

**SE19 SEND Strategic Leads Meeting**

**[Wednesday 24th January 12-1:30pm]**

**Notes of meeting**

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| **Attendance** | **LA** |
| Sheelagh Sullivan | SE19 SEND Network Programme Lead, SESLIP (Organiser) |
| Jamie Conran | Wokingham (Chair) |
| Liz Kemp | Portsmouth (on behalf of SE SEND Change Programme) |
| Elise McQueen | Kent |
| Emma Steele | Hants |
| Jane Seymour | West Berks |
| Sally Furness | Wokingham |
| David Griffiths | Achieving for Children |
| Samantha Caley | Slough |
| Victoria Courtis | Milton Keynes |
| Rhianedd Hughes | Brighton |
| Mark Evans | SESLIP (presenting) |
| Len Brazier | Slough |
| Kim Clayton | West Sussex |
| Lauren Stone | SDSA (facilitation/administration) |
| *Apologies:*Roxanna GlennonTammy MarkDeborah Smit | Brighter Futures for ChildrenSouthamptonOxfordshire (co-chair) |

| **No.** | **Notes** |
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| **1.** | * New chair - Jamie Conran (Wokingham) introduced. Jamie will share duties with a co-chair – Debi Smit (Oxfordshire). Thanks to both chairs on behalf of the group.
* Opportunity to ensure that the meeting is providing what the group needs – survey/poll proposed as a potential way of gathering this information.

ACTION – Jamie, Debi and Sheelagh to meet to discuss way forward re. gathering regional views around future of the meeting. If colleagues have views/ideas, please send to Sheelagh.  |
| **2.**  | * Notes of last meeting agreed.

ACTION - Colleagues agreed usefulness of sharing current SEND staffing and organisational structures. Request to forward these to Lauren and Sheelagh for collation. Topic to be put onto agenda for March 24 meeting.**Courageous Conversations:*** Discussion on who will lead Courageous Conversations
* Questions raised about the LANO’s role and focus during these conversations
* Call for information on LA’s who are willing to take part.

**Action**: Colleagues requested to share staffing and organisational structures with Lauren/Sheelagh before the next meeting  |
| **3.** | **Updates from individual areas and the region****Regional updates:****(i) Mark Evans provided an update on progress around the SEND workforce survey:*** Survey acknowledges the need for initial fact-finding around the SEND workforce in a broader context.
* Current focus is on developing a survey and interview process.
* Plan is to launch the survey in mid/late February (post 15/2 phase transfer). Survey open for one month.
* Anticipate that SEND teams will be the primary respondents, with survey available in PDF format to facilitate joint working.
* It is envisaged hat the survey will be supported by several 45-minute semi-structured interviews. Please contact Mark if your LA would be interested in participating.
* Meeting raised need to be more aware of qualifications/training available to SEN caseworkers (or equivalent). Training from CDC and NASEN available. Survey should identify gaps and potential possibilities for further training in the SE.
* Final presentation expected to be available in April, dependent on the data received.

**Actions:** 1.Sheelagh to investigate future presentation from Ian Palmer/NASEN around SEN Caseworker Award2. Group members to contact Mark Evans if willing to participate (or volunteer staff to participate) in follow up interviews to provide greater detail to the SEND workforce survey. Contact: mark@markevansconsulting.co.uk3. Mark Evans to be invited to the next meeting on 13 March 24.**(ii) Regional MOU update**Consultant support (Brian Gale) has been secured to update the MOU. First draft should be available to the March Operational Leads group meeting. **(iii) SEND Inspection Framework changes*** Changes were alerted to changes made to the SEND Inspection Framework. These changes were circulated to colleagues with the meeting agenda.

*Best wishes to Medway who are currently undergoing SEND Area Inspection* |
| **3 cont** | **Updates from LA colleagues****Portsmouth*** New colleague to join as interim Head of Inclusion.
* Feedback from Ofsted engagement meeting emphasised outcomes and experiences of children within SEND in Portsmouth alongside the need for accurate/updated data.

**West Berks*** West Berks reported DBV currently at phase 3.
* Bid submitted, signed off and awaiting confirmation.
* Change in DBV process, now requesting in-year allocation view.
* Unclear implications of deficit management plan if not met by 2028.

**All LAs – discussion around Safety Valve and DBV Programmes*** Chair highlighted the need to identify which LA’s are in Safety Valve and DBV.
* Chair informed colleagues that there a lot of methodologies around DBV/Safety Valve and how parents perceive leading to an increase of FOIs
* Colleagues suggested compiling a list of those involved in both programmes for clarity.
* Chair advised that information is online if colleagues.
* Suggestion that Nick King (SESLIP/DfE consultant) be invited to meeting as he is involved in supporting programmes

**Action: Sheelagh to contact Nick King to see if he can join March meeting.** |
| **4.** | **SE SEND Change Programme: update from SEND Change Programme Lead (Liz Kemp -Portsmouth)**Thanks to Liz for providing a comprehensive update on behalf of the regional change programme. Copies of Liz’s presentation have been circulated with the notes of the meeting. Liz advised the group that her role in Portsmouth will be covered while she is seconded to work on the change programme.Key points:* Whilst there is now greater clarity about the programme and the areas of focus for the trial, the programme is still technically in ‘set up’ mode.
* Regionally, the steering group has been established and two meetings have been held. Further recruitment to support the programme is underway.
* DfE is allowing LA flexibility to choose relevant workshops. More workshops are planned this term.
* Progress around implementing early learning support for every child around speech and language is underway. Good collaborating with speech and language therapists, particularly with younger children.
* Some things are not yet available to share at request of DfE – e.g. standardised EHCP template. What is being shared with change programme leads may change so sharing at this stage could set ‘hares running’. However, as soon as information is ready to be shared, it will be.
* Change colleagues welcome comments and feedback on the Change Programme.
* The need for good communication is recognised both regionally and nationally.
* Reminder that the programme is aiming to test ‘what does and does not work’ around the areas of focus.

**Action: Liz to be invited in her Change Programme role to all future SE19 Strategic Leads meetings.** |
|  | **Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th March 2024 12-1:30pm****Feedback form:** <https://forms.gle/bjxECjTSKeYXMDC89>  |
|  | **Future Meeting dates:****Wednesday 13 March 2024****Wednesday 15 May 2024****Wednesday 10 July 2024****All meetings from 12-1.30pm.** |