
MINUTES – Local SEND Partnership Board

Date: Thursday 19th December 2024
Time: 14.00pm – 15.20pm
Venue: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Discussion Items	Lead
<p>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Meeting Chaired by Andrea Ibbeson</p> <p>Attendees:</p> <p>Leanne Hornsby (LH), Martyn Owen (MO), Roberta Radcliffe-Birds (RR), Andrea Ibbeson (AI), Natalie Tyrrell (NT), Karl Bower (KB), Natalie Firth (NF), Dr Simon Witham (SW), Sarah Timmins (ST), Bushra Ismaeil (BI), Laura Churm (LC), Clive Chambers (CC), Suzanne Walton (SW), Annika Leyland (AL), Emma Price (EP), Debbie Osborne (DO), Jane Cresswell (JC), Georgina Todd (GT)</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Alison Tomes, Alexis Johnson, Kim Holdridge, Georgia Holliday</p> <p>Non-Attendees: Paul Scotting, Phillipa Cousins, Emma Kirk, Angela Harrington, Joel Hardwick</p>	
<p>2. Requests for any other business</p> <p>AI requested to raise Oaklands Short Breaks provision later in the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes from previous SEND Board</p> <p>Everyone in attendance agreed the minutes from the previous Board could be approved as the final version.</p>	
<p>4. Accountability Agreement (TOR): For Re-Approval</p> <p>NT advised Board members needed to clarify their job titles and deputies job title for the ToR to finalise the document as not everyone has had completed this.</p> <p>ACTION - Board Members to clarify this information, to be added as an item to the next agenda if not received in time.</p>	All
<p>5. Actions Update</p> <p>NT shared that there were five open actions, all of which are currently in progress. The accountability agreement has been discussed as above. There are two future agenda items which are scheduled or to be scheduled in the future, as we do not know when the Darzi report will be out.</p>	


	<p>There is an action for DO to correspond with Angela Harrington whether she knows any children or young people who may want to be young commissioner – DO shared they have only had one meeting for young people since this action, but ST will remind DO to action this in the new year.</p> <p>AI mentioned that the Darzi report has had its second reading in parliament, for approval in 2025. Health colleagues should flag anything that may be relevant to SEND Board as agenda items as information on this filter through to them.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Voice Update</p> <p><i>Doncaster Parents Voice - SEND Healthcare Provision Questionnaire</i></p> <p>ST shared highlights from the DPV SEND Healthcare Provision Questionnaire - the survey results were circulated to the group ahead of the meeting. The aim of the survey was to find out about gaps in provision within healthcare. 41 members were surveyed over a two-week period and there was a good response. There were some multiple-choice questions and some free text so as not to limit response to pre-written options.</p> <p>There were positive and negative outcomes from the survey which can be seen on the outcomes, the area parents had most queries around, was requiring information on services and to be checked in on while waiting for diagnosis.</p> <p>BI shared that sensory process issue is common that is encountered, none of the Occupational Therapists (OT) in Doncaster are trained to do this. This is mostly accessed privately.</p> <p>KB shared that work is needed around trying to understand how to balance some of the expectations on what should be provided compared to what is recognised by regulatory bodies.</p> <p>EP shared that work related to this will be taking place in January 2025 and agreed closer work with parents is needed around how we set expectations and dig deeper to understand their wants.</p> <p>BI added that the OTs in Doncaster do sensory profile, they assess and give advice to parents as the majority of children with ASD do have some sensory needs.</p> <p>ST added that a good starting point would be a comprehensive list for parents of what they definitely can access so their expectations are managed.</p> <p>AI confirmed that through the discussion she was confident this was being worked on and that it was something to be brought to the workshop in January that EP mentioned.</p> <p>EP shared she circulated the survey to services across Doncaster and will bring information to the Board from services following this.</p> <p>ACTION - EP to meet with ST in January, for You Said, We Did work.</p> <p>CC queried if this could be picked up outside the meeting to discuss some other areas where there are queries around what is available e.g. recommendations for adoption support fund.</p> <p>ACTION - EP and CC to meet to discuss available support services.</p>	<p>EP/ST</p> <p>CC</p>

	<p>DO/ST shared details from previous Voice of SEND Young People meeting (formally known as the SEND Shadow Board). <i>Please refer to the slide deck provided for this information.</i></p> <p>AF shared that this group captured some good feedback from older children, but queried if we have any feedback from the experience of younger children. There are SEND Parent Champions in the Community Hubs representing 0-11. This may be an opportunity to pose the same questions to that group to ensure all age ranges have a voice.</p> <p>ACTION - MO and AF to have a meeting to discuss getting feedback from younger children.</p> <p>ACTION - CC to work with MO and Kev Lynch to ensure this voice work feeds into the voice strategy for the Safeguarding Children partnership.</p>	<p>GT</p> <p>CC/MO</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>SEND Implementation Plan – Update on progress.</p> <p>NT shared an update of 100 completed deliverables, 23 in progress and 5 not started. A lot of the team’s attention at the moment was preparing for the Funding Pyramid Panels in January. There was nothing at this stage to escalate to SEND Board.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>ICB Governance Update</p> <p>AI shared that over the last 6 months in South Yorkshire ICB, insight work and co-design have been taking place to make sure all is in order for places (Doncaster, Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield), and as a system.</p> <p>AI shared a slide of the Governance Structure Board on the ICB to discuss.</p> <p>It was felt that something very important was recognising what statutory things needed to be done in terms of ICB responsibilities, and how we make sure our Executive Leads and SRO’s for SEND have clear line of sight with what is happening at place level. EP and KB have worked closely within Doncaster on this. We have recognised a SEND Board as an ICB requirement and have an Executive Nursing Officer as the Chair, which goes directly up to (Quality Performance Patient Involvement and Experience (QPPIE) Committee.</p> <p>The governance structure has had a lot of work put in to make sure our SEND children and the SEND agenda for the ICB are the priority. We are working to the SEND Agenda and the needs of our local children are the priority.</p> <p>We feed into our internal ICB SEND Board, giving it the same status as all the other boards as we recognise the priority in terms of what needs to be delivered. This feeds into an internal QPPIE.</p> <p>What we would like to see is an integrated partnership with Children’s Committee as a sub-structure with SEND as part of the discussion. The TOR for the ICB SEND Board has been ratified through the QPPIE and through the Board and there will be a third meeting tomorrow (20/12) before it is formally launched in January.</p> <p>LH shared it is helpful to have sight of that and have connections of what goes where and understanding the process across organisations.</p> <p>AI concluded that she had recently met with DCSs across South Yorkshire. Work on the Quality Assurance Framework for ICB was discussed which we are one of 10 sites nationally piloting. We have had a meeting this week with NHS England, discussing their Maturity heat map which AI would like to bring to SEND Board when they get this response.</p>	

<p>9.</p>	<p>Pathfinder Project</p> <p>AI shared that the Pathfinder Project is in response to National Panel Review from Hesley, when this was published in 2023. It was felt we needed to do something locally. A steering group was started in how we might make national change by influencing at a local level. Started a piece of work connecting Barnsley Local Authority to South Yorkshire ICB. Pathfinder in Barnsley had been in progress about 6 months, by March 2025 wanting to widen out into South Yorkshire.</p> <p>AI shared slide detailing priorities: Prioritising keeping children local and ensuring quality care, education and treatment and that decisions are not to be made without families or without the partnership.</p> <p>The Transforming Care programme was implemented in Doncaster in 2018, a lot of sharing of learning nationally was done.</p> <p>Pathfinder hoped to find what oversight and actions are required to give parents and local partners the assurance that young people are happy and meeting their planned outcomes in placements; What is required to keep children close to home; What is required to ensure parents/carers are informed and involved; How can we ensure consistency of approach and experience for families; Identify a model of action that can be replicated and implemented across South Yorkshire and beyond.</p> <p>AI was working with members of DfE and NHS England to influence the agenda on national level of government aspirations, and how they can support us in terms of policy and statute to implement this wider. Currently doing this in Barnsley and in March 2025 hope to roll this out across all four areas.</p> <p>This work was presented to the National CYP Steering Group, and it was very well received. There isn't anywhere else in the country doing this pathfinder work and it could make a real difference to our children.</p> <p>KB added an invitation was extended to speak to senior management at DfE following their presentation to the National CYP Steering Group.</p> <p>ACTION - AI to contact CC/KFB to link this to their work on Section 117.</p>	<p>AI</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>SEND AP Annual Engagement with OFSTED CQC</p> <p>LH shared the challenge session that took place where OFSTED looked through City of Doncaster Council's self-evaluation framework, what we say we do, assess and challenge it. It was more challenging than last year, much deeper questions and the CQC inspector was well prepared and well informed. It was interesting to see how the inspectors worked together and had crossover in their questions.</p> <p>PFA is about preparing young people for adulthood – 14 plus is minimum standard, but the CQC inspector really investigated where we are with this. We were honest and gave a good appraisal of where we are. CQC was clear PFA is Early Years onward which will go on to be picked up at the PFA Board.</p> <p>The inspectors picked up a lot in terms of health, correlations across services and were very big in cross referencing with social care. It felt like a good session in that a deep dive were not in the 'easy' places.</p>	

	<p>MO added that the session was challenging, but positive and the work partners had put in was clear.</p> <p>KB shared that the CQC inspector had clearly read and understood the SEF. It was a more challenging conversation, but we could share where we are doing well and where we can do better. What we couldn't answer we could demonstrate that we are working on within the conversation.</p> <p>LH felt the messages were consistent across partners due to close knit work, and the experience was good and professionally challenging.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Preparation for Adulthood Update and Highlight Report</p> <p>ALB shared key highlights from the PfA Highlight Report circulated to the group prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the programme focused on the transition from children's to adults services with a lens on social care. What current arrangements look like and a lot of engagement with people what is working well and needs to change has been explored. There has been evaluation of other models in the country and where best practice can be drawn from. This has led to a paper being put together with a set of recommendations of the changes we want to make. The next key step for this is a meeting in January 2025 with senior leaders and executives from the partnership to buy in to develop a Transitions Hub for partners to come together, have joined up conversations for young people making their transitions from children to adult's services. Development of a Rights Charter was also done in Phase 1, which sets out what young people and parents can expect during this transition.</p> <p>Phase 2 of the programme widens the scope of preparation for adulthood and the 4 key pillars which are: education and employment; good health and wellbeing; independent living; and inclusion and friendships within the community. Four key working groups with leads have been set up to identify the priorities under these pillars, and the milestones they will look at.</p> <p>The only risk to escalate to board is the health working group has been slow to start and hadn't had a lead to drive that work forward, but this was taken away at PfA Board to set up and we have assurance that this is being addressed with Christina Harrison as the lead.</p> <p>The next step for the working groups was undertaking an audit, every working group will take away expectations and work on their pillar to bring to the next PfA Board.</p> <p>From a CQC perspective, adult social care in Doncaster will have their inspection in the new year. Activity has started in the Yorkshire area, so ALB was expecting notification soon. Clear feedback from colleagues who have had their inspections has been transitions/PfA perspective has been a key line of enquiry.</p> <p>The onsite visit should be around 3 days with 10 inspectors.</p> <p>AF shared that the Young Carers Service in the family hubs have a statutory transition assessment, and this could be an opportunity to align approaches and offers of support.</p> <p>ACTION - for AF and ALB to meet to discuss lining up work regarding transitions.</p> <p>BI queried if the work discussed will include specific health problems e.g. autism, diabetes, ADHD, ALB confirmed the proposal for the Transitions Hub brings together partners expertise that a</p>	<p>AF/AL</p>

	<p>referral comes to hub and collective conversation is had, discussing who leads and what needs to be in place for the different services transition.</p>	
12.	<p>SEND Engine Room Update</p> <p>KB shared two updates on previous risks, firstly the DPV survey which has already been discussed, secondly that ER has been tasked to discuss unregulated provision. Engine Room found this challenging to as they need clarification around what constitutes a risk to bring to Board.</p> <p>MO felt there is an issue around language as unregistered and illegal provision are very different. We frequently use unregistered provision, and they are good providers that we quality assure.</p> <p>ACTION - KFB to outline unregistered provision in Doncaster at a future SEND Board.</p> <p>MO shared a good news story from the Engine Room as we have opened SEMH provisions, the first one has had an inspection at Castle Hills Academy, their report mentioned exception support for children with SEN needs and a high level of support for those educated within the provision.</p>	KFB
13.	<p>Performance, Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework (PQAIF)</p> <p>MO updated that a core group of people had now been identified and would meet the first week in January to pick this up.</p> <p>The group would continue to develop data package behind the PQAIF and would also provide a highlight report on data trends re. identified measures. Will continue to report on some key measures whilst the dashboard is being developed.</p>	
14.	<p>Escalations to Education and Skills Portfolio Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To take actions from the PfA Board. 2. Discussion around the annual conversation and what came out of this. 3. Presentations from The Voice of SEND Young People. 	
15.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>AI shared a request for Oaklands Short Breaks have had an inspection and require improvement work. We need to understand as a SEND Board that we are active in the improvement and action programme.</p> <p>LH shared an update. Following an inadequate inspection and 2 x 28-day compliance notices in Oct 25, Ofsted revisited Oakland on Tuesday 18th Dec.</p> <p>During this time, we had agreed a pause to the service from the 6th of December until the 6th of Jan to support a new manager moving into role and to support staff wellbeing, training and supervision.</p> <p>On the visit Ofsted shared they were happy with rapid improvement plan could see the action taken, and appreciated time was needed to show impact. As a result, they removed the 2 compliance notices. Indicating they were happy with the progress made. These have now been made requirements, so will be revisited in Oaklands next full inspection which will be before the end of March 2025.</p> <p>All families have had an offer of community-based support and the pathway for support to access Oaklands will be managed under the CIN pathway moving forward. This ensure there is a clear framework for information sharing and joint assessment of need and risk.</p> <p>LH suggests moving this discussion to March SEND Board when the next inspection is due as the compliance notices have been removed.</p>	

	<p>ACTION - to add this as an agenda item following the inspection to take place in March 2025.</p>	<p>GT</p>
<p>16.</p>	<p>Date and time of next meeting ➤ Thursday 6th February, 14.00 – 15.20</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p>SEND Implementation Plan</p> <p></p> <p>SEND Strategy Implementation Plan</p>	