

SEND and Alternative Provision Strategy & Partnership Board

5 March, 11.00 – 13.00

Bodiam Room, County Hall North, Horsham

<p>WSSC Lucy Butler, Director of Children’s Services Steve Nyakatawa, AD Education & Skills Claire Prince, Head of SEND & Inclusion Louise Warren, Senior Improvement Lead Vince Clarke, Children First Transformation Director Kathryn Kellagher, SEND Development Officer Karen Furse, Head of Standards & Effectiveness Improvement and Inspection Louise Fox, Head of Service Assessment and Family Safeguarding Wanda Parker, Service Manager (rep for Louise Fox) Grace Fairbourn, Early Years SEND Lead Sarah Clark, Head of Virtual School Marie Foley, Head of Data, Projects and Systems Amy Leftwich, Public Health Kathy Lockyear, Lead for PWG 1</p> <p>Education and schools Mark Wignall, Head, Downlands Secondary Claire Kenyon, Busy Lizzies, Early Years Doug Thomas, Head APC Simon Brown, Head of SEND, Chichester College Gillian Santi, Governors Association</p> <p>Health and Commissioning Caroline Tozzi, Integrated Care System Health Lead Kate Courtney, Designated Clinical Officer, maternity cover</p>	<p>Apologies</p> <p>WSSC Jenny Boyd, AD Children’s Social Care and Early Help Claire Hayes, Head of Early Help Loretta Rogers, AD Adult Operations Fiona Mackison, Public Health Strategic Commissioning Lead Vicky Richardson, Head of Practice Daniel Ruaux, AD Corporate Parenting</p> <p>Education and schools Representative of primary schools Phillip Potter, Head Oak Grove College</p> <p>Parent Carers Rowan Westwood, West Sussex Parent Carers Forum John Clifton, West Sussex Parent Carers Forum</p> <p>Councillor Representative Jacquie Russell, Cabinet member</p> <p>Department for Education Liz Flaherty</p>
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1. Action Log

- Action Sept 1.1 School representation, now closed: Two primary school heads will attend alternate meetings – Zoe Gordon, HT North Mundham, and Lisa Harris, HT Rumboldswyke.
- Action Sept 2.2 SENAT comms to parents, now closed: Letter to parents at 16 weeks is going out from this week.
- Action Jan 1.1 completed: Mike Smith, Simon Brown and Paul Morrison to visit Basingstoke College Employability Hub on 26 March.
- Action Feb 2.1 Representation from health providers: board meeting on 29 April will have a health focused item; to be quarterly thereafter

2. Ofsted SEND Local Area Inspection- [report](#)

- We got the middle judgement we were expecting and there were no surprises. It was noted that generally large authorities and those with low levels of funding have fared less well in inspection outcomes.
- The items raised under the section “What does the area partnership need to do better” are all included in our Partner Working Groups (PWGs) and Transformation work and will be cross-referenced with our Action Plans to allow for easier monitoring.
- Under the new DfE guidance, there will be a Senior officials’ meeting on 17 March at which we need to present the improvement plan in a formal document. The five Areas for Improvement will be included in this and the final document shared with the Board for monitoring.
- Area 1 “waiting well”: we need a partnership response to this to show we can be creative and do things differently.
- CT is coordinating briefing papers on
 - CAMHS
 - Therapies
 - Dynamic Support Register
 - ND Pathway
 - Health input into EHCP
- Recruitment remains a challenge across all therapies.
- Our response to the Ofsted Report needs to be in by 8 April – VC will pick up health response with CT.
- Area 2 Video-fluoroscopy machine: this is now fixed. Challenges remain with regards to recruitment which mean there is only one list held each week.
- Area 3 Timeliness and quality of EHCPs: alongside our EHCP Response Plan we are also focusing on QA and have revived the EHCP audits.
 - There is a significant amount of work to be done with schools around what Inclusion is and the part mainstream schools play.
 - There are pockets of good practice but there is evidence that some schools are repeatedly refusing to take pupils with EHCPs, citing Code 3.10. Exclusion rates are also variable.
 - The DBV diagnostics shows us that our mainstream schools take significantly fewer children/young people with EHCPs than our statistical neighbours. West Sussex showed 0 growth in EHCPs in mainstream, whereas Hampshire showed an increase of 40%.
 - Hampshire introduced an Invest to Save initiative, to encourage more schools to be more inclusive. Schools could come together in locality clusters and bid for money to support pupils without an EHCP, eg one cluster brought in a SALT, another cluster brought in an SEMH specialist.
 - Andrea Morgan is leading on a pilot working with schools around different approaches to Inclusion, as part of the DBV work.
 - It was noted that the DfE sends out mixed messages around inclusion, behaviour and attendance.

- Area 4: Alternative Provision will be covered in PWG 4. With regards to place planning, the board should have oversight of this and we will instigate regular updates.

ACTIONS

- 2.1 VC to pick up health response to Ofsted report with CT
- 2.2 Invite Graham Olway to report on Place Planning and provide regular updates.

3. EHCP Response Plan

Generally things are continuing to improve – eg, numbers of EP assessments have increased significantly, and the monthly timeliness for completing plans continues to increase.

It will take time to get through the backlog. The learning from talking to East Sussex and Hampshire is that this could take up to 18 months.

Now that we have valid data, it would be sensible to review the targets, otherwise there is a danger that teams will be working very hard but will feel that they are underperforming.

ACTIONS:

- 3.1 Review targets so they are realistic and achievable.
- 3.2 CT to link with MF around timeliness of health contributions

4. Improvement Plan: Partner Working Group 1, Mainstream and Universal Provision

PWG 1 links to the third Area of Improvement identified in the Ofsted report.

- We collect but don't currently publish exclusions data.
- With regards to DBV and CPP, we are using the data to put resources into schools that are inclusive.
- When talking about local provision in local communities, we need to be mindful of children and young people where this won't be possible because of their particular needs. We don't want to add to parental anxiety where this is the case.
- It would be interesting to know how many children with an EHCP don't attend their local mainstream primary/secondary school, as this would be a good indicator of how inclusive a school is. Suggestions for finding this out include Fair Access data, Admissions data and the use of Code 3.10. MF to investigate.
- SB offered to provide reps for Post 16.

ACTIONS:

- 4.1 MF to consider how we could find out how many CYP with an EHCP do not attend their local mainstream primary or secondary school.
- 4.2 KL to liaise with SB over Post 16 reps.

5. National SEND & AP Dashboard

The dashboard is still embargoed so can't be shared. Once published, MF will circulate it.

It will enable us to benchmark our data against that of other Local Authorities. This will exclude health metrics as the NHS does not routinely collect SEND data at a local level.

ACTIONS:

- 5.1 MF to circulate the dashboard once it is published.