

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Joint Executive Board



Summary of discussion

10 February, 2025, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Chaired by: Tim Miller, Vice Chair

Name	Role	Organisation	Present (Y/N) Apologies
Ann Graham - (Chair)	Director of Children's Services	Haringey - Local Authority	Apol
Tim Miller – [Vice-Chair]	AD Commissioning - Children's Commissioning, Vulnerable Adults & Children	NCL – Clinical Commissioning Group	Y
Jackie Difolco -	Assistant Director – Early Help, Prevention & SEND	Haringey - Local Authority	Y
Amanda Bernard	Chair – SEND Power	Parent Carer Forum	Y
Tudy-Ann	Steering Group Member – SEND Power	Parent Carer Forum	Y
Andrea Kelly	Head of Service - Haringey Learning Disability Partnership	Haringey – Local Authority	N
Andrew Ralephata	Principal/Lead Therapist	Haringey CCG SEND	Y
Dionne Thomas	AD – Safeguarding and Social Care	Haringey - Local Authority	Apol
Caroline Brain	Children's Commissioning - Head of Strategic Improvement	Haringey - Local Authority	Y
Clive Blackwood	Head of CAMHS (Operations)	BEH MH NHS Trust	Y
Cllr Zena Brabazon	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools, and Families	Haringey - Local Authority	Y
Lauren Skuse	Assistant Principal for Student Support, Experience and Progress	Haringey 6 th form College	N
Elen Roberts	Secondary Teacher Representative	Headteacher – Heartlands	N
Dennis Scotland	Head of Service DCT & SEN Special Projects	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Eliika McAuley	SEN Advisor - Early Intervention & Inclusion Mainstream Schools	Haringey - Local Authority	N
Gerry Robinson	Executive Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead	Haringey Learning Partnership	Y
Jane Grant	Head of Haringey Children and Young People's Services	Whittington Health – NHS Trust	Y
Jane Edwards	AD Schools and Learning	Haringey – Local Authority	Apol
Joan Kellman	Exec Personal Assistant, CYPS	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Karen Oellermann	Service Improvement Manager	Haringey - Local Authority	Apol
Linda Edward	Senior Public Health Commissioner	Public Health	Y
Lindani Njie	Interim Youth Service Manager	Haringey – Local Authority	Apol
Lizzy Ngotta	Engagement Co-ordinator	Haringey Parent Carer Forum	Apol
Maria Dactylides	Headteacher	Lea Valley Primary School	Y
Maureen Duncan	Headteacher	The Brook Special Primary School	Y
Michelle Guimarin	Service Development and Transformation - Start Well lead for Haringey: CYP, CAMHS and Service Development	NHS North Central London ICB	Y
Ruth Doak	Headteacher	Pembury House Nursery and Children's Centre	Y
Harriet Lewis	Haringey SENDIASS Manager	Markfield Project	Y
Stephanie Buckingham	Vice Chair	Parent Carer Forum	Apol
Stuart Barratt	Head of Children's Programmes, CYP Commissioning and Programmes	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Zacharia Opere	Elevated Youth	Haringey – Local Authority	Apol
Natasha Williams	Youth Voice Participation Coordinator	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Priti Gaberria	Commissioning	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Jo Baty	Service Director	Adults Social Services	Apol
Guests			Y
Alena Lerari	SEN Assessment Team – Service Manager	Haringey – Local Authority	Y
Francesca Zucconi	Senior Practitioner Auditor (SEND).		Y

No	Action/Decision	Action Owner
	<p>As these are audits on behalf of the Partnership, Francesca/Jackie to discuss outside this meeting to follow up with those who are not completing audits across the system and Partnership.</p> <p><u>Andrew Ralephata</u> – therapists CAMHS need to be captured in the overall CAMHS numbers and need to continue to highlight this. Note: Andrew/Francesca to meet separately.</p> <p><u>Quality of Advice</u> – definition of ‘needs’ in EHCPs. If this is not submitted via Andrew for quality assurance or managers, clinical staff interpret ‘need’ as what is to be done for the child, rather than what are the child’s difficulties.</p> <p><u>Alena</u> – A joint presentation was completed on needs, outcomes, and provision with CAMHS; and is happy to do a return visit. The Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) in general is of a good quality and standard, which goes into the Education rather than Health.</p> <p><u>Dennis</u> – In Social Care a formal decision has been made to make the social care advice LA training mandatory across the service including Early Help to help improve this as it requires colleagues to complete all the form not just parts of it. The training should address this.</p> <p><u>Clive</u> – It is a learning opportunity and a consistent one for CAMHS to ensue that staff are aware of the distinctions and the advice in terms of need.</p> <p><u>Jane</u> – Note: For training and keeping new staff up to date, some success seen is by using videos and Webinars. Would this be a good opportunity to and easily put together to do this</p>	FZ/JD
4	<p>Refusal to Assess/Issue EHCP – Data Analysis; Jackie Difolco [All to refer to the full report].</p> <p>Maureen – <u>how or who notifies the parent of the outcome not to issue and message received.</u></p> <p>Decision is made by the multi-agency panel on a Thursday. The evidence gathered over the needs assessment can be used on what is already available. Every case is assigned to a Co-ordinator to gather the advice, and they will advise the parent and school for the refusal to assess. The SENCO is invited to the panel, will present the case, whether by the school or parental request. There is also a conversation with the SENCO and parent instead of the next steps meeting.</p> <p>For those Children offered a next steps meeting – SENCO, conversation with parents, send support guidance to schools of what they can do.</p> <p><u>Where children have a need but been refused an EHCP who ensures that the child is receiving support from the school?</u></p> <p>Alena - a next steps meeting is offered or where the SENCO attends the panel, they will have a conversation with the parents to advise of the support that is available. The SEND support guidance is published for the schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE: Maria - We work very hard in schools to ensure all SEND children are supported; she suggested the question really refers to consistency for all schools, which was agreed. • Andrew – within Health perspective, children get a good level of service from the Therapists with or without an EHCP. • The chair noted parents and community groups can feel unsupported from some schools. • SENDIASS – supports parents in preparation for next steps meetings in refusal to issue cases, appeals and access to interpreters. If required, they are happy to attend the meeting if that would be helpful. <p><u>Actions: 4</u></p>	

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	SEND Power to provide examples of parent feedback to Headteacher representatives whereby SEN support is not provided, Jackie to facilitate.	JD/AB
5	<p>Elevated Youth Highlight Report – Natasha Williams. [Please refer to the detailed presentation which gives an update on the Elevated Youth activities and achievements in 2024]. <u>Future events and projects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zach is leaving the forum as he reaches the age of 25 but will still be involved with other areas of work. The Board expressed huge thanks to Zach for his support. • Key Focus of forum’s work is to build through stronger relationships with local businesses and be Youth focussed on their requests including Life skills – e.g. understanding of financial matters. 	
6	<p>SEND POWER – Parent Carer Forum Update – Amanda Bernard [please refer to the full presentation]. The following requests have been made of the SEND Board Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL – to accept the invitation to the Voices Day part two event on 4 March 2025. • (Some people had difficulty in replying to the invitation). <p>Reminder: All to use the new contact email addresses for the Steering Group Members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancellation of meetings for events: please provide adequate notice wherever possible. • Calendar invites – where events/meetings are no longer happening, can Leads review and delete please? • Consultations and Policies – request for parents to have an easy read version and to provide any feedback on or after the event, where they have been involved. <p>Action 5 Amanda to advise where the parent/carers consultation feedback is on the SEND Power website.</p> <p>Issues raised from Parent Carer Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Reviews/EHCPs – timely updates are not happening especially at transition stages which are essential. • Housing Issues – this is still causing an impact. • Emotional based school avoidance – EBSA. 	AB
7.	<p>Transitions Programme – Update: Dennis Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase One has started; recruitment is completed, and the team are working on care act assessments. 23 young people are allocated across the four social workers; 13 assessments have been completed and working on the support plans. 50% of young people are living at home with their families. • A detailed report is being compiled around the needs and requests from the Young People in preparation for their transition e.g. employment and further education. • Phase Two is recruitment of 4 more staff in creation of the multi-agency team. <p>Action 7 Dennis to present a fuller report at the next meeting in May 2025 for a fuller discussion.</p>	DS
8.	<p>Safety Valve – Key Highlights: Jackie Difolco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 out of 18 projects are closed and now business as usual and being tracked within the programme re: impact. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project A.1 Speech, Language and Communication (SLCN) - We are continuing to provide training and support to primary schools for the delivery of the SLCN Pathway. Data set now in place measuring impact of SLCN pathway delivery and evidencing good impact with 80% improvement in SLCN needs and a 50% reduction in referrals to specialist therapies compared with the previous year. Review of 2023/24 and next steps being arranged working with the Safety Valve Steering Group. • Project A.4 Annual Reviews – Growth funding from council's revenue fund agreed for Educational Psychologists and EHC Co-ordinator's which will really impact on improved quality and compliance of EHCP's. • Project A.5 SEND Supported Internships - There are 44 young people who are currently on a supported internship. A specialist role (NEET Co-ordinator) is now in post to support both young people and employers with this programme. We are reviewing pre-supported internships to see if it can include post 19. The service is expanding the number of disability confident employers who can offer placements. • Commissioning/Capital Projects – B Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alexandra Primary provision for children with SEMH (10 places) Building work is due to start in the Easter holidays, on track to be open for Sept 25. ○ Earlsmead Primary provision for autistic children (15 places) – We have now opened our new Resource Provision at Earlsmead and phasing in placements with three children attending to start with. ○ The Brook Primary Provision for autistic children with complex needs on track to be open for September 25. • We currently have 2,979 active EHCPs which is 121 EHCP over Safety Valve (SV) target, however lower than previous reporting period which was 128 EHCPs over target. • Budget for 24-25 is £55.6m, SV target is not to exceed this by £2.8m, however we rolled over £300k from 23-24 that we did not achieve, therefore overspend target is £2.5m, we are currently projecting £2.6m and track to meet target which will mean we will draw down £3m this year to reduce the accumulative deficit to £10.7m (was £21m at start of programme). 	
9.	Minutes, Actions and Matters Arising from 2 October 2024 – ALL Agreed as a true record with no amendments. Completed Actions cleared and removed.	
9.1	AOB: N/A	
10.	<u>Forward Plan:</u>	
10.1	<u>Future Meeting Dates 2025</u> 13 May.2025 – In Person	