

SEND Strategy Governance Board Notes

Thursday 9 February 2023, 10:00 - 12:30

Johnson Room at The Welcome Building, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4BP.

Chair: Roz Pither (RPi) / **Notes:** Dani Hare (DH)

Attendees: Alison Jeffery (AJ), Councillor Bob Standley (CBS), Holly Riley-Saxby (HRS), Nathan Caine (NC), Rebecca Conroy (RC), Sally Polanski (SP), Kirsty Prawanna (KP), Jo Nash (JN), Caroline Tozzi (CT), Emma Buggy (EB), Louise Moor (LM), Annmarie Waite (AMW), Caroline Jackson (CJ), Jessica Stubbings (JS), Beth Armstrong (BA), Sarah Speedie (SS), Alex (young person), Ed Peasgood - supporting young ambassadors member (EP).

Apologies: Elizabeth Funge, Sam Lawson, Meg Best, Chrys Poullikas, Sam (young person)

1. Welcome and introductions

RPi welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the ice breaker. The purpose of this ice breaker is to determine the groups that each person will be in later in the meeting.

RPi introduced BA, JS and SS to the meeting who have joined today to discuss the Deep Dive priorities later in the agenda.

RPi reconfirmed the role of the Board as described in the SEND strategy and the agreed shared focus of the group as agreed by member's last meeting:

- Having an impact
- Working together
- Holding to account for delivery and high quality

Today's aims:

- Understand the implementation plan for the SEND Strategy
- Consider how we can be best informed about the ongoing implementation at our quarterly meetings
- Bring our collective influence, knowledge and skills to the task of helping the strategy work.

2. Approval of minutes and action tracker

The minutes of the previous meeting were shared ahead of this meeting. The Board agreed the minutes, unanimously, with the below amendments:

- Bottom of page 3 - add: “ESPCF couldn’t engage fully with ESCC”
- SP’s job title is CEO, not Chair

RPi reviewed the rolling action log and confirmed the status of each action. It was noted that the ToR mentions this ‘new’ way of working with partnership working but this isn’t the case. Partnership working has been in place for a long time. The Board unanimously agreed the Terms of Reference.

RPi advised the Board that if they have any meetings coming up that they require a slide/input from us to advise of the workings of the Board, please let either herself or the LA Project Officer know.

ACTION: remove the reference to ‘new’ and replace with ‘important’

ACTION: Reference group table to be included as part of the appendices.

3. Strategy Implementation Plan

Strategy Implementation Plan

JS discussed the implementation plan which will clarify how the strategy will be implemented. Work has been underway for a number of years about how we respond to the SEND agenda in East Sussex which means that some of the implementation plan will be continuing work already underway alongside new planned actions and approaches. For each priority area, there will be an implementation plan that will show strengths and improvements and key areas for development that will deliver the outcomes from the strategy. Each of the 5 priorities has a named lead and is supported by a wider group of colleagues from across Education and Health and Social Care, as appropriate. The plan will be updated quarterly and will be brought to the next Board meeting for review.

We are in the process of creating a SEND Strategy Implementation Group (SSIG) who will sit under the Board and will meet monthly to review the implementation plan. All priority leads attend this meeting to ensure shared progress across all priorities.

Highlight reports for each priority

A summary report for each priority was shared prior to this meeting which provided a summary provision of activity that has been underway prior to the publication of the Strategy. The presentation also showed a template of Highlight Reports recommended as a possible format for future Board meetings reports. The priority leads are aware

of the plan for each Board meeting to “Deep Dive” into 2 of the priorities. The SSIG will meet to review the highlight reports prior to each Board meeting which means that the group can collectively identify risks, opportunities and issues that need to be raised particularly with the Board.

SEND Data Dashboard

There will be a SEND Data Dashboard for each priority of no more than 1 A4 page. This work is ongoing and will be used to identify baselines and data for each measure. This data will be updated either quarterly or annually. A version of the Data Dashboard will be shared at the June Board meeting.

There is some work happening in Health about creating a dashboard across Sussex of CYP. How can these be linked?

ACTION: both priority leads to link up and confirm the crossovers.

Questions from the Board:

- Who is responsible for making decisions at which points - what will the SSIG make decisions on and what should be agreed by the Board?
- Can the decisions of the SSIG be specific to encourage meaningful conversation?
- What is expected to happen/to be different/look like over the next quarter? What is the expected action/impact?
- What is our partnership trying to achieve?
- How much of this dashboard will be shared more publicly?
- How will we link/use broader SEND dashboard?
- Can the issues raised by ESPCF be considered and included in the data set?
- Can we be careful not to lose the question “what about the 10%?” (for example where successful outcome of 90% achieved)
- There is a clear leadership role for the Integrated Care Services Board (ICSB) - important that there are links through to work at this board- work has started on a health dashboard across Sussex.
- Does the data tell us what we think it does? e.g. the Local Offer hit tracker - pattern of usage seems to be emerging across a calendar year but does this tell us about the quality of the experience , was the information wanted found easily?
- National datasets have a lag of up to 18-24 months - this is due to there being an annual point of local data collection from the local authority which are then used as the basis for national reporting and comparators across local authority areas

Recommendations from the Board:

- What is expected to happen/to be different/look like over the next quarter?
What is the expected action/impact?
- Start with the questions you want answered before selecting the priority data indicators
- Please decide if we are talking priorities or themes e.g. Priority or Thematic leads

ACTION: review the above questions and consider responses.

ACTION: SSIP to link in with ICSB performance lead

4. Deep dive into priorities 4 and 5

The Board divided into 2 groups to discuss priorities 4 and 5.

Feedback and Board Actions - Priority 4

What went well:

- The level of engagement by schools with approaches to develop a positive and inclusive culture

Even better if:

- There was fuller and deeper buy in from schools for therapeutic approaches
- If the impact data included lived experiences
- There was more information about take up across the different schools which could be shared
- There was better retention of teaching assistants/able to fill the vacancies currently available for teaching assistants
- We can measure if it is working well
- Health and social workers were better informed about what schools are doing to promote an inclusive culture

What could we do:

- Series of workshops in the summer and the Board can play a part in leadership around this
- A recruitment campaign if we are able to develop the positive cultures and working conditions

Feedback and Board Actions - Priority 5

What went well:

- Increase in participation, particularly with post-16 (this means the percentage of young people who go on to education/ training and/or employment (relates to the NEET figure- NEET being not in education, employment or training)
- There are a number of initiatives with funding in place to support schools

Even better if:

- We had a good understanding/better data impact of post-19 outcomes
- More focus on Early Years' service
- Join up with Health/Social Care to ensure CYP can have the right access at the right time
- Increased capacity support around MHEW for CYP
- Recognise the realities of the education system that may constrain and have competing pressures

What could we do:

- Share what we can expect to see and when in the next 3 months
- Share if something is not possible, or not possible quickly and why, communicate what can expect to see happening, when and how.

Thoughts on Deep Dive:

- Really appreciate the time that was given but felt a bit vague/rushed and unstructured. Hope for a more structured document at the June meeting
- There are so many different sector (education, health and care and the age phase/types of services within these) representatives but this does mean that there is a lot of different levels of understanding. How can we make sure that there is an even level of understanding going forward?
- Felt that some information was out of knowledge scope and it would be helpful to have some less detailed documents circulated to the Board ahead of meetings to help focus questions
- It was felt that 2 priorities could be too much for one meeting but members will be able to go away and think about each one further
- We need to advise what has happened so far and what will happen in the next quarter during each meeting

5. Update on preparations of Ofsted inspection

Update on preparations of Ofsted inspection

NC gave a very brief presentation (due to the previous item over-running) on the upcoming Ofsted inspection. The Inspection model is broken down into 4 parts:

1. Full inspection - at least every 5 years



2. Monitoring inspection
3. Engagement meeting with Ofsted and Care Quality Commission representatives
4. Area SEND thematic reviews

There will be 6 cases that inspectors will do a deep dive on. There will be on site visits with practitioners, ESCC, ESPCF, schools etc.

There is an Ofsted Working Group that:

- Identify where datasets are kept
- Identify leads for potential key lines of enquiry
- Identify leads for multiagency audits
- Development of joint understanding around inspection areas

Discussions have begun, for example with school Boards, and the required datasets and logistical requirements are being worked on by a dedicated group. We expect the development work to be driven and delivered through the SEND strategy Implementation Plan and the inspection process will form an external scrutiny of this work- not something separate. A communications plan will be agreed and will include regular comms on key issues, developments and progress.

ACTION: share the Ofsted PowerPoint and the Ofsted briefing document with Board members.

Any Other Business (AOB)

Agree summary headlines for Local Offer

RPi will share in an email before publication on the Local Offer website.

Proposed 2023 dates/times

Decisions on timing and type of meeting to be decided by members via email.

Previous proposal

- 1 September 2023 - 10:00-12:30
- 15 December 2023 - 10:30-13:00
- 14 March 2024 - 10:00-12:30
- 6 June 2024 - 10:00-12:30