



S.E.19 SEND Strategic Conversations - LAs Meeting

25th January 2023

Notes of meeting

Attendance	LA
Julia Katherine (Chair)	Surrey
Liz Flaherty	DfE professional adviser for SEND
Liz Robinson	Head of Inclusion Portsmouth City Council
Alistair Hines	Assistant SEN Service Manager, Hampshire County Council
Mark McCurrie	DfE SEND adviser
Deborah Smit	SEND Strategic Development and Improvement Manager, Oxfordshire
Steve Tanner	Assistant Director SEND, Kent CC
Jane Seymour	Service Manager SEND, West Berkshire
Neil Hoskinson	interim Head of SEND, Bracknell Forest
Nina Broderick	Inclusion Service Leader (Milton Keynes)
Helen Johns	West Sussex
Rhianedd Hughes	Brighton and Hove
Jamie Conran	Head of SEND Wokingham Borough Council
Ming Zhang	Interim Assistant Director of Education (LAP), Wokingham
Tammy Marks	Southampton
Karen Spencer	Principal Service Lead, SENAT, West Sussex.
Nick Fermi	SEND & Inclusion, Slough Borough Council
Lucy Pike	Head of Improvement and Transformation, Buckinghamshire Council
Katherine Everett	Surrey
Catherine Clarke	Operations Manager, Oxfordshire
Kate Bradley	Oxfordshire
Hester Collicutt	Interim Service Manager SEND, Brighter Futures
Emily George	Surrey
David Griffiths	SEND Manager, RBWM
Deborah Bowers	Slough
Sheelagh Sullivan	SE19 Regional SEND Network Lead
Becky Smith	SE19 Regional SEND Network support

No.	Agenda item
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Apologies: Sarah Clarke</p> <p>The group welcomed Lucy Pike, (Head of Improvement and Transformation, Buckinghamshire Council), Jamie Conran (Head of SEND Wokingham Borough Council) and Ming Zhang (Interim Assistant Director of Education (LAP), Wokingham) to the group.</p>
2.	<p>Actions and matters arising from last meeting</p> <p>Action: Sheelagh to set up a initial meeting with those that are interested to look at EOTAS and AP.</p> <p>Suggestion to extend future meeting in March by 30 minutes and spend this time to look at EOTAS. To also extend invitation to Operational Leads to join the discussion.</p>

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	<p>Action: A meeting to be set up to look at issues around EP shortages with Oxfordshire to Chair</p> <p>Oxfordshire took this to EP service manager who was going to take conversation to EP forum. Oxfordshire to follow up the discussion. Sheelagh to have a follow up conversation to confirm next steps.</p> <p>Action: Extend future meetings by 30 minutes to 2 hours where needed.</p> <p>Agreement to extend 15th March meeting to 2 hours with a focus on EOTAS.</p> <p>Action: Sheelagh to include a line about purpose of meetings and who should attend</p> <p>The current set up is two Strategic Conversation meetings, one for LA leads and one which is a larger forum for anyone to attend. This was initially set up through Covid however, there is not a space for only strategic leads to meet. Following a discussion with the steering group, it was agreed to separate out the two groups, one to be a smaller group for the LA Leads - Strategic Conversation to be attended by Strategic Leads only and the Forum - Strategic Conversation to be open to all. There was also a discussion around planning potential themes for each forum meeting.</p> <p>The table below highlights the focus for each meeting group and who should attend.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 853 1485 1346"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="225 853 533 898">Meeting Group</th> <th data-bbox="533 853 1066 898">Meeting Focus</th> <th data-bbox="1066 853 1485 898">Who Attends</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 898 533 1055">SE19 Joint SEND Strategic Conversation (Forum)</td> <td data-bbox="533 898 1066 1055">To share information and best practice/innovation from the region and beyond from all agencies involved in SEND.</td> <td data-bbox="1066 898 1485 1055">The forum is open to all those involved in SEND working for, or with, the region. It is jointly presented by LA and Health.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1055 533 1205">SE19 LA SEND Strategic Conversation (Strategic Leads)</td> <td data-bbox="533 1055 1066 1205">To provide opportunities for peer support to strategic leaders of SEND in SE19 LAs.</td> <td data-bbox="1066 1055 1485 1205">SE19 Strategic Leads</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1205 533 1346">SE19 EHCP Operational Leads Group</td> <td data-bbox="533 1205 1066 1346">To provide opportunities for peer support to managers of operational teams responsible for producing EHCPs.</td> <td data-bbox="1066 1205 1485 1346">SE19 Operational Managers (EHCPs)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Action: Strategic Leads to review who is attending each meeting from their LA and make sure the right people are attending and represented at the right meetings.</p>	Meeting Group	Meeting Focus	Who Attends	SE19 Joint SEND Strategic Conversation (Forum)	To share information and best practice/innovation from the region and beyond from all agencies involved in SEND.	The forum is open to all those involved in SEND working for, or with, the region. It is jointly presented by LA and Health.	SE19 LA SEND Strategic Conversation (Strategic Leads)	To provide opportunities for peer support to strategic leaders of SEND in SE19 LAs.	SE19 Strategic Leads	SE19 EHCP Operational Leads Group	To provide opportunities for peer support to managers of operational teams responsible for producing EHCPs.	SE19 Operational Managers (EHCPs)
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3.	<p>The new SEND Area Inspection Framework and DfE update</p> <p>1.Presentation from DfE - New Ofsted framework including opportunity to feedback on the 'evaluation grid' (attached)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a formal DfE evaluation • Information created by advisors and work with region to continue to develop a fine tune as a support document for all LAs to use. • Opened up a discussion around LAs that have undertaken a SEF and how the evaluation grid supported this and any further developments needed • AP area to be developed in the grid • Working with health colleagues on impact activity surrounding Mental Health and the lived experiences • 2 page summary of SEF included on local offer – not a requirement but useful to share. Following inspection action plan should be shared through the Local Offer and should be a public document for stakeholders, parents/carers, schools etc. to view. • LAs invited to share their SEFs with DfE Advisors to have a look at 												

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	<p>Action: Follow up item at future meetings to review how use of evaluation grid is supporting LAs to prepare for Inspection and an opportunity to continue the conversation.</p> <p>2. What else can the regional network do/support to prepare areas for inspections</p> <p>Suggestion to have a problem solving, 'show and tell' of sharing practice session around areas for inspection. Looking at those that have had inspections, looking at what went well and lessons learnt. AP could be an area to focus on first.</p> <p>Also, discussions around a Peer Review/Challenge that could be developed and a proposal presented to the steering group on how this could work best.</p> <p>Action: Group to consider the option of a peer review/challenge and complete attached document.</p> <p>3.Short general DfE update (slides attached)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Ofsted Inspections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 taken place so far ○ Live link to look at YP, parent and practitioners surveys to review and well briefed on the questions (also attached) • EOTAS law webinar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group advised to watch and support local practices ○ Noddy guide is also useful • EY Best Practice Hubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Launched at the end of November ○ Contact lead hubs rather than providers • DfE held a webinar for high needs sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Received high attendance ○ 3 further webinars being held ○ Do not need to attend one for SE and can be useful to join one that is outside of region • Phase transfer deadline is 15th February • Quarterly Wave data submission deadline Friday 27th January <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supports DfE on how things are going ○ Not mandatory and results are not shared with LAs. • Green Paper – implementation plan currently expected March '23.
4.	<p>The Safety - Valve Experience (Sharing experience around involvement in the safety-valve programme)</p> <p>Emily George from Surrey presented their experience and involvement in the safety-valve programme (slides attached).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme initiated by DfE in 2021 • Dorset / Fulham – paused or reviewed to engage in safety valve • Agreements accessible online • Target is to reach a balanced in-year position by 2026/27 • Important to have clarity on what is going to be done, how much it would cost and how much will be saved. <p>Further information can be found here;</p>

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	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dedicated-schools-grant-very-high-deficit-intervention</p> <p>Contact Emily if you have any further questions emily.george@surreycc.gov.uk</p> <p>Anyone that is involved in the DBV programme would be welcome to present at a future meeting to share the learning from this experience.</p> <p>Action: West Sussex DBV experience to be added to the next meeting agenda.</p>
5.	<p>AOB or Items for discussion</p> <p>Future agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection feedback – reviewing SEF • AP • Helen Johns – DBV from West Sussex <p>Action: Group encouraged to complete the meeting feedback form as this really helps support the development of the meetings and network; https://forms.gle/6sRXLJvqFETZ6bmR9</p>
<p>Future meeting dates: 15th March 2023 12-2pm</p>	
<p>Future topics: Please send any items or questions and queries you would like to discuss with colleagues to Sheelagh Sullivan at sheelagh.sullivan@outlook.com.</p>	

Summary of Actions
<p>Action: Strategic Leads to review who is attending each meeting from their LA and make sure the right people are attending and represented at the right meetings.</p> <p>Action: Follow up item at future meetings to review how use of evaluation grid is supporting LAs to prepare for Inspection and an opportunity to continue the conversation.</p> <p>Action: Group to consider the option of a peer review/challenge and complete attached document.</p> <p>Action: West Sussex DBV experience to be added to the next meeting agenda.</p> <p>Action: Group encouraged to complete the meeting feedback form as this really helps support the development of the meetings and network; https://forms.gle/6sRXLJvqFETZ6bmR9</p>