

## Notes from SEND Improvement Board-24th January 2022

### Peter

Louise and I attended the SIB today. My notes are below.

My main observation is that Sarah Ward and Amanda are both very well-ensconced as vice-leads for two of the WSoA workstreams, working closely with Anthony Douglas and Sarah Rempel respectively.

Simon McKenzie, on the other hand, has by far the biggest scope of actions within his workstream, and hasn't even seen fit to talk to Louise yet!

Louise - please add anything from your perspective.

Peter.

#### 1. Introductions and welcome (Chair)

Chaired by Clare Burgess, LGA

Parent reps - Marion, Sarah Ward, Louise M, Amanda, Peter (+apologies from Dan)

Cathi Hadley has joined today - new Director Children's Services

Also new today:

Anna Chainey - interim head of families and children, Dorset Healthcare

Jo Hooper - new programme manager

Rina Mistry - technical team, leading on KPIs

#### 2. SEND Parent Partnership update (Peter Phillips) 5 mins

I introduced SPP. Vision, mission and progress so far.

Sarah W aired the 'PCT issue' where only one group is seen as strategic partner.

Claire Burgess - perhaps the Partnership could become the strategic partner when it is stronger...

Emma Lee - CAN can help with this too. [Does she mean helping the partnership setup? Do we want to follow up on this?]

Elaine R - what about participation from CYP?

Sarah R - we're recruiting a participation worker.

Elaine - that will take too long. Why not get Max contributing to this? He presented to the SIB months ago and offered to support.

Sarah L is identifying someone to work with CYP in the meantime.

#### 3. Arrangements to deliver the WSoA (Sarah Rempel) 20 mins

Inc. key performance issues

Claire B - Pace and Impact are key. It's been 2 years since the LGA review Jan 2020, and not a lot of progress has been made yet.

Sarah R: Workstream leads in place/ Action leads in place / Claire handing over to Jo for programme management.

Rina - developing a new scorecard, with key impact measures, which will provide a high-level overview for SIB, followed by service specific scorecards later.

This scorecard will be shared at the next SIB.

I raised the point: No of EHCPs grew 16% last year, no of requests grew 18%, and 86% of all requests progress to a plan - are we increasing resources across the system at the same rate? Are we reporting KPIs on staff recruitment to match the increased workload?

Rina - yes, that will be in service-specific scorecard(s)

Anthony - we need to look at the operating model, consider commissioning other organisations, transforming the way we do things, not just trying to match increased resourcing to increased demand.

Sarah R: Educational conference in Feb will bring together SEND + Inclusion + School Improvement

Discussion: Two posts have been committed under WSOA, but only one of these is funded at present! How is this going to work?

4. Role of SIB going forward 30 mins  
Discussion facilitated by the Chair

Proposed new ToR under discussion

Example from Wiltshire perceived to be good.

Sally S: we need much more input to the SIB on parent and children experience

Cathi will lead on new ToR, working with workstream leads, with more explicit links to quality and performance, plus more on values and ambition.

5. Initial report from Workstream Leads 10-15 mins each

Culture – Anthony Douglas + Sarah W

Moving from mistrust, poor communication, etc - transform to a culture of trust, honesty, transparency, belonging and respect. These values are on the front page of the WSOA.

We need to start with conversation, understanding lived experience - not just a tick box.

(Example of 16 year old, became a complaint that went on for 3 years)

We need fundamental changes to attitudes and behaviour across the system - need to reflect ambitions in WSOA into written commitments in staff employment contracts.

Where parents meet services - front-line staff are where all this happens. Aspirational changes must not overwhelm the frontline staff - they need to feel they can trust the environment they're working in - therefore this workstream will include work with unions, and 'progress forum'.

Sarah W - draft of how each of the values look like in coproduction.

Louise M - very good idea to use these values as basis for coproduction charter.

#### Co-Production – Sarah Rempel

Public statement of commitment has been drafted, due to publish by end of January.

All actions progressing to timescale

Thank you to parent reps who have put a lot of effort into this workstream

Amanda - meeting regularly with Sarah R, trying to get a broader demographic included - not just 'a charter agreed by BCP and a single parent group'

#### Joint Strategic Planning – Sally Sandcraft & Phil Hornsby

Jointly funded Julia Cramp to make progress

On track with actions, JSNA, Joint commissioning strategy

Have been reviewing S&L service using 3rd party 'balanced system' - now signed off £0.5 m investment from both LA and CCG to increase the service.

Phil - need to do true strategic joint commissioning - we've been too operational in the past. This is an opportunity to do things differently.

Sarah W - what is the parent involvement in this workstream?

Phil - Julia will look at this...

Dan is deputy chair.

All-age autism review. Amanda says she was an early stakeholder, but 'now only forums are invited' so how are the broader stakeholders being included?

Sally - will circulate a written summary

#### Identification, Assessment & Mtg Need – Simon McKenzie & Geoff Cherrill

Key point - identifying banding description for mainstream schools

Need to review services for mainstream schools earlier rather than later

Expressions of interests from 31 mainstream schools to improve inclusion

Apologies to Louise - we haven't brought her into this yet!

Simon and Geoff meeting together, but not yet involved parents!!

Report describes Louise as 'parent carer link' - while in two other three workstreams, Sarah W and Amanda are clearly highly involved as vice-leads!

I questioned - is it practical to have all these actions bundled into one big workstream?

Sarah R - there will be project manager support for this

I also asked What's happened about the recruitment / retention / morale issues that were identified?

Simon - we've added this to a staff well-being survey [my thought: Oh no, is that it???

6. Agree comms and messages from SIB to families

7. AOB

Peter Phillips