

WESTMORLAND & FURNESS SEND PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of Meeting

SEND Partnership Board

Date: 23rd September 2024 Time: 09:00 – 11:00

Present: Chair - Isobel Booter, Catherine Prince, Sharon Simpson, Peter Chapman, Lorraine Rudd-Williams, Amanda Macdonald, Katrina Raine, Richard Scott, Julia Dean, Jason Habbershon, Andrea Henderson, Lindsey Ormesher, Elaine Croll, Daniel Hinton, Matthew Hardwick, Helen Howlett, Amy Holliman, Sally Godfrey, Karen James, Andrew Horrobin, Lorriane Thompson

Apologies: Cllr Janet Battye, Georgina Grant, JoAnne Charlton, Sarah Powell, Mil Vasic, Holly Murphy, Jonathan Taylor, Sally Richardson, Lorna Jones

	Agenda Item	Notes
1.	Welcome and Apologies	Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Action – request for SENDAC to provide additional representative for Partnership Board to attend in absence of GG
2.	Updates and Actions	Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate reflection. All actions completed or on track: CP has received SEF and Action Plan updates . Action – add SEF and Improvement plan to agenda for November partnership meeting. LRW provided update on transition audits. Have been undertaken, working with LJ to develop questions for families. Next steps audit the EHCP annual reviews the service attend to look at quality of contributions made during these meetings.

		<p>IB – exclusions taken to the education board.</p> <p>QA framework on the agenda today – completed.</p>
3.	<p>SEND Governance structures Update</p> <p>Use of an Independent Chair</p>	<p>A revised SEND Governance structure was included with the agenda.</p> <p>All agreed to refresh the ToR and to use of an independent chair for the Partnership Board. Colleagues agreed an independent chair would add further strength to the Partnership.</p> <p>We now need to consider how health/commissioning feeds into these and how these feed up to cabinet for scrutiny – the lead member for children’s is on this board, and we provide 6 monthly reporting to the Health and well-being board and Children’s board.</p> <p>Action: CP to create a revised structure including commissioning and health structures and how the SEND Partnership Board feeds up to cabinet reporting.</p>
4.	Child & YP Voice - Survey	<p>Survey questions developed in partnership with SENDAC, parent/questionnaire, currently out on SENDAC social media, we have had input into last two questions.</p> <p>Some concerns were raised, especially how to capture the feedback of all CYP – including those with more complex needs.</p> <p>As no DCO in post when this work was done, re-review these questions – suggested DH/AH/LRW/DCO as well as initial group.</p> <p>ACTION: LJ to lead working group to review survey and then bring revised questions back to Board</p>
5.	APP Update	<p>DfE review meeting is today - IB hopeful DfE will sign off trust and faith element and try to get other element of APP closed down.</p> <p>CP – included the documentation with papers for information.</p> <p>ACTION: APP to be included on the agenda for full discussion and feedback at the next meeting</p>
6.	Quality Assurance:	<p>JD gave an overview of QA procedures. Currently working on new QA Framework and now have second draft. It would be useful to have some health input into this, and EC confirmed she was happy to offer feedback.</p>

	<p><i>SEND Practice Week</i></p> <p><i>SENDIAS Q1 Report</i></p>	<p>ACTION: To include QA Framework on next agenda.</p> <p>Regular deep dives are undertaken into specific areas/themes and this continues under the annual QA timetable.</p> <p>SEND Practice week is providing another opportunity for QA activity, and the ambition is this will take place termly. The theme is trauma informed practice and SEND team are linking with the Virtual School to carry out a range of activity including PEP and EHCP audits, as well as a masterclass.</p> <p>This initial week is designed to be smaller, but in future we want to widen in to include colleagues from across the partnership.</p> <p>Sally Godfrey then presented the SENDIASS quarterly update. Highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High rise in number of mediations which we were supporting families with. This may continue to rise to for a while, changing the culture of what it was before to what we want it to be in W&F. • Demand on capacity – new temporary team member now in place, but keen to make this permanent. <p>AH – fantastic work you and the team do, continual feedback from families how much your service is valued. Really aware of the capacity issues, work is ongoing to secure permanent funding, but SENDIASS should be a joint service, not just LA funded.</p> <p>JD/SG and representatives meet quite regularly to review the reports and have conversations, so far not had health input – would be really helpful to have EC there. ACTION: EC and SG to arrange health input to the group discussing SENDIASS reporting.</p>
7.	EHCP Update (inc. Annual Reviews)	<p>JD shared the slides and discussed current position with EHCPs.</p> <p>DH asked when most requests were received for assessment. JD reported that this varied, but often received an influx at transition periods e.g. moving key stages/schools. We do see fewer post 16.</p> <p>ACTION: JD to provide analysis of schools data for exclusions, suspensions and EHCPs for the next meeting.</p>

		<p>IB advised service will be recruiting for a SEND advisor to sit in LIS to support and challenge schools.</p> <p>PC – additional plans will therefore mean 30% additional annual reviews, demand will continue to grow year on year, with same amount of resources – as a board we need to continue to monitor this. IB agreed, but linked back to DBV work to help reduce this demand by providing earlier intervention.</p> <p>JD also gave a brief update on current activity including change of EHCP paperwork to new national, changes in request for support, changes to SAT providing more earlier intervention work with EPs completing statutory assessment work. Following some staff changes, we have also reorganised SEN team into age phases, rather than geographical. The 0-14 team is led by Lucy Harris with the 16-25 team being led by Josie Burrell.</p> <p>LRW felt this was really positive as it linked in well with Transitions to adulthood and the transition workers within her team. Feedback from transitions workers – attendance at transition reviews, what they would like to see a stronger presence of is around the planning for the future, their role. Meetings where the plans are not necessarily discussed, education centric. Make sure that we are bringing in the transition plans for future in those meeting.</p> <p>A query was raised about input on new EHCP format and had there been consultation. JD reported there hadn't because it is a national document that has been given to us to use, but we could look at this further at the SEN Taskforce group.</p> <p>KJ asked for greater clarification for EYFS needs. AH/AMc have been working on a paper. ACTION: AH/AMc to bring paper outlining EYFS needs to next Partnership Board agenda</p>
8.	Feedback from SENDAC	Item deferred until next meeting as apologies received from SENDAC representatives
9.	Data Update <i>July 2024 Attainment Data</i>	<p>A data update, provided by Jason Habbershon had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Jason gave a brief overview of this document, highlights included:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence rates, PEX, lower – increase in PEX for EHCPs, increase in suspensions in EHCPs and SEN support. • SEN support increase 52-93 – Maire Barnes is doing some work on this. PTT reduced – a large amount made up by SEND. Action Marie Barnes to attend next Board with update re the increase in SEN support • Worth noting that increase in AR – quite notable. Completed in timescales, 10-70% - can see there is an improvement. • MA audit tools, going to start being used this week – demo going out on Tuesday, robust data we can start to capture around those. • GLD for our students not good this year – particularly within Barrow 1.1% - SEND support figures 23.3% however, did well in KS2 and phonics. EHCP in education and employment, gone up .2% higher than national. <p>This data is all education based. Moving forward, PC/JH to meet with health to begin to look at how we can incorporate health data. Action: HH to confirm who would be rep from NENC ICB to review health input into partnership scorecard with JH</p> <p>Isobel thanked Jason for his comprehensive report.</p> <p>DH enquired if there were common themes with suspensions/exclusions etc. IB confirmed that we haven't done this yet, but would be keen for new SEND advisor to capture this intelligence.</p> <p>EC asked how we capture data around statutory advice from social care and health, JD is aware we capture some, but this has been more challenging during the DCO vacancy and is concerned that not always commissioning correct advice.</p> <p>Lancs SC ICB piloting a range of data sets. JH to meet with ICB and look how we can integrate this into a dashboard. Action: JH to provide update to next partnership meeting on dashboard development with ICB.</p>
10.	Section 19 Policy (Draft) and Panel	<p>Lorraine Thompson presented the Section 19 draft policy and associated documents, which had been shared prior to the meeting.</p> <p>IB – LA duty to offer day 6 provision following excluded or those pupils struggling to attend school due to anxiety.</p>

		<p>LT – Section 19 frames our duty around supporting for pupils who are medically unfit to attend school, piece of work development SEND team, LIS, EP and Access to education team. Policy and guidance documents, flowchart with links and pathways to broad and breath of AP available. Sits with HHTS medically unable, policy outlines broader support, AP commissioned by LA, Virtual, HHTS, telepresence – tools in the classroom. S19 policy details membership a panel meeting every 3 week, 2 weeks prior referrals will be received, triaged by colleagues from access to education service, made available one week prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Shows how important it is working in a truly multiagency way.</p> <p>EC – discussion from a health perspective around health representative at that meeting. Are the meeting dates concrete? IB – they are our plans – so hopeful date can be moved to ensure health attendance.</p>
11.	Hesley Report; Safeguarding of CwD and QA Placements	<p>Item not covered due to meeting overrunning.</p> <p>Action: Add Helsey Report to agenda for next meeting</p>
13.	Forward Planning	<i>Date and time of next meeting: Monday 18th November 09:00 – 11:00</i>