

**S.E.19 SEND Strategic Leads Meeting**

**5th July 2023**

**Notes of meeting**

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| **Attendance** | **LA** |
| Julia Katherine (Chair) | Surrey |
| Liz Flaherty | DfE SEND Advisor |
| Nathan Caine | East Sussex |
| Leanne Day | SE Regions Group |
| Ellen Atkinson | SE19 SEND Consultant |
| Neil Hoskinson | Slough |
| Alistair Hines | Hants |
| Helen Johns | West Sussex |
| Nicholas King | SE19 SEND Consultant  |
| Mark McCurrie | DfE SEND Advisor |
| Nina Broderick | Milton Keynes |
| Tammy Marks | Southampton |
| Karen Spencer  | West Sussex |
| Sheelagh Sullivan  | SE19 Regional SEND Network Lead |
| Jodie Wilson | SE19 Regional SEND Network support |

| **No.** | **Notes** |
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| **1.** | **Welcome and Introductions** Apologies: Beth Armstrong, Liz Robinson, David Griffiths |
| **2.** | **Minutes of the last meeting** Minutes from last meeting- all true and confirmed as accurate recordings. |
| **3.** | **DfE Update****Mark McCurrie- DfE SEND Advisor**Parent/ carer annual conference forum- Shared slides* Further in depth of the roles of Parent/ carer forums and SEF’s (Self evaluation framework)
* Very well attended from region
* Covered more Improved understanding of SEF’s and how to use and them

LA’s on DBV * Covered LA’s on DBV phase 1
* What is DBV and what forums could do in phase 1-
* Phase 2- is more business strategic - understanding what DBV work and the strategy involved and SEF’s evaluation on DBV work.

Safety Valve- explaining what this is and understanding clarity on understandingOver course of 12 months the SEF work that is implementedLA’s that have not taken up the offer this is still there for them if they would want this offer.General update* **Research report for EP workforce**-, range of services, demand and impact that EP services have. Further information - link in document
* **Home to school travel guidance updated**- conversations with parents on clarity and the expectation on parents. further information- link in document
* **Inclusive Mainstream practice**- research on testing out inclusive and un-inclusive practice- further information- link in document
* **New Wave 21 Survey** – online now to be completed by end of July 2023 , further information- link in document
* **SEN2 2023 Data**- arrived June 2023- Mark and Liz will be having KIT’s with each LA.
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| **4.** | **SEND Courageous conversations – next steps- Presentation shared****Encouragement to sign up so planning can occur for the next 2 years before funding ends** * Enables mutually beneficial learning for all involved in the activity.
* Feedback will be offered in a clear, honest, and supportive way not judgemental which will be private to the local region.
* List of topics can be added with more from SEF or other development / improvement plans.
* This group steers this approach
* Multi Agency approach- focus on 1 area
* Chris Baird will lead and be responsible for the write up but will sense check with team before.
* Volunteers required to trial and these can contact Chris Baird directly through his email address
* 3 more LA’s needed to put dates in diary so this can be planned ahead
* 1st to take place by end of September 2023
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| **5.** | **Group discussion – issues raised;*** **EP shortages and use of Locum EPs**

**ACTION: Sheelagh to arrange further meeting for early September and to bring in other regional colleagues.****ACTION: Sheelagh share survey questions in advance of a meeting.** **Suggestions;** * Who is trading EPs?
* Who is using locums and which companies?
* What are you paying for locums?
* Are you offering a golden handshake to encourage recruitment?
* How many assistant EPs do you have?

**Group established collectively;*** Locums are motivated by pay
* Established Core team of EP’s needed
* Collected Resource needed
* Government to potentially intervene to put cap on EP’s as locums to support all?- all LA’s are competing against each other.

**Some other regional points;*** Milton Keynes - Have highlighted struggles for EP’s and have used Locum EP’s. EP assistance could not secure training posts. Centralised specialist teaching team are deployed to cover allot of EP work feedback and outcomes have been positive.
* Hampshire- Have had a restructure in the EP service, recruitment drive for EP’s and more placement for student EP’s. Full traded service for EP’s, virtual assessments still being used.

**ACTION: All group to read EP workforce report - a lot of this feedback has already being covered in this report****ACTION: Sheelagh would need some additional resource for meeting also needing another conversation outside of meeting for some regional information.** |
| **6** | **Experience of SEND Area Inspection** * **Questions to ask Brighton & Hove**

Suggested questions: * Was there anything that surprised you?
* What was most difficult to manage?
* Were there any things you did in preparation that were not needed in hindsight?

Information to be included in newsletter to be circulated for end of term, in time for September meeting.**ACTION: Agenda point to add to next meeting- How are you preparing for inspections? This could be more of a focus point in the meetings** **ACTION: Nathan to send Caroline contact information to Sheelagh**General group points mentioned;* How much to involve PCF in their inspections
* Reading some of the responses from Health
* Felt very inexperienced inspectors for SEND and general lack of expertise due to staff turnover with Ofsted.
* How many LA’s are doing there own Deep dive with health?– good way to test systems and use as good evidence source for SEF
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| **7** | **AOB or Items for discussion****PCF presentation-** Mark and Liz have covered this previously**EHCP Digital Hub-** to be push to next meeting as team just going into second phase**ACTION: EHCP Digital Hub to be added to next meeting’s agenda.****ACTION: Group encouraged to complete the meeting feedback form as this really helps support the development of the meetings and network;** <https://forms.gle/GPKWTGDuc3RdFWS59>  |
| **Future meeting dates:** * Pattern and timings of meetings still working?
* No suggested of changes
* Sheelagh- 1 ½ meeting confirmed with balance of information sharing seems right.
* Dates need to be confirmed and will be W/C- 10th July

**ACTION: Dates need to be circulated to this group – newsletter coming out and dates will also be in this and circulated.**  |
| **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. |

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| **Summary of Actions** |

**EP shortages and EP locums**

**ACTION- Sheelagh to arrange further meeting for early September -**

**Bring in other regional colleagues – Sheelagh**

**ACTION- Sheelagh some survey questions in advance of a meeting.**

* **Suggestions; who is trading EPs/ Who is using locums and which companies/what are you paying for locums/are you offering a golden handshake to encourage recruitment/how many assistant EPs do you have**

**ACTION- All group to read EP workforce report- allot of this feedback has already being covered in this report**

**ACTION- Sheelagh would need some additional resource for meeting also needing another conversation outside of meeting for some regional information.**

**Experience of SEND Area Inspection**

**ACTION- Agenda point to add to next meeting- How are you preparing for inspections?- so this could be more of a focus point in the meetings**

**ACTION- Nathan to send Caroline contact information to Sheelagh**

**AOB**

**ACTION EHCP Digital Hub to be added to next meeting’s agenda.**

**Action: Group encouraged to complete the meeting feedback form as this really helps support the development of the meetings and network;** <https://forms.gle/GPKWTGDuc3RdFWS59>

**Further meeting dates**

**ACTION Sheelagh- Dates need to be circulated to this group – newsletter coming out and dates will also be in this and circulated.**