

## Lancashire SEND Partnership Board Meeting 20 January 2022, 10.00am – 12.00pm

### Online meeting

#### Board Members Present:

Julie Higgins, Joint Chief Officer with responsibility for SEND, BwD and East Lancs Clinical Commissioning Group (Chair)

Edwina Grant OBE, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Lancashire County Council (Vice Chair)

Julie Bell, Interim Director of Education, Skills and Culture, Lancashire County Council

Emma Bonney, North Area Lead, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

Dave Carr, Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health, Lancashire County Council

Hilary Fordham, Chief Operating Officer for Morecambe Bay CCG and Senior Responsible Officer for SEND on behalf of the group of CCGs

Cllr Mike Goulthorp, County Councillor, Legal, Governance & Registrars

Dr Maria Hall, Community Health Representative

Anne Hardman, Designated Clinical Officer, South Area

Marie Howarth, Vice Principal Preston's College representing the FE sector

Helen Keaveney, SEND Lead for Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

Olly Moores, Chair Children and Young People SEND Board

Clare Mulderrig, South Area Lead, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

Zoe Richards, Senior Programme Manager for SEND for Health

Sally Richardson, Head of Inclusion Service, Lancashire County Council  
Lancashire County Council representing Dave Carr

Andy Smith, Head at St Aidan's High School, Secondary Schools Representative

Neil Willcocks, Service Manager (Learning Disability & Autism), Learning Disabilities, Autism and Mental Health

Tina Wilkinson, Primary Heads in Lancashire

#### In attendance:

Laura Bayliff, Project Manager (SEND), Chorley and South Ribble CCG

Andrea Duerdan, MASH Senior Manager, Lancashire County Council

Colette Gollcher, Strategic Lead for Key Working and Autism, LSCFT

Suliman Hussain, Professional Range Youth Worker, supporting Children and Young People SEND Board representatives

Helen Marsden, Project Manager, LSCFT

Alison May, Commissioning Support Manager, Morecambe CCG

Sally Nightingale, Programme Lead for Learning Disabilities and Autism, Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust

Nighat Parveen, Senior Manager Strategic Lead 0-11 yrs (Early Help) Lancashire County Council

Gary Robinson, Key Schools Technical Officer, Lancashire County Council

Brian Wood, Team Leader Targeted Youth Support, Lancashire County Council

Rachel Lambert, PA to the Director of Education, Skills and Culture (minutes)

### **Apologies:**

Kathy Ashworth, Head of Service, Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Matthew Fisher, Children and Young People SEND Board

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

Lorna Harris, Youth Support Worker, supporting Children and Young People SEND Board representatives

Sam Jones, Chair of the Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

Sakthi Karunanithi, Director Public Health and Wellbeing, Public Health

Helen Makinson, Project Manager: Children, Lancashire County Council

Laura Morris, IAS Team Manager, Lancashire County Council

Gillian Rankin, East Area Lead, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

April Rankin, Professional Range Youth Worker, Lancashire County Council

Cllr Jayne Rear, County Councillor, Legal, Governance & Registrars

Ruksana Sardar-Akram, Interim Public Health Consultant

Jane Sinclair, Senior Clinical Manager – Safeguarding, Patient Experience, Learning

Faith Stringer, Early Years Representative

Lisa Taylor, Policy, Information and Commissioning Manager (Start Well),

Cllr Cosima Towneley, County Councillor, Legal, Governance & Registrars

Kieran Welsh, Lancashire Special Schools Head Teachers Association

Disability and Autism, SEND, NHS England & NHS Improvement NW (Lancs & S Cumbria)

## **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Dr Julie Higgins, Chair, welcomed attendees to the meeting and apologies were noted.

## **2. Standing Items**

### **2.1 Minutes From 18 November 2021 Meeting**

Minutes received by all members prior to the meeting. Approved by the board as written.

### **2.2 Action Tracker**

Action tracker received by all members to review before the meeting. Zoe Richards, Senior Manager for SEND for Health advised that the impact and effectiveness review

could now be closed, the comms item was ongoing, a number of actions for the DCS report had progressed and Jo Siddle had been invited to attend the February meeting.

### **3. SEND Plan Progress**

#### **3.1 SEND Plan 2021-2025 Delivery Development**

Sally Richardson, Head of Inclusion Service updated on the presentation given at the last meeting by Dave Carr, Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health. This focused on the groups and five priorities and the work of the next few years. The plan would be dynamic and would require an overarching policy.

Sally advised that this was not a definitive list but provided an example of the type of things she was proposing. Sally suggested that if the group was happy with the proposal that joint implementation outcome delivery plans be created, with a lead for each group, reporting up to the Exec Group and providing updates on a cyclical basis.

Helen Keaveney, SEND Lead for Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust asked how new issues would get onto the plan. Sally explained that the Outcomes and Data Group would focus on data and be responsible for creating a methodology. The Outcomes and Data Group would feed into the Exec Group any concerns in data or gaps causing concern.

In response to a question from Marie Howarth, Vice Principal Preston's College it was noted that there were resources already in place to carry out the work and if extra resource was required, a request would come back to the Executive Group. Zoe noted they would use some of the existing groups.

The Chair felt that the plan was clear and that the straplines would be understandable to the public. Sally advised that the next step was to agree the proposal and ask Comms to create a new delivery plan (allegating delivery plans from other areas). Zoe noted that Helen Makinson, Project Manager: Children was currently designing an up-to-date template similar to the accelerated progress plan, as the approach had been successful in ensuring progress in 2020/21.

Following discussion the SEND Delivery Plan was agreed.

#### **3.2 Preparation for Adulthood**

Neil Willcocks, Service Manager (Learning Disability & Autism), Learning Disabilities, Autism and Mental Health gave a presentation on the draft overarching strategy for Preparation for Adulthood (PFA). The vision is that all young people with SEND will have equal life chances as they move into adulthood.

Neil advised that there will be an enhanced transition service as well as developing relationships with specialist schools. Neil noted that there were some challenges around employment, healthy lifestyles and personal and intimate relationships.

Emma Bonney, North Area Lead, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum felt that children fell off a cliff edge at 18 years of age. Emma explained that being the parent of a young person with autism, she had experienced issues with the Transition Service and direct payments. Sally agreed that this had been an issue but was hopeful that a newly created post in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub would solve these types of issues.

The Chair noted that dealing with issues that were anxiety provoking for families was really important work and was pleased to see that there was a strong strategic approach. Sally confirmed that the next step was to plan between now and July how to improve data and practices. Sally advised that she would develop the Preparation for Adulthood Strategy before the end of January and circulate to the group for comment, making adaptations to create a delivery plan for implementation in April. The plan was agreed.

**ACTION:** Sally Richardson to circulate draft PFA Strategy for comment by the end of January

**ACTION:** It was agreed to take the draft PFA Strategy to the Children and Young People Board for final ratification.

#### **4. Key Topics (Specific topics related to the improvement plan and the SEND Code of Practice)**

##### **4.1 Children and Young People's Executive Board 6 monthly report**

Olly Moores, Chair Children and Young People SEND Board and Suliman Hussain, Professional Range Youth Worker, supporting Children and Young People SEND Board representatives gave a presentation on POWAR and the SEND Executive Children and Young People summary of activities. Four Children and Young People Executive Board meetings have been held, 48 POWAR sessions and 172 engagements with young people.

It was noted that there were some areas of concerns relating to means of transport to events and meetings wheelchair access in some locations and the distances young people have to travel to engage with services as Lancashire is a large county.

Next steps are to continue to make connections and promote POWAR via the Participation Team internally and externally, hold coffee mornings in the local

community, attend Parent Carer Forum and hold a showcase event in Lancashire for young people with SEND and supporting agencies.

Olly's impact statement was noted as well as other young people who had increased self confidence, an awareness of local issues and felt that their voice was heard.

Dave Carr, Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health, Lancashire County Council thanked both Olly and Suliman for their presentation and noted that transport and access to services was a recurring theme with young people generally, either related to the location of services or access to transport. Olly and Suliman confirmed that their concern was the cost and accessibility of transport.

Helen Keaveny, SEND Lead for Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust noted that the group had been really busy and offered to introduce Olly and Suliman to the chair of the newly formed Youth Voices group.

**ACTION:** Helen Keaveny to introduce Olly and Suliman to Chair of Youth Voices.

Zoe Richards advised that it was really heartening to hear about the level of confidence that was being gained which was really positive and hoped that the good work would carry on. Zoe noted her congratulations to Evie who has been asked to join the regional group with aspirations of becoming an MP.

Andrea Duerdan, MASH Senior Manager, Lancashire County Council was also very heartened to hear the impact the group were making and advised that her team were looking at strengthening their approach to children and families with SEND and offered to link Olly and Suliman with a new member of staff to talk about what young people want from the service. Andrea also suggested that both Olly and Suliman attend the Parent Carer Forum to strengthen the approach.

**Action:** Andrea Duerdan to link Olly and Suliman to new member of MASH team and invite to Parent Carer Forum.

The Chair thanked Olly and Suliman for their presentation and excellent coverage. The Chair felt that a showcase celebration was a great idea and was also heartened to hear about their personal growth and confidence.

#### 4.2 Learning Disability & Autism Programme Update

Sally Nightingale, Programme Lead for Learning Disabilities and Autism, Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust gave a presentation on the Learning Disabilities and Autism Programme with support from Colette Gollcher and Helen Marsden, Project Manager.

Sally advised that much of the work of the programme is driven by the NHS Long Term Plan. As a result of the main points of focus is on autism diagnosis and how this is managed locally. She noted that the assessment pathway leading to diagnosis is being supported by the Lancashire and South Cumbria Autism Project and Evaluation (LandSCAPE) who were reviewing current delivery models to reduce unwarranted longer waits. It was also noted that there were NHS structural changes taking place.

Colette spoke about the keyworking function and the elements of the pilot. One of the main points was that support would eventually be increased from age 18 to 25. To date 2 full-time designated key worker development officers had been recruited (with recruitment ongoing), 45 cases had been supported and 15 children/young people had been stepped down after a period of direct work.

Helen advised that a lot of money had been invested to make sure that services knitted together rather than working in silos. The Autism in Schools Project was piloted in the north east of England, and is being adopted across Lancashire and South Cumbria as a pilot, with training for staff and young people.

The Chair was impressed with the work that had taken place and asked for connectivity with Sally Richardson, Zoe Richards and the Ops Group and Parent Carer Forum. It was confirmed that connectivity is in place.

#### 4.3 Meeting Children's Sensory Processing Needs Across Lancashire and South Cumbria

Alison May, Commissioning Manager, Morecambe Bay CCG gave a presentation on behalf of Lancashire and Cumbria ICS on Children's Sensory Processing Needs. It was noted that the most common gap across the ICS was meeting the needs of children and young people which a diagnosis of autism and who do not have the physical difficulties/disabilities. Alison advised that the Sensory Integration Policy consultation had now closed and was waiting for the results.

The Chair noted that the presentation had been really helpful.

Following discussion recommendations were agreed:

- to sign up to joint sensory aspiration of developing a system wide graduated response model;
- suggest additional strategic aspirations re meeting sensory processing needs;
- suggest what is feasible with regards to system wide training

#### 4.4 SEND Multi-agency Data Dashboard

Sally Richardson introduced the SEND data dashboard and Gary Robinson, Key Schools Technical Officer provided an overview. Gary explained that metrics had been gathered from across the partnership and although it was still in development he hoped this would provide stakeholders with an idea of what the data looked like. Gary advised that the dashboard would include assessment information and health data and noted that there were still a lot of other items to be added and would be able to report on a district level once complete.

Zoe was very impressed with the work done by Gary and his team in pulling the dashboard together. Once the detailed dashboard was complete, the plan would be to drill down and address any issues via the boards. Dave advised that it would be helpful to have the information available on Lancashire Insight.

The Chair agreed that the dashboard was really impressive and dynamic and to have reports come to the board.

## **5. Meeting Governance**

### **5.1 Forward Plan**

It was agreed to discuss at the April meeting, the SEND plan 12 month review, review the local offer, review the commissioning dashboard. Any other suggestions to be sent to Zoe.

### **5.2 Impact and effectiveness: because of this meeting children and young people will...**

Zoe and Sally to compile and circulate to the group. The Chair noted that in future each presentation would be required to include this information.

### **5.3 Confidentiality and Board Brief**

No items were deemed confidential.

## **6. AOB**

No other business

## **7. Dates and times of future meetings and close**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, 10.00am - 12.00pm

## **Action Summary**

Agenda Item	Actions from meeting	Who	When
3.2 Preparation for Adulthood	Sally to circulate draft PFA Strategy for comment	Sally Richardson	By end of January 2022
3.2 Preparation for Adulthood	It was agreed to take the draft PFA Strategy to the Children and Young People Board.	Zoe Richards	April 2022
4.1 Children and Young People's Executive Board 6 monthly report	Helen to introduce Olly and Suliman to Chair of Youth Voices.	Helen Keaveney	asap
4.1 Children and Young People's Executive Board 6 monthly report	Andrea to link Olly and Suliman to new member of MASH team and invite to Parent Carer Forum.	Andrea Duerdan	asap