

SEND STRATEGY STEERING GROUP (VIRTUAL) 16 MARCH 2021



Attendees:

Ming Zhang (MZ) Chair	Service Director, Education, Participation & Skills	PCC
Jo Siney (JS)	Head of SEND	PCC
Tara Vassallo (TV)	Parent Rep	Plymouth Parent Carer Voice
Rob Hunter (RH)	Post 16 Rep	City College
Nicolle Gallagher (NG)	SEND Youth Forum, Youth Worker	PCC
George Osborne (GO)	Young person rep	Youth Ascends
Bob Burton (BB)	Senior Parent Support Co-ordinator, PIASS	PCC
Janet Greaves Stocker (JGS)	Commissioning Officer	PCC
Elizabeth Knight (EK)	Early Years Rep	Lark Children's Centre
Clare Hetherington (CH)	Principal Educational Psychologist	PCC
Claire Paddon (CP)	Parent Rep	Plymouth Parent Carer Voice
Denise Edgecombe (DE)	Clinical Education lead for Health Visiting and School Nursing	Livewell, South West
Jayne Blood (JBL)	CAMHS, Service Manager	Livewell, South West
Elizabeth Knight (EK)	Early Years Rep	Lark Children's Centre
Heidi Price (HP)	Headteacher, Primary Rep	Yealmpstone Farm Primary School
Andrea Hemmens (AH)	SHAP Representative, Headteacher	Woodlands
Karen Dorow (KD)	Director of Faculty, City College Plymouth	Post 16 Provider
Hannah Daw (HD)	Performance Advisor	PCC
Jim Barnicott (JB)	Leadership Associate, SEND	PCC
Siobhan Grady (SG)	Senior Commissioning Manager	New Devon CCG
Frank O Friel (FOF)	Care Group Manager	PHNT
Nadia Donald (ND)	Minute Taker	PCC

Apologies:

Sara Kirkup (SK)	Children's Lead	Livewell, South West
Siobhan Wallace (SW)	Head of Service, Children, Young People & Families	PCC
Penny Whitell (PW)	Service Manager, SEND	PCC

Blanche Gibson (BG)	0-25 SEND Team Manager	PCC
Emily Street (ES)	Commissioning Manager	New Devon CCG
Tracy Clasby (TC)	Locality Manager	Livewell, South West
Tracy Tucker (TT)	Childrens Centre Rep	Barnardo's
Ruth White (RW)	Designated Nurse – LAC	New Devon CCG
Sue Syers (SS)	DCO/Nurse Consultant, Child Development Centre	PHNT

Item	Notes	Action
1.	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES	
	As above.	
2.	MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING & ACTIONS ARISING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary Rep – Being discussed at PLT on 30 March. • School referrals data - HD has picked this up as part of ongoing data activity. • Letter of endorsement – Completed and in place with Police • Food parcels – HP followed up with primary heads and arrangements were made on a case by case basis. 	JS/MZ to discuss lessons learnt
3.	PPCV UPDATE	
	<p>SEND conference took place last week and was a success. MZ thanked PPCV for their input to a well-attended event where wide ranging issues were raised and discussed. Several work streams have been raised following the meeting:-</p> <p>1. Disability Premium and the extra costs associated with a disability.</p> <p>2. Training in schools for less visible disabilities such as neuro development conditions and better support and training for teachers. JB to link with PPCV regarding EHWPB Steering Group and the work going on to support a whole school approach. HP added that funding from high needs block is being used around inclusion in schools to make them more trauma informed. This will link to the Charter and Inclusion Award. Discussed the need of training to manage in a classroom environment. CH added that the role of the EP is to align needs to teaching and teaching practices on a case by case basis to bridge the gap between medical diagnosis and support in schools. This needs to be embedded in a whole school approach.</p> <p>3. Re-application and refusal – This is an issue nationally that MPs were keen to address locally and will be working with PPCV to take evidence of this to parliament</p>	JB/PPCV to discuss further

	<p>4. City Centre Access – Particularly for The Box and Drakes Circus</p> <p>5. Employment & Independence – Do our efforts ensure that outcomes are achieved and young people achieve independence.</p> <p>JS suggested setting up a working group to look at themes and follow up on actions. This would also feed into the SEND Review. JS/ JB to look at what needs to be considered.</p>	<p>JS/ JB to discuss further</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>YOUTH ASCENDS</p>	
	<p>NG reported that online participation is improving. 10 wishes document has been reviewed by young people to check still relevant. NG has been asking young people why each wish is important to them. Need to ask organisations what they could do to put wishes into place. This will be launched on 30 April with a video from the young people explaining their importance. This will be shared with schools/services to promote.</p> <p>GO feedback that the PPCV Conference was an opportunity to reflect how far we have come and to look forward at what we can do for our city. JS thanked GO for participating and commented on how powerful it is to hear from young people directly. We need to stop and listen to young people in order that they can bring forward their inspirational and helpful stories.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>LOCAL OFFER PROGRESS</p>	
	<p>JB provided updates on three areas:-</p> <p>Local Offer – This is everything we do and provides information on local activities to increase participation and inclusion. A local offer champion is required in every setting to champion and ensure that all information is up to date and relevant. This has been difficult to progress during the pandemic. JS reminded all the review the content for their area to ensure is up to date.</p> <p>Inclusion Award & Charter – This is a programme of work to design and framework to provide an accredited award to inclusive schools. Currently finalising the draft framework for this and will be piloting across four schools. CP added that this is a co-produced piece of work and need to get organisations signed up to Charter.</p> <p>SEND Review & Framework – Part way through review and have looked at data and the value of families. This week will look at sufficiency of places.</p>	<p>All – Review Local Offer content to ensure is up to date</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>COVID -19 MONITORING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH AN EHCP AND SEN SUPPORT – REVIEW AND LEARNING</p>	
	<p>CH highlighted the key themes following a review of our monitoring during the pandemic. A multi-agency approach was adapted to ensure that schools were not being asked to provide the same information twice. This included young people with an EHCP, CIN plan, social worker or with</p>	

	<p>complex needs. Every school was provided with a SEND link who contacted them weekly to discuss all young people within these categories. The SEND link was a member of SEND or IAWS team to join up the focus of SEND and inclusion.</p> <p>Guidance and advice was also provided to families on areas such as managing anxiety and school based avoidance.</p> <p>The graduated approach allowed us to monitor the number of young people attending schools during lockdown in order that we could gain an overall view of attendance. Weekly meetings were used to look at which families required more direct work. Out of City and Post 16 was monitored by a seconded HMI.</p> <p>Review & Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination of SEND link was crucial to establish a joined up approach • Young people found home learning difficult and felt disconnected from school and their peers • Social impact on children – some did better being at primary school in smaller groups and are having to no learn to cope again in a full classroom • Impact on early intervention – EHCP has been prioritised • Helpline was set up in order that we could be accessible to families • Working closely with parents/carers is crucial to ensure they return to school effectively. Looking at reintegration and phased return packages • There has been a drop in progress in SEND early years due to the gap that the pandemic has caused. Recovery programmes for learning are being planned. • Attainment needs to be promoted without putting pressure on families • Enhanced transition into reception are being carefully planned • Year 6-7 transitions being planned with SENCOs across both settings • Health colleagues are looking at wellbeing return to school with the mental health in schools teams 	
7.	<p>STRATEGIC THEME: PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD & POST 16 PROVISION</p>	
	<p>Our agreed priorities for this theme are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post 16 education, employment & training provision • 19-25 education provision • Preparing for adulthood pathway • Impact of COVID on opportunities for young people aged 16-25 with SEND <p>HD has looked in the data on this topic and 4% of SEN are in employment. This is the expected level. Apprenticeships for SEN support are above the national and regional average. There has been a reduction in NEET meaning that young people are remaining in education, employment or training. An area of concern is that the number of EHCP for this age range has increased. HD is working with 0-25 team to obtain more intelligence and transitional data looking at year group breakdowns and primary need.</p>	

	<p>A new development is progressing to track young people who are NEET to look at creative and innovative ways to provide education, employment and training opportunities. This will take the experience of COVID 19 until account. We are also addressing the links between the skills strategy and SEND.</p> <p>We have re-established and reset the tracking group between Children's Services and Adult Services to monitor how the pathway is being followed for young people in transition. This should improve the timeliness for adult social care involvement and ensure that we are learning together what works well. To improve the discussions regarding support for young people aged 16-25 at these meetings a commissioning officer from adults will be joining.</p> <p>Discussion regarding appointee ship advice and the need for 18 year olds with SEN to have parent's involvement as a supportive factor around them. AH suggested using the annual review form as a prompt to this.</p>	
8.	AOB	
	Summative Report – JS informed that there is evidence of progress made against our priorities. Pulling together a summative report on this.	

Date of next meeting: 18 May 2021