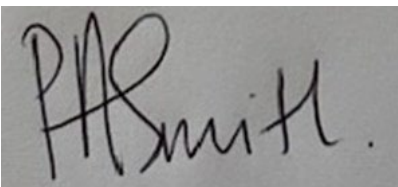
Chair's foreword

The Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership (TSCP) Business Plan for 2025- 2028 sets out the partnership's four key safeguarding priorities in respect of protecting and promoting the wellbeing of children and young people in Torbay.

In line with the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, The Lead and Delegated (Executive) Safeguarding Partners will share equal responsibility for ensuring effective oversight and implementation of the Business Plan.

In 2024 the TSCP Executive Group reviewed the impact of the partnership's work in respect of the four existing priority areas and decided to amend, but retain, the themes of the 2021-2024 Business Plan. The rationale for this decision was based on two key criteria. The primary criterion is based on current data that evidences the themes retaining significant relevance in respect of the safeguarding needs of children and families in Torbay. Secondly, the findings of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) in November 2023 reporting an agreement with the existing four TSCP priority areas.

The focus of the work of the TSCP will continue to be underpinned by the views and experiences of Torbay's children and young people and we acknowledge that the outcome of the 2025-2028 Business Plan will be judged on the impact it makes to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in the Torbay area.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Penny Smith'.

Penny Smith
TSCP Executive (Delegated Safeguarding Partner) Group Chair

1 Introduction

This Business Plan, for the period 2025-2028, lays out and explains the partnership's strategic safeguarding priorities for the three year timescale in question. Following a review of progress and local need in 2024, the Executive Group have elected to retain, but extend, the priorities of the previous Business Plan due to their continuing significance in respect of the risk posed to Torbay children. The extension pertains to online abuse, and this will be a cross-cutting theme across the partnership's sub groups. Each sub group will, where required, include online risk management within their work plan. Further to this, in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, the partnership will increase its focus on impact, with a commitment that progress on all four priorities will be continually reviewed and where impact is not evidenced, respond accordingly.

This document should be read in conjunction with the current Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements for Torbay, that are available to view on the TSCP website [TSCP Multi-Agency Safeguarding and Child Death Review Arrangements - Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Our Ambition

To ensure that Torbay is an area in which children feel safe, listened to, are able to freely access the best possible learning opportunities and feel enabled to actively and positively contribute to the society in which they reside.

Our Purpose

The TSCP is comprised of the statutory Safeguarding Partners; Devon and Cornwall Police, NHS Devon Integrated Care Board, and Torbay Council, who work in close collaboration with other identified agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people in Torbay. The partnership provides leadership in all areas of safeguarding, promotes good practice, challenges poor practice, and holds organisations to account. The partnership is focussed on continually developing and supporting a learning culture and uses its links to local, regional, and national safeguarding partners and forums to drive improvement across all local agencies to deliver the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

2 Our Principles

The work of the TSCP is based on a set of key principles. These are;

- Ensuring that all professionals and agencies in Torbay keep children and families at the heart of everything they do and focus outcomes and reporting on evidenced impact.
- Promoting local multi-agency working arrangements in line with Working Together 2023 and support best practice by modelling restorative behaviours of critical self-reflection, respect and trust.
- Ensuring all local statutory and relevant agencies have access to an appropriate multi-agency training programme of learning and development which supports a high standard of leadership and evidence-based practice.
- Communicating effectively with the wider regional and national system of safeguarding organisations, policy makers and individuals to ensure learning from these relationships is accessible to local agencies in Torbay and benefits children and families.
- Driving progress through sub-groups and work streams which are accountable to the partnership's Delegated and Lead Safeguarding representatives via agreed TSCP structures.

3 Our Priorities

The TSCP will focus on four specific safeguarding priority areas for the period 2025-2028, in addition to providing oversight designed to ensure that all functions regarding the safeguarding and welfare of children in Torbay are data evidenced and undertaken effectively. The four priority areas are supported via the structures of the TSCP and will enhance the whole partnership response to protecting vulnerable children and young people, preventing harm, and promoting their welfare.

The four key priority areas for the TSCP in the period 2025-2028 are:

- Priority 1: Reduce the level of child neglect in the Torbay area and challenge the causes of local neglect to prevent re-occurrences.
- Priority 2: Prevent child exploitation and sexual harm within the Torbay area and ensure the safety of all children, resident or visiting Torbay, from these forms of abuse.
- Priority 3: Prevent children in Torbay from being harmed by the effects of domestic abuse.
- Priority 4: Ensure that children in Torbay receive appropriate mental health support at their time of need and that this support dovetails with any other care planning needs of the child.

In line with existing TSCP structures, the responsibility for leading the partnership's work in priority 1 will remain with the TSCP Neglect Group. The Neglect Group will retain an appropriate membership designed to fit with its purpose and terms of reference to ensure the work it undertakes is given a high level of priority by all partner agencies. The group's work will be audited via the partnership's quality assurance functions to ensure it remains focussed and meets the need of Torbay children and families.

The TSCP Children and Young People Exploitation Group (CYPEG) will retain the partnership's lead for priority 2. In line with the Neglect Group, CYPEG will also have a membership designed to match its purpose and terms of reference that ensure the work it undertakes is given a high level of priority by all partner agencies, including emerging themes regarding online abuse. The group's work will be a focus of the TSCP Quality Assurance framework in a similar manner to the Neglect Group.

Torbay's domestic abuse prevention and support services are managed under the remit of the Torbay Community Safety Partnership (TCSP). The TSCP and TCSP will continue to work in a cross-partnership manner to share information and planning designed to protect children from the effects of domestic abuse in line with priority 3. The TCSP will be represented within the TSCP via fixed attendance at the Business Group and also attendance at the Executive Group when required. Although the majority of the work in Torbay designed to prevent domestic abuse harming children will fall under the remit of the Community Safety Partnership, quality assurance and associated impact functions will be undertaken by the TSCP regarding priority 3.

Priority 4 will remain a workstream within local mental health services, with reporting being direct to the TSCP Executive Group until systems and structures to manage the priority are fully agreed and implemented. Once the required systems and structures are embedded, operational oversight of this priority relating to the safeguarding of children may be moved to the TSCP Business Group as per the other three priority areas. The TSCP will continue to oversee all aspects of children's emotional wellbeing and more acute mental health.

In addition to the four priority areas, the TSCP will ensure that the multi-agency groups/systems set up to focus on these areas are fit for purpose, regularly feedback operational activity via planned reporting mechanisms, attain the results intended and remain answerable to the TSCP Lead and Delegated Safeguarding Partners regarding the work they undertake. The TSCP Delegated Safeguarding Partners will oversee the effective implementation of this Business Plan and will publish Annual Reports that include an evaluation of impact and progress on children's safeguarding in Torbay each year.