



S.E.19 SEND Operational Managers Group
1st December 2022
12:00 to 13:30
Via Teams

Name	Local Authority
Attendees	
Christine Preston	Buckinghamshire
David Griffiths	RB Windsor and Maidenhead (Achieving for Children)
Mel Brown	Brighton and Hove
Catherine Clarke	Operations Manager Oxfordshire
Yasmin Ashraf	
Ellen Atkinson	SE 19 SEND co-ordinator
Nick King	SESLIP Consultant
Lucy Butler	SESLIP Consultant
Nina Broderick	Milton Keynes
Alistair Hines	Assistant SEN Service Manager, Hampshire County Council
Karen Spencer (Chair)	West Sussex
Sheelagh Sullivan	SE19 Region SEND Network Co-ordinator
Becky Smith	SE19 Regional SEND Support

Apologies: Charlotte Greenbank, Harpreet Deo, Sharon Willis

Notes of meeting

Notes from last meeting and matters arising

Action: Sheelagh to put a 1 year plan together based on the feedback and share with Chairs and Karen before presenting back to group. Three year regional plan has been developed and a 1 year plan will be presented to the group. Sheelagh and SE19 leads are working together and the plan is underway.

Action: LGO responses to be added onto future agendas. LGO has been included as a standing item on future agendas.

Action: Colleagues who have not yet shared EHCP Requests data, to send this through to becky.smith@sdsa.net. Becky to review LAs that have sent through EHCP Requests data and contact them to share their data.

Action: To continue conversation around recruitment and retention at future meetings. Recruitment and retention has been included as a standing item on future agendas.

Action: Please send any suggestion for future meetings, please send across to Sheelagh and Becky. Group to continue to share suggestions of items for future meetings

Action: Group to complete the following survey to share your feedback about the meetings <https://forms.gle/jCaVo4wnnTN4CkHZ7>. Group asked to complete feedback forms at the end of

each meeting. This will help to ensure the meetings are the best use of time and beneficial for those that attend.

1. Proposal to update Inter-Authority MOU – Cross border placements in state funded schools.

Karen and Nick provided background information on cross border placements in state funded schools. This has been impacted by the change in recoupment and funding rules.

The purpose is to reengage the group with updated MOU and come to an agreement to placements across border and any funding that may be attached to this.

Suggestion for a one off meeting to review what is needed and agree protocols between local authorities and share with reference group and DCSs. Also, to provide an opportunity to engage all LAs to ensure agreement.

Smaller working group to be agreed with volunteers including Karen Spencer (West Sussex), David Griffiths (RB Windsor and Maidenhead), Alistair Hines (Hampshire), Catherine Clarke (Oxfordshire).

Action: Members of the group who are interested in joining the working group please contact Sheelagh sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com
--

Action: Sheelagh to approach health colleagues, Adeleine Gibbs, to attend future Operational Leads meeting.
--

2. Standing items:

- **LGO responses**

The group shared their recent experiences of LGO responses.

- **Tribunal feedback**

The group discussed current experiences of refusal to assess including EOTAS ordered by tribunals.

Number of tribunals, appeals and mediations increased significantly over the past 2 years and is not sustainable.

Group agreed it would be useful to see minutes from the tribunal meetings.

Action: Sheelagh to contact the Chair of tribunals.
--

Action: Data request for tribunals and EOTAS appeals. Becky to send request to group to complete.
--

- **Recruitment and retention issues**

Challenges around teachers, teaching assistants recruitment and retention but also in LAs with some reaching out to agencies. Experiences of agency staff being released due to not meeting the quality needed to the deliver the role.

Updates on pay policy that adds recruitment and retention payments for hard to reach positions.

- **National/regional updates**

DfE pushing back response to Green Paper consultation to after Christmas.

Ofsted Framework has been released. Ofsted Framework was due to be released along with the feedback on the Green Paper consultation.

Inspections to kick off from the 9th January.

Action: Sheelagh to include an item at future forum meeting on new Ofsted Framework.

Group discussed Safety Valve and DBV (Delivering Better Values).

3. Regional best practice -opportunity to share practice/new initiatives

Ellen provided information on the Internship programme. Most LAs have engaged apart from Medway and Milton Keynes. Grants available to support as well as training.

Action: Group to contact Ellen ejatkinson@me.com if they would be interested in engaging in the Internship Programme.

4. 'What keeps you awake at night' – a chance to use the collective wisdom advice of colleagues around SEN practice

Group discussed various concerns around SEN practice. This included, high needs budget, SEMH placements and suitable placements including AP, exclusions in mainstream schools.

AOB

- **Suggestions for future meetings**
 - Post-16 challenges and transition into adult services
 - Potential for a face-to-face meeting in the summer

Action: Group to send contact for Post-16 lead to Sheelagh and Ellen to engage in a social care group.

Action: Group to share feedback on meeting via the following link <https://forms.gle/hvSX7VtXBPE8Mwx47>

Date of next meeting: Thursday 2nd February 2023, 12-1:30pm

All to take place on Thursday 12-1:30pm

2rd February

16th March

11th May

6th July

Summary of actions

Action: Members of the group who are interested in joining the working group please contact Sheelagh sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com

Action: Sheelagh to approach health colleagues, Adeleine Gibbs, to attend future Operational Leads meeting.

Action: Sheelagh to contact the Chair of tribunals.

Action: Data request for tribunals and EOTAS appeals. Becky to send request to group to complete.

Action: Sheelagh to include an item at future forum meeting on new Ofsted Framework.

Action: Group to contact Ellen ejatkinson@me.com if they would be interested in engaging in the Internship Programme.

Action: Group to send contact for Post-16 lead to Sheelagh and Ellen to engage in a social care group.

Action: Group to share feedback on meeting via the following link
<https://forms.gle/hvSX7vtxBPE8Mwx47>