**Torbay Relationship Distress Traffic Light – Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC)**

**The difference between Parental conflict and domestic abuse and the services available to support families and children in the Bay.**

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| **Level of Conflict** | **Parental Behaviours** | | **Impact on children** | **Actions** | **Services** |
| **1.**  **Respectful, Equal, Cooperative, Happy.** | Parents can control their emotions when in conflict for the wellbeing of their children. | | Children’s needs are being met without the need for support. | No action required re RPC. | Family can access Universal services via Family Hub and Family information service. |
| **2.**  **Mostly respectful, cooperative and equal but experiencing some difficulties.** | Lack of open, honest conversation. Difficulties are minimised or not addressed by the parents. | | Children beginning to show signs of the impact of inter parental conflict. | Early conversation with parents/ carers initiated by a professional re RPC.  Consider using module 3 toolkit. | Refer parents to RPC guidance on Family hub website. Explore issues and signpost to Community groups/ parenting App. Consider early help assessment. [Early help - Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership](http://www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk/professionals/early-help/) |
| **RPC Restore Relationships**  **Required** | **Parental Behaviours** | | **Impact on children** | **Actions** | **Services** |
| 3.  **Conflict is often intense, frequent and poorly resolved** | One or both parents not consistently emotionally available. Conflict will consist of criticism, contempt, defensiveness, Stonewalling *but still hopeful of positive future.* | | Children are being adversely affected, they may show signs of distress, their behaviour and mental health may be affected. | Professional to have RPC conversation and complete Early Help assessment. RPC tool kit to work with family. Signpost to on-line family hub resources | If not resolved, invite to **RPC Restore Relationships Programme** via RPC co-ordinator, details on Family Hub website. |
| 4.  **Day to day intense, frequent and poorly resolved conflict.** | Parents are unable to break the cycle of their harmful behaviours without support and *they struggle to see the situation improving* | Children are being adversely affected, they show signs of distress, their behaviour and mental health is being affected. | | Use Torbay Traffic Light tool (Red pg3) to check for indicators of DA. Undertake Early Help assessment. Use RPC toolkit to work with family. | If no reduction in harm **refer to RPC Restore Relationships programme, consider invite to EPIC. Monitor progress and children’s welfare via Early Help/ Standing Tall.** |
| **Not suitable for RPC.** | **Not suitable for RPC**  **Parental behaviours** | **Not suitable for RPC**  **Impact on children** | | **Not suitable for RPC**  **Actions** | **Not suitable for RPC**  **Services** |
| 5.  Controlling/ Abusive behaviours | There may be a clear victim and abuser and the person experiencing the abuse is likely to be fearful and lack agency further risk assessment is required. | Children are being significantly adversely affected: children’s mental health and or behaviour is affected. | | Make referral to MASH.  Follow Torbay DA Pathway.  Supervision. | TDAS (Torbay Domestic Abuse Service).  Standing Tall  MARAC  Referral to Ahimsa |
| 6.  Coercive Control and physical harm, fear | Clearer abuser and victim who is at risk of significant harm. | Children at risk of significant harm; children are being traumatised. | | Call 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm.  Seek supervision.  MASH referral | Police  TDAS (Torbay Domestic Abuse Service). |