

Foreword from Roy Linden, BCU Commander, Devon and Cornwall Police

As the Police Commander for South Devon, it's a privilege to be able to write directly to all staff involved in safeguarding children within Torbay. As a member of the TSCP Executive and having worked in safeguarding partnerships for several years across three local authority areas, the work being conducted across Torbay is incredibly impressive despite numerous operational challenges. This quarter we are focussing on developing our Contextual Safety Framework to better understand how we coordinate the response to complex issues such as exploitation affecting the safety of children within Torbay, as well developing our collective response to mental health.

While we have seen a few changes in senior leaders both within the Police and Health partners, the commitment and momentum remains strong across all levels.

As a formal partnership we would urge staff involved in safeguarding, including those outside the core statutory partners (Local Authority, Health and the Police) to access the training available.

In a similar vein, we are also keen that we develop engagement opportunities from other agencies outside the three statutory bodies to support the delivery of this work. Please contact tscp@torbay.gov.uk with opportunities available.

Roy Linden
BCU Commander, Devon and Cornwall Police

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.

- P2 County Lines Intensification week
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- P3 Devon Partnership Trust letter of hope resources
TSCP CSPR C101 Publication
- P4 NCMD Thematic review of vulnerability, which increases the risk of poor outcomes in infants.

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 on what you would like to see are welcomed tscp@torbay.gov.uk

TSCP Harmful Sexual Behaviour Guidance
(click here)

Torbay's Professional Differences Policy
(click here)

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

County Lines Intensification week

Insp Ian Stevens, Partnership Inspector

Devon and Cornwall Police (DCP) worked collaboratively with the National Crime Agency and other Law Enforcement Agencies across the Region undertaking coordinated intensive activity focussing on County Lines drug supply activity between the 9th and 15th October.

The focus was on targeting those who look to supply controlled substances in our communities, exploiting or causing harm to others.

This a timely reminder for you to please submit intelligence via the portal and to encourage others to do the same, as your information and intelligence is critical to our activities.

[Link to the portal is here - Partner services | Devon & Cornwall Police \(devon-cornwall.police.uk\).](#)

The activities included community engagement and awareness raising, seeking to identify offenders and their locations as well as looking to safeguard those who are being forced into this activity.

A comprehensive social media campaign from was used over this time, and I have added some links below providing more detail in regard to County Lines, its signs and things you can do to help tackle it:

[National Crime Agency - \(NCA\)](#)

[NSPSS - Protecting children from County Lines](#)

[Childrens Society - What is County Lines](#)

TSCP Training Autumn 2023

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

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment for Children (DARAC)
Link: **Course: Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment for Children (DARAC) and families (learningpool.com)**

Graded Care Profile 2

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



Introduction to Family Group Conferences in Torbay

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



Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation

Link: **Course: Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual 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) 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 would like further information on training, please get in touch:
tscptraining@torbay.gov.uk

Devon Partnership Trust, Letter of Hope resources

We've been made aware of some of the changes to the Devon partnership Trust, Letter of Hope resources.

The Letter of Hope was created by people in Devon with personal experience of suicide and is intended to provide hope and encouragement to people who are facing difficult times.

With the help of Recovery Devon DPT have created two new versions of the letter: Letter for Tomorrow for young people written by young people, and Hope Letter, an Easy Read version for people with learning disabilities. There are also audio versions.

All are available on the DPT website

Please can you help to raise awareness of these resources through networks, websites, staff bulletins or newsletters. Please also take a moment to read or listen to one of the resources in the link above.

The Letter of Hope Leaflet includes a list of helpful organisations for support.

Torbay Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) C101

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews - Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership

On 18th August 2023 the TSCP published the CSPR report on child C101. The CSPR was undertaken to identify learning following C101 being admitted to hospital with multiple unexplained fractures that had been inflicted on one or more occasion.

C101 was 8 weeks old at the time.

The full report is available via the link above and has been positively commented on by National Panel in respect of learning around domestic abuse, coercive control and the proposed action plan.

CSPR reports are written in a straightforward manner that are quick to read and enable learning to be easily identified. therefore, please can we ask that you read the report and retain an awareness of the learning within your practice.

If you have any questions about the report or any aspects of the CSPR process, please contact the TSCP at **tscp@torbay.gov.uk**

Dear colleague,

We're pleased to share with you a new report from NCMD Honorary Senior Public Health Specialist Dr Helen Duncan. *[A thematic review of vulnerability, which increases the risk of poor outcomes, in infants](#)* takes a look at the factors that make infants vulnerable to sudden, unexpected and unexplained death, building on the findings of NCMD thematic report *[Sudden and Unexpected Deaths in Infancy and Childhood](#)*.

The report aims to describe and evaluate the factors which may increase the vulnerability of infants to this kind of death, examining pre-existing risk factors in the child, their family or their social or physical environment, which make them more vulnerable than average to poor outcomes or harm.

Key findings in brief

- 98.1% of cases had at least 1 vulnerability factor identified from among clinical, statutory, family or social and environmental vulnerability factors.
- The most commonly occurring clinical vulnerability factors include an underlying health condition (60.9%) and the infant being described by their parents or carers as unwell on the day of death (50.0%). Over a third of cases identify smoking in pregnancy (39.1%), a recent illness (39.1%) and prematurity (37.5%).
- More than four in ten cases are known to social services (statutory domain) (43.8%), either previously or currently.
- The most commonly occurring family or social vulnerability factors, identified in over half of cases, are smoking in either parent (62.5%), mother smoking (51.6%), father smoking (51.6%), poor mental health in either parent (56.2%) and poor mental health in mother (50.0%). Over a third of cases identified previous domestic abuse (not directly related to the death) (40.6%) and smoking in both parents (39.1%). Drug misuse and alcohol misuse have been identified as separate issues; recorded for either parent they are identified in over a quarter of cases (26.6% and 26.6% respectively).
- The most common occurring environmental vulnerability factor, identified in over three quarters of cases, is not necessarily following advice and guidance on safe sleeping (78.1%) and, identified in over half of cases, co-sleeping (51.6%). In 15.6% of cases the co-sleeping was unplanned, and the carer was under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Over a third of cases identify poor home environment (45.3%) and carer under the influence of alcohol or drugs (39.1%).

Please share this report on to colleagues and contacts in your own networks who may be interested and help us spread the word on social media and elsewhere.

- Best regards,
The NCMD Team