

Lancashire SEND Partnership Board Meeting

12th July 2018, 10:30 – 12:30pm

Sir Tom Finney High School, Preston

Attendees, Board members:

John Readman, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Lancashire County Council (Chair)

Mark Youlton, Clinical Commissioning Group Chief Officer with responsibility for SEND (Vice Chair)

Jo Bebbington, Interim Parent Carer representative, Contact

Steve Belbin, Head of School Improvement, Lancashire County Council

Dave Carr, Head of Service Policy, Information and Commissioning (Start Well), Policy, Information and Commissioning, Lancashire County Council

Debbie Duffell, Head of Service Children and Family Wellbeing, Lancashire County Council

Tara Entwistle, Representative for Early Years

Matthew Fisher, Young person from POWAR Group, Barnardo's

David Graham, Head of Service SEND, Lancashire County Council

Fiona Grieveson, Representative Lancashire Special Schools Head Teachers Association

Charlotte Hammond, Head of Service Learning Disabilities, Autism and Mental Health, Lancashire County Council

Amanda Hatton, Director of Children's Services, Lancashire County Council

Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health and Wellbeing

Olly Moores, Young person from POWAR Group, Barnardo's

Tina Wilkinson, Representative Primary Heads in Lancashire

Mike Wright, Representative Lancashire Association Secondary Schools Head Teachers

In attendance:

Diane Booth, Lancashire SEND Senior Manager

Gareth Jenkins, SEND Partnership Communications and Engagement Lead

Helen Makinson, SEND Partnership Project Lead

Lorraine Moody, Team leader, Barnardo's

Sian Rees, SEND Improvement Partner

Sharon Walkden, Service Redesign Officer, SEND Partnership Team

Apologies:

Hilary Fordham, Chief Operating Officer, NHS Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group

Robin Newton-Syms, Representative The Lancashire Colleges

Full notes of the meeting:

1. Introductions, welcome new members, apologies

At the invitation of the Chair, attendees introduced themselves. Apologies were noted. Since the last Board the membership has been updated and new members have joined. John Readman welcomed Tara Entwistle, Tina Wilkinson, Mike Wright, Amanda Hatton and Charlotte Hammond to their first meeting.

John Readman noted that following a transitional period this is the first meeting of the newly formed Board. It was stated that this is the start of a continuous improvement journey and all members are in the process of learning to take collective responsibility as part of the SEND Partnership. John Readman asked for commitment from all members to learn from each other.

For the benefit of new members and as a recap for all Sian Rees summarised the journey so far and the role and responsibilities of the Board and Working Groups.

2. Notes from the meeting 17 May and progress on action

An action summary table from the previous meeting was presented. It was noted that all actions were either complete or would be addressed through the agenda.

Terms of Reference and Representation

The membership categories of the Terms of Reference was presented. This has been updated and Helen Makinson reported that the remaining gaps will be filled by the next Board.

Action 1: Update membership and confirm Board members

3. Business Items

Written Statement of Action Updates

Brief updates were requested from Working Group leads. Reporting slides attached to the meeting notes.

a) Working Group 1 – Strategy, David Graham

This group is developing the Partnership Vision; the importance of longevity beyond the WSoA with children, young people and their families at the heart of the vision was emphasised. Progress to date included eleven engagement events held with parents to determine needs and expectations, meetings held with Head teacher associations and JSNA events involving LCC, Commissioners and young people. The infrastructure to deliver the tasks is in place.

Sakthi Karunanithi noted that the JSNA is a static source of data and advised drawing on operational sources to inform all work streams. Diane Booth noted that this is in hand with health and the council working together on creating a data dashboard.

b) Working Group 2 - Commissioning and Access to Provision, Dave Carr

Integrated Care System (ICS) Children's Commissioners have agreed a framework for SEND commissioning and a new Director of Joint Commissioning for ICS has been appointed, Rachel Snow-Miller. ASD pathways are being extended for all areas.

Dave Carr requested endorsement from the Board to broaden the scope of this group beyond health transitions to include all transitions. This was supported and agreed by the Board.

c) Working Group 4 - Identifying and Meeting Need, Diane Booth

Three Designated Clinical Officers have been appointed and a workshop held with Health/SEND partners to consider function, role and obstacles. Four task and finish groups have been established. Sakthi noted that Health Visitors are not part of the membership and this is an important area as early identification can have a big impact on a child's ability to learn/make progress.

Action 2 – Review Working Group membership to ensure Early Years/Health Visitors are represented

d) Working Group 5 – Improving Outcomes, Steve Belbin

Three working groups have been established to look at exclusion, attainment and inclusion. Mike Wright noted that since the 2014 changes in legislation there has been a lack of transparency and a growing lack of confidence in personnel. It was noted that improvements need to be made in all areas and it is the work of the SEND Partnership to progress these.

Amanda Hatton shared feedback from an event where the Secretary of State for Education had presented. He focused on SEND in his speech, particularly around the exclusion/inclusion agenda. Amanda noted that the focus on the SEND agenda was very welcome and although it may continue to be a changing landscape it is positive that SEND is being recognised as a high profile issue.

e) Working Group 3 – Engagement, Gareth Jenkins

Fifteen Parent/Carer engagement events have been organised across the county with 180 parents attending. The lack of a formal Parent/Carer Forum has been a challenge and the partnership team is supporting parents with the formation of a new forum. A report has been presented to Scrutiny Committee on engagement activity.

The Board was requested to support potential changes to Liquid Logic, as feedback suggests that the system does not meet the needs of all partners. Diane Booth outlined that she had spoken to Ian Calderbank and tweaks to the system can be made. David Graham to follow up.

Action 3 –Ensure all partners' needs are met through Liquid Logic

Charlotte Hammond stressed that more engagement with young people is needed beyond the POWAR group. Sakthi Karunanithi noted that engagement of staff is also important. John Readman agreed and stressed that it is the responsibility of Board members to embed the SEND agenda within their service/organisational areas and that this would be an appropriate topic for discussion at a future meeting.

Action 4 – To schedule discussion about embedding the SEND agenda across services into forward planner

Amanda Hatton explained that the Shadow Practitioner multi-agency board model had been successful in Children's Social Care and there may be opportunity to replicate this for the SEND Partnership.

Action 5—Consider how the Shadow Practitioner model could be used for SEND and report back to Board

Branding sign off

Gareth Jenkins delivered a presentation on the SEND Partnership brand. Two refined designs were presented and the Board was requested to vote for their preferred option. The Board voted unanimously for design A.

Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) – 17 July

John Readman reported that a paper on the SEND Partnership will be presented to 17 July HWB. The paper is an update on activity following Ofsted's assessment. It was noted that John Readman and Mark Youlton, both Accountable Officers for the SEND Partnership, are also members of the HWB. At the next HWB Board the regularity of reporting will be agreed.

DfE/NHS Monitoring Visit – 25 July

David Graham advised that a DfE/NHS monitoring visit will take place on 25 July. This will be the second of four visits; increasingly they will be looking for demonstrable evidence of impact. Following the third visit a report to the minister will be made about the progress Lancashire is making and after the fourth visit a decision will be taken as to whether the Written Statement of Action stays in place or is stepped down to an action/improvement plan.

Your Child Your Voice – POWAR production

John Readman described the purpose of the session, to consider a vision and strategy for SEND in Lancashire and hearing from young people about their vision for change is an important part of this. Matthew Fisher introduced a film produced by the POWAR group called 'We want change' which highlights the issues for children with SEND particularly in education and choices post 16.

4. A Focus On : Strategy

David Graham presented initial summary feedback from young people, parents/carers and Head teachers on their vision/concerns about SEND services.

Gareth Jenkins updated on emerging themes from the Parent/Carer events. The response from parents on their experiences of SEND services has been very negative. The strength of feeling from these sessions has been palpable, with parents incredibly upset and angry. A recurring issue is services not doing what they say they will and families feeling that they need to fight for support. There have been some positive experiences shared, but these were few and felt to be due to individual experiences rather than consistent, reliable processes or services. Dave Carr shared his experience from one of these events and noted that at the session there were no positive comments, the range of issues were diverse and parents felt young people's voices were not being captured accurately through professionals.

The Board was requested to consider the following task in pairs: Visualise what you expect to see in the future. What words best describe the approach, the services, the success?

The Board was requested to feedback the word they considered most important to include within the vision. The following words were shared; transparency, proactive, listening, communication, aspiration, early, understanding, responsive and trust. John Readman thanked the Board for their contributions to the discussion and advised that the feedback received will be used to shape the Vision.

Action 6 – Develop draft vision for next Board, to be published in the autumn

5. Service Input : Educational Outcomes

Steve Belbin delivered a presentation on Lancashire SEND performance compared with National results at Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1, 2 and 4. In summary EYFS; Good Level of Development rose but is below the national average, KS1; below the national average, KS2; attainment below, progress above and KS4; below in both attainment and progress.

The Board discussed the key messages from the presentation.

Fiona Grieveson queried how progress is captured in special schools as this can vary hugely by individual and national measures don't demonstrate progress made. Tara Entwistle agreed that how we measure progress nationally doesn't capture SEND children's achievements. Other measures such as improvement in attitudes and behaviours would give a more accurate picture of progress. Steve Belbin confirmed that more personal achievements aren't reported nationally. The potential to include parents' feelings on their child's progress within EHCPs was suggested.

Action 7 – Consider adapting EHCPs to include parental views

From a secondary school perspective Mike Wright felt that improvements in early support would have a big impact on young people's ability to learn and progress in school.

Steve Belbin reported that he is working on profiling individual schools to identify and define distinct needs.

Dave Carr queried whether the curriculum on offer is too restrictive for SEND young people and Steve Belbin outlined that the importance of a 'broad, balanced, relevant curriculum that children can engage with and enjoy' is included within the Lancashire Ambition document.

Tara Entwistle emphasised the importance of staff expertise and professional development, noting that children can be better supported to achieve when staff are highly skilled.

Mike Wright queried the data available and whether this could be broken down further to enable the Board to identify which types of SEND need are progressing well/poorly. This was agreed.

Action 8 – Review SEND data to identify outcomes by need

Sakthi Karunanithi discussed genetic, social impacts pre-term and pre-conception, noting that the SEND population is increasing. He shared some research related to children's first 1000 days and how this affects their readiness to learn. It was suggested that a strategic piece of work should explore how/where this can influence this agenda.

Amanda Hatton highlighted an early intervention project called Blackpool Better Start delivered through funding from the NSPCC.

Action 9 – Consider Inviting Blackpool Better Start to attend future Board meeting

6. Forward Planner and Close

The Board Forward Planner was shared, the next Board discussion item will focus on Commissioning and Access to Provision.

Action 10 – Confirm the focus on topic Commissioning and Access to Provision for the next meeting

John Readman requested Helen Makinson liaise with Board members to confirm the Service input for the next Board.

Action 11 – Confirm Board member service input for next meeting

John Readman closed the meeting by stating that there are outstanding pockets of good practice across the county, but the system as a whole is not effective. As leaders it is for the Board to learn and challenge each other, be champions for SEND services and be confident that the work we do will make a difference.

Dates and times of future meetings

Future meeting dates and times confirmed below:

17/9/2018 10.30- 12.30pm, Moor Lane Mills, Lancaster, Large Lecture Theatre

26/11/2018 10-12pm, Venue tbc

Action Summary

Agenda Item	Actions from meeting	Who	When	Progress
Notes from the meeting 17 May and progress on action	1 Update membership and confirm Board members	Helen Makinson	17/9/18	In progress
Business Items –WSoA Updates	2 Review Working Group membership to ensure Early Years/Health Visitors are represented	Helen Makinson/ WG leads	17/9/18	Early Years representatives to be identified through the Early Years Consultative Group Health Visitors to be identified via CCG colleagues within the SEND Partnership Team

Business Items –WSOA Updates	3	Ensure all partners needs are met through Liquid Logic	David Graham	17/9/18	Update at the next Board meeting
Business Items –WSOA Updates	4	To schedule discussion about embedding the SEND agenda across services into forward planner	Helen Makinson	8/8/18	In progress
Business Items –WSOA Updates	5	Consider how the Shadow Practitioner model could be used for SEND and report back to Board	Amanda Hatton	17/9/18	In progress
A Focus On: Strategy	6	Develop draft vision for next Board, to be published in the autumn	David Graham	17/9/18	Focus of working group activity – draft to be presented at the next Board meeting
Service Input: Educational Outcomes	7	Consider adapting EHCPs to include parental views	David Graham	17/9/18	Update at the next Board meeting
Service Input: Educational Outcomes	8	Review SEND data to identify outcomes by need	Steve Belbin	17/9/18	Update at the next Board meeting
Service Input: Educational Outcomes	9	Consider inviting Blackpool Better Start to attend future Board meeting	Amanda Hatton	17/9/18	For November meeting
Forward Planner and Close	10	Confirm the focus on topic Commissioning and Access to Provision for the next meeting	Helen Makinson	25/7/18	Complete
Forward Planner and Close	11	Confirm Board member service input for next meeting	Helen Makinson	25/7/18	In progress