

**S.E.19 SEND Conversations**

**Joint meeting LAs & Health**

**Wednesday 23rd June 2021**

**12:00 - 13:30**

**Notes of meeting**

| **Local Authority/ Organisation** | **Attendees**  |
| --- | --- |
| Brighton and Hove  | Rhianned Hughes |
| Brighton and Hove | Ratna Sundrum (DMO) |
| Buckinghamshire | Sarah Tilston (DCO) |
| Buckinghamshire | Lucy Perren |
| East Berkshire | Lynette Jones-Jardine (DCO) |
| East Sussex | Antony Julyan |
| East Sussex | Rachel Atkinson (DMO) |
| Hampshire | Jayne Howarth |
| Hampshire and IOW | Matthew Powell (DCO) |
| Kent | Louise Hickman |
| Kent and Medway | Sue Gibbons (DCO) |
| Milton Keynes | Delphine Taylor |
| Oxfordshire | Catherine Clarke  |
| Oxfordshire | Adeline Gibbs (DCO) |
| Portsmouth | Julia Katherine - Chair |
| Portsmouth | Karen Spencer |
| RB Windsor & Maidenhead (Achieving for Children) | David Griffiths  |
| Slough | Deborah Bowers |
| Southampton | Tammy Marks  |
| Surrey | Andrea Ferns (DCO) |
| Surrey  | Sharon Scott |
| Surrey | Paula Vyze (DCO) |
| West Berkshire | Jane Seymour |
| West Sussex | Helen Johns  |
| Wokingham | Hayley Rees |
| Wokingham | Elaine Munro |
| S.E. NNPCF | Sarah Clarke |
| S.E. NNPCF | Andrew Howard |
| Head of Improvement and intervention SEND DFE | Sidrah Chowdry |
| DfE SEND Improvement & Intervention Unit SE & SW Regions | Heather Campbell |
| Regional Lead, SEND Improvement and Intervention Unit, DfE | Katie Moore |
| DfE - SEND Improvement and Intervention Unit | Emma Brown |
| Transformation and Quality Improvement Manager NHSE/I | Jacqui Stillwell |
| NHSE&I SE SEND Lead | Natalie Warman |

1. **Welcome and background to meeting**

Julia Katherine, Portsmouth, welcomed everyone and reiterated the online meeting protocols.

1. **Actions and matters arising from last meeting**

The actions from the previous meetings were reviewed:

* Feedback from NHSE/I SEND Review: Liz Flaherty, DfE S.E. Region SEND Adviser, will follow-up with Natalie Warman to see if she has anything else to share with us. *To carry forward to the next joint meeting (June) for Natalie to update. - On agenda.*
* The DfE have a list of first and second contacts for SEND for all areas, which Liz needs to keep up-to-date. **It was agreed for Tracey to circulate the existing list of contacts in the SESLIP website for members of this group to update.** *In progress. The SESLIP website will be updated to add a secondary contact.*
* The SEN2 data is out and a national analysis is being looked at. **It was agreed for Liz to do a session about the national picture in the next meeting.** **Tracey to include it in the next agenda.** *To carry forward to the July meeting, since Liz Flaherty had to send apologies today.*

**LAs were asked by Johnny Kyriacou if they would be interested in sharing experience in terms of systems for gathering data and analysing EHCPs. *- It was agreed that a meeting would be set up to share practice there. Action for Tracey.***

* Luke Ede to take back to Data Benchmarking SESLIP the concern about duplicate reporting requests (social care and SEND), so it would be helpful if the two groups could liaise.*- Closed*
* Liz agreed to contact Katie Moore regarding the current situation around the standardised EHCP and to raise the concern that the South East has not been able participate in the workshops. *- On agenda.*
* A question was posed around the timings of inspections. The current framework indicates 5 years but it is not clear if it is from being released from the intervention or from the last inspection. Tammy agreed to take back the question to the new inspection framework working group. *- On agenda.*
* **Element 3 Funding Reviews for Schools - Proposal to benchmark figures against across the Region.** Several LAs expressed interest in discussing this. **Wendy to take these conversations forward** **with Tracey to help facilitate.** *- Carry action forward.*
1. **DfE SEND Improvement and Intervention Unit**
* **New structure and personnel**
* **Activity**
* **Links with SE region and local areas**
* **Q&A**

The DfE SEND Improvement & Intervention Unit team introduced themselves:

Heather Campbell, DfE SEND Improvement & Intervention Unit, Team Leader for S.E. & S.W.

Emma Brown, Case Lead for 10 areas in the S.E.

Katie Moore, Regional Lead for Central Team and lead on the regional network side of the DBOT contract

Sidrah Chowdry, Head of SEND Improvement & Intervention, looking after the South region. Additionally, she has a responsibility to look at the new Ofsted CQC framework

Heather talked to the embedded presentation:



The team has grown significantly over the last year.

They work with LAs to support and drive SEND improvement and change.

They have a regional model: north, central and south.

The team in the South East is Heather. Emma and Glenn Forster.

They work with all the Areas around the SEND inspection. They want to work with LAs before visits and revisits and on an ongoing basis. They are there to support and challenge LAs, work with them on written statement of actions. If an accelerated progress plan requirement comes after a revisit, they lead on that aspect and they will ask for the action plan and monitor that.

They work with Liz Flaherty as SEND adviser and also with NHS colleagues.

They have a MoU with Ofsted and work with them on the new framework.

They are also looking at what other targeted support they can bring through the DBOT contract.

They work with a number of colleagues in the DfE: finance, regional school commissioner's office, the alternative provision team, post-16 etc. to try to get some support around policy, to try to answer questions LAs may have and to feed them information to support them in policy going forward.

They regularly update the Minister.

In terms of Ofsted, at the moment, across the country there are 60 areas which have a written statement of action required, 58 with no written statement of action and 34 that have not yet been inspected. The revisits started in May for those with a written statement of action and the new visits have started in June.

Support available to LAs:



* They are looking at a wide breadth of support they can bring and SEND advisers are a part of that.
* DBOT - targeted delivery support: There is a menu of support with partners that can provide bespoke packages that will meet LAs needs individually or in small groups of LAs.
* SEND Regional networks: They provide grants whose purpose is to identify, test and disseminate evidence of what works in SEND service improvement model and practice in health, social care and education.

The regional network has kept LAs engaged to embed the SEND reforms and to support stabilisation of the system. Regional networks are key players to identify and test that evidence of what works well.

This year they will continue to support regional networks to successfully develop their wider strategic vision with an increased focus on ensuring all LAs in the region are benefiting from shared practice and peer to peer support.

Regarding the SEND review, the governments' fundamental review of the SEND system is making good progress in identifying the reforms to improve support for children with SEND and their families. The pandemic has frustrated the pace of the work and there is not a timescale yet. The SEND review team will be in contact to ensure that the information is disseminated out to the regional networks so the S.E. region will be part of the consultation.

They would welcome a discussion with each LA individually.

The following comments were made:

* Julia mentioned that we are keen to build on relationships across the S.E. region, looking forward to working with the SIIU team moving forward and looking at ways of identifying work across local areas and share the learning.
* Thanks were given for providing clarification around the SEND review consultation. It is reassuring to hear that there will be lots of opportunities to provide feedback.
* Deborah Bowers, Slough, remarked that they have not been inspected yet and asked about the best way to contact them, to which Heather replied that they can be contacted directly.
1. **NHSE/I Update**
* **SE CYP Regional Delivery Board**
* **System Integration**
* **ICS and SEND**

Natalie Warman, NHSE/I SE Region SEND lead, provided an update:

* Publication of the [ICS framework](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/B0642-ics-design-framework-june-2021.pdf) - it is setting out the future direction, without parliamentary approval yet, in terms of what the vision for the future is. The document talks about:
	+ ICS partnership board operating at that footprint.
	+ Development of an NHS body over a geography.
	+ Highlights into some very key senior people at the ICS partnership and the NHS body organisation.
	+ What the ambition is and how that might be operationalised, without the detail yet.
	+ Having partners around the table, statutory, voluntary and independent services and the voice of the public coming through.
	+ NHS England and Improvement statutory responsibilities and SEND. It refers to working at system and working at place.
	+ It is a strong strategic change.
	+ The aim is for that to be live by next year.
* CYP Regional Delivery Board: The first CYP board has been held.
* One of the things emerging is around mental health impact on younger population. A piece of work with public health colleagues and co-parenting boards has been done to improve access to mental health support particularly around trauma informed care. The pilot overlaps on looked after children and the percentage of children with SEND is significant.

They have identified that a high proportion of children with SEND are also children in need, looked after or on a plan. She asked if there is more that can be done for that cohort. They want to try to think around how well we understand what that picture looks like in targeting this particularly vulnerable group.

In terms of the data being shared, Julia noted that the challenge is for health to know which children are on SEN support but not on an EHCP.

Lucy Perren, Buckinghamshire, mentioned that they are looking at better ways to share between SEND, social care and health about their Children Looked After cohort, as the children's needs change quickly.

It was remarked that another factor is the expanded role of virtual heads from September for children who have a social worker, not just Looked After, and some of those children will have SEND as well, so that will have an impact.

* The Autism strategy was presented at the last DCO/DMO meeting and it was agreed a presentation would be given in the next joint meeting in September.
* Regarding Type 1 diabetes NICE guidance, Natalie mentioned that they need to look at it more and understand it better at a system level. It was agreed to add it as an item in the agenda for the September meeting.
1. **New Joint Inspection framework - Update from latest meeting & any regional input required**

Tammy Marks, Southampton, explained that there was a discussion in the last meeting around those LAs who have not been inspected yet and those who have and have to receive a letter and how that is linked with the new inspection framework.

This week's meeting is focused on the parental perspective. It is a smaller meeting to which Tammy has been invited since she is also a parent/ carer.

The following comments were provided to be fed back to that meeting:

In some areas, parental voice became an issue to be managed, in particular those views and opinions which might not be representative of the majority of parents and can skew the narrative.

They are hoping to pilot the inspections across a number of LAs in October.

It was proposed to keep this as a standing item in the agenda.

1. **Feedback from SE19 DCO/DMO Group: SEND Training Assurance Framework**
* **Updates and Development**
* **Support from other organisations**
* **Next Steps**
* **Q&A**

Sue Gibbons, Kent and Medway DCO, and Lynette Jones-Jardine, DCO and Safeguarding Lead in East Berkshire, provided an update on the SEND training assurance framework for health, one of the priorities that the S.E.19 DCO forum have been moving forward.

Last year, the DCO network wanted to understand the health workforce and how the training skills and competencies of the workforce could be improved in a more systematic and meaningful way. They decided to devise a framework to offer a consistent training offer across large areas to empower health providers and practitioners within those organisations to take responsibilities on their own professional development on SEND.

They talked to the embedded presentation.



Comments were made as follows:

* In terms of the time to access the training, it was remarked that sometimes, due to capacity, people can find it difficult to attend and/or deliver training.
* Regarding adapting this for other professionals outside of health, Sue mentioned that the majority of the basic awareness content would be applicable to all, since it is really about the principles. The majority of it would be adaptable for anyone to use. **Sue agreed to inform this group when the training goes live.**
* It was generally agreed that the framework sounds great.
* They are at the latter stages of testing level 1 and level 2 will be put in an e-learning platform next week and it will go live after testing, hopefully in the next month.
* Sue, Lynette and the other DCOs were thanked for their work
1. **Meetings from September - To confirm preferences for frequency, particular days, times etc. (provisional dates below)**

The future proposed meeting dates were agreed.

Monthly meetings were also agreed.

It was mentioned to avoid Mondays and Fridays.

1. **AOB**
* Request for models of Additionally Resourced Provision to share with London LA - Tracey Maytas
* Future meeting dates:

Tues 20th July 12:15 - 13:45

Wed 22nd September 12:00-13:30 (proposed) Joint Meeting

Tues 19th October 12:00-13:30 (proposed)

* Future topics:
* SEND Review and funding
* NHSE/I National Autism strategy (September meeting)
* SEN2 Data (July meeting)
* Type 1 diabetes NICE guidance (September meeting)
* New Joint Inspection framework (standing item)

Please send items to Tracey.

**Summary of Actions**

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* **SEND Training Assurance Framework: Sue Gibbons to inform this group when the training goes live.**