

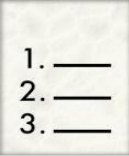



Isle of Wight SEND Partnership Board

	30 th September 2024
	Hybrid – Face to face at County Hall and Microsoft Teams

Name	Initials	Role	Organisation
Adeline Gibbs	AG	SEND Advisor South East	NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Amie Cass	AC	PA to Ashley Whittaker (Minutes)	Isle of Wight Council
Andy Lawrence	AL	Hertfordshire Council – observing for SEND Peer Challenge	Local Government Association (LGA)
Anthony Harper (Co-Chair)	AH	Deputy Director for Children’s Care	NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Ashley Whittaker	AW	Strategic Director of Children’s Services	Isle of Wight Council
Cally Wareham	CW	Cluster Lead for Children and Young People Services	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
Claire Collins	CC	Service Manager	Autism Inclusion Matters (AIM)
Cliff James	CJ	Suffolk Council – observing for SEND Peer Challenge	Local Government Association (LGA)
Cllr Debbie Andre	DA	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health	Isle of Wight Council
Cllr Jonathan Bacon	JB	Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	Isle of Wight Council
Daron Perkins	DP	Service Manager Adult Social Care	Isle of Wight Council

Emma Meek	MK	Senior Delivery Manager for Children's Care	NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Gayle Moir	GM	Service Manager	Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)
Hayley Jarvis	HJ	Trustee	Parent Voice Isle of Wight
Heather Morris	HM	Strategic Manager SEN and Inclusion	Isle of Wight Council
Jade Kennett	JK	Service Manager Strategic Development	Isle of Wight Council
Jo Dare	JD	CEO	Youth Trust Isle of Wight
Laura Groves	LG	Interim Assistant Director of Children's Services	Barnardos Isle of Wight
Mark McCurrie	MM	Independent SEND advisor for Safety Valve Agreement	Commissioned by Department for Education (DfE)
Matthew Powell	MP	Associate Director: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities / Designated Clinical Officer	NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Naomi Carter	NC	Service Director for Education, Inclusion and Access	Isle of Wight Council
Rachael Williams	RW	Education and Inclusion Manager	Isle of Wight Council
Ruth Hayles	RH	Youth Justice Service Manager	Isle of Wight Council
Simon Homes	SH	Service Director for Adult Social Care – Quality Assurance and Practice Development	Isle of Wight Council
Sue Hancock	SH	Forum Administrator	Parent Voice Isle of Wight

Minutes		Action
		
1 .	<p>Welcomes, introductions and apologies</p> <p>A round of introductions were made and apologies noted. There were a number of first-time attendees and CJ and AL were in attendance as observers.</p>	

2. Insights from Young People (10 mins)

Unfortunately, we received apologies from Abigail Metcalfe (NHS Youth Forum), however Abi did send us some feedback that we will include here:

Areas to improve

Aging out of support - really good helpful support in place but then taken away as they get older (around 16yrs) resulting in loss of progress, feeling abandoned, having to fight to reinstate support. Better education on neurodiversity - how it affects everyone differently and countering stereotypes.

Positives

I had a meeting with Sue North (Head of learning disability, autism and SEND for NHS England) and her team, and told them about our work on this board. They were all really impressed and are keen to use us as good example and recommend this level of partnership working throughout ICBs nationwide.

3. Insights from Parents/Carers (10 mins)

SH gave an overview of Parent Voice updates. There has been a big restructure in Parent Voice, there are three new trustees; Sarah Clarke (Chair of Trustees), Hayley Jarvis (Trustee), and Colin Bright (Trustee). SH has stepped into the role that Jo Lawler was previously doing. SH shared that at the moment they are working on increasing visibility again and there is an engagement event this Saturday (5th October) that NC, HM and EM will attend. There has been a period of unease from parents around the Safety Valve agreement. The team are ensuring they engage with all partners to widen knowledge and increase visibility of the service. They have also delivered training and actively increasing membership.

AW offered any support Parent Voice might need with increasing visibility and membership.

HM shared that it has been lovely working with SH, and her dedication and vision for supporting families and young people is inspiring.

AW stated that the Council is committed to being open and transparent in everything they are doing. The Council website has changed and all documentation relating to the Safety Valve agreement is on there.

<https://www.iow.gov.uk/schools-and-education/island-education-plans-and-policies/>

<p>4.</p>	<p>LGA SEND Peer Challenge</p> <p>AW explained that from tomorrow (1st Oct) the Local Government Association (LGA) are commencing a peer challenge with the Local Authority and partners for SEND. The main reason for this being that external scrutiny is welcomed in order to help with our local improvement journey. The peer team is made up from experts from around the Country. Meetings will be taking place throughout the week, with the peers presenting their findings to the Council and partners on Friday 4th October.</p> <p>Crucially, the peer challenge also links with the Draft Self-Assessment. This document will be finalised in November.</p> <p>CJ stated that the peers are aiming to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Island and hopes the visit will be helpful to our improvement journey.</p> <p>CW asked what data might be required for her meeting with the LGA, AW shared that conversion rates and wait list and assessment times would be useful.</p> <p>As part of the Peer Challenge, 16 EHCP's were selected at random for audits. Caseworkers were interviewed and people found the feedback useful and positive.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>ASD and ADHD Pathways Transformation – AH and EM</p> <p>AH talked about some of the challenges around the existing Autism (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) pathways. There is a current waiting list of 20,000 people across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. This is also a challenge nationally. There needs to be a whole system and culture change, rather than individual organisations.</p>	

	<p>The Integrated Care System (ICS) is coming together to embed the oversight group and review the pathway, from early identification to diagnosis and post-diagnosis.</p> <p>Paper 1 shows what the journey looks like but does not describe the destination or ‘answer’. The document shows an example of physical health, and that it much less clear for neurodiversity.</p> <p>AH explained that Portsmouth are using a different pathway model which is working well, however there is no data on the longevity impact of it. Some elements of this pathway are being looked at to be trialled and tested here.</p> <p>It is clear that children and young people have very different experiences of these pathways depending on the local area they come from. They should expect consistency from us.</p> <p>EM shared that she has been working closely with HM and RW. A profiling tool is being created for use in the multi-disciplinary team, the Wellbeing Service. This is not an assessment tool but would be used by key workers as part of early universal support structure. It will identify the need of the child in real time and identify where their gaps are. It will also identify strengths. EM will be sharing this and working with CW shortly.</p>	
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Additional agenda item</p>	<p>RH sharing updates on Youth Justice Service</p> <p>RH shared some of the participation work that young people have been involved in.</p> <p>The Youth Justice Service (YJS) works with young people from ages 10-18 where there are concerns they are on the periphery of offending, or have already. YJS have a small office room in the Youth Court where they take children and parents before they are due for their Court hearing. This is a really scary time for them, not knowing what is going to happen and being in front of a bench of magistrates who they likely haven’t met before. Many of these children have Special Educational Needs and Neurodiversity. After speaking to children who had been in that room, they all said it felt boring and clinical. They also Children helped to redesign it, they built the furniture, painted walls and transformed it. There is also now a mini-fridge with water. This was also part of their reparation to the community hours.</p>	

	<p>YJS also frequently use a meeting room in County Hall, this was also very boring and clinical. Children also shared their views on this and said they wanted books and something to do whilst they wait. This room has also been transformed and now has books, fidget toys, wobble cushions and art work on the walls.</p> <p>RH shared that work is also starting on the vulnerability cell at Newport Police station. They have commissioned an artist and young people will start designing ideas for what can be painted on the ceiling.</p> <p>DA added that whatever design the young people come up with will need to work for SEND children, and that we need to be mindful that it doesn't have the opposite effect. DA also asked a question around Appropriate Adults, to which RH will respond privately.</p>	<p>RH to email DA about Appropriate Adults.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>RISE/ Trust and Relationships – HM</p> <p>The Local Authority and Parent Carer Forum have signed up to a project called 'RISE' (Research Improvement for SEND Excellence). The initial meeting took place in September, with key people from the Department for Education and colleagues across Education, Health and care on the Island. They looked at what the Island would benefit from and what needed to be improved. It was agreed that co-production could be strengthened, and this is timely as the Parent/Carer forum is being re-established. Co-production and embedding across all services in the partnership is important.</p> <p>The RISE project will be led by the Parent Carer Forum. The first phase will be a focus group with children and young people, and a second one with parents and carers. They will consider experiences so far and effective co-production. These will be in November.</p> <p>The second phase will be a full day workshop embedding co-production on the Island. It will look at the findings of the first two focus groups.</p> <p>HJ shared that she feels this is timely and SH agreed, adding that it feels as though the whole Island is going through change.</p>	



	<p>MM said the co-production workshops seem to focus on co-production with children, young people and parents/carers. He asked whether there will be further co-production with partners around the table, and how schools are working with partners.</p> <p>HM described some of the co-production work that has been happening since the start of the new Children's Services directorate on 1st February. For example, the SEND Self-Evaluation (SEF) which has been co-produced with information provided by schools. HM said she is confident that partnership working has begun and is becoming intertwined across other services. HM and EM are working closely to embed pathways.</p> <p>The co-production workshops are focused on children, young people and parents/carers and is a way of making them more visible.</p> <p>NC added that people's views are actively being sought around School Place Planning.</p>	
7.	BREAK	
8.	<p>Deep dive: DRAFT Self-Assessment</p> <p>The draft SEF has been written along the lines of the SEND Local Area Inspection Framework. AW has asked that people send in their comments to Amie.Cass@iow.gov.uk by the 21st October. Please share with people in voluntary sectors, as it needs to be as fully informed as possible.</p> <p>AW informed everyone that we are in the middle of formal consultation on School Place Planning. Six primary schools have been proposed for closure and those sites would be repurposed for specialist places. The financial</p>	<p>SH to send further information around preparing for adulthood</p>

	<p>impact of closures means schools would be better funded and more able to invest in early identification and training etc.</p> <p>SH suggested more information around pathways and transitions for adulthood could be included.</p> <p>AG asked whether a SEND strategy is in place and how this links with the Self-Evaluation. AW explained that there is an emerging SEND strategy as part of the Education Strategy. This has not been finalised yet as will be informed by the Self-Evaluation document. The Education Strategy will go to Cabinet for approval in February 2025. AG also suggested an easy read version could be a good idea.</p> <p>MP said it was refreshing to see so many photos included within the document.</p> <p>MM suggested the document is fairly lengthy and some of the feedback could be worded differently, i.e. ‘we know we are good at this because of this feedback from a parent..’. MM said otherwise the document has a good range of evidence sources.</p> <p>The draft self-evaluation and other documents can be found here: https://www.iow.gov.uk/schools-and-education/island-education-plans-and-policies/improving-special-educational-needs/</p>	<p>AW/NC/HM to look at improving accessibility with easy read versions of Education and SEND documents</p> <p>SH to share the document with others for comments</p> <p>HM to bring hardcopies of the document to the Parent Voice event on Saturday (5th October)</p>
9.	<p>AOB</p> <p>GM invited colleagues to help cross promote as SENDIASS have new instagram and facebook pages. GM can share the SEF and Rise project on there.</p>	<p>NC to share this on social media</p>

**Actions from previous meeting**

- AM had raised that siblings can feel left out during their siblings assessment period. HM was going to raise this with parent carer forum.
- Training programmes for parents/carers were going to be raised with parent/carers forum. LG said she needs to continue reminding people of the courses available: <https://www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk/parenting-support-courses> HM and SH have been discussing signposting to services and voluntary sector.
- AW and Laura Gaudion were due to check representation for Adult Workforce board. This is topical due to Education Psychology service. It is currently delivered from Hampshire under a service level agreement with a total number of hours that can be used. These hours have now been used up due to the high number of requests for EHCPs. Recruitment is underway for Educational Psychologists (Principal and assistant posts). There is a big challenge in recruiting (nationally) and looking to secure locums to deliver statutory duties for new assessments. GM asked for what the current timescales are for an education psychology assessment. HM confirmed that timeliness for new assessments is down to 15% and requests made in April 2024 are now being assessed, thus there is a 3-4 month delay for statutory advice.

<p>Forward plan</p> <p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final version of Self-Evaluation• System workforce board (LG to talk about recruitment)• Performance dashboard <p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pathways into adulthood• Preparation of Local Area Inspection (10-15 minutes as standing item)	
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