

**SEND Executive Board**

**16 May 2022**

**Meeting attendance**

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| **At** | **Role** |
| 1. Jackie Cairns
 | Chair, Director for Newcastle System, CCG  |
| 1. Cath McEvoy-Carr
 | Director: Children, Education and Skills, NCC |
| 1. Deanne Taylor
 | Head of SEND, NCC |
| 1. Steve Gittins
 | Chair of Inclusion Sub-Group, Representing Primary schools |
| 1. Martin Wood
 | Headteacher, Walbottle Academy, Representing Secondary schools |
| 1. Karen Hamilton
 | Headteacher, Sir Charles Parsons, Representing the Specialist schools |
| 1. Vicki Jefferson
 | Representing the Parent/Carer forum |
| 1. Marie Leddy
 | Representing the Parent/Carer forum  |
| 1. Caley Banks
 | Service Manager, Children’s Social Care, NCC |
| 1. Rachel Gibson
 | Head of Central Support Services, Newcastle College and representing Post 16 providers |
| 1. Sarah Kerrigan
 | Strategy & Development Lead, NCC |
| 1. Duncan Miller
 | Project Manager, NCC |
| 1. Christopher Brodie
 | Team Manager, Adult Social Care, NCC |
| 1. Jenny Ellis
 | Designed Clinical Officer, CCG |
| 1. Jayne Forsdike
 | Assistant Director, Children’s Social Care, NCC |
| 1. Sarah Ledger
 | Performance Analyst, NCC |
| 1. Philip Blackburn
 | Youth Voice Trainee, NCC |
| 1. Linzi McMeekin
 | Commissioning and Procurement Specialist SEND, NCC  |
| 1. Ian Dawson
 | Head of School Effectiveness, NCC |
| 1. Lucy Brown
 | Service Improvement Assistant, NCC |
| **Apologies** |  |
| 1. Mark Anderson
 | Designated Medical Officer, CCG |
| 1. Anna Williams
 | Associate Director, Central Locality Community Services, CNTW |
| 1. Chris Rollings
 | Headteacher, Hadrian School |
| 1. Mark Patton
 | Assistant Director: Education and Skills, NCC |
| 1. Ann Banks
 | Service Improvement Lead, SEND, NCC |

**Decision Log: 17 May 2022**

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|  | **Decision and actions** | **Lead Officer**  | **Monitoring progress**  |
| 1 | **Minutes** of the SEND Executive Board 14 March 2022 were agreed. | Jackie Cairns | No further action  |
| 2 | **Locality inclusion panels**The Board were updated on:* Contextual need for locality inclusion panels- 2019/20 spikes in exclusions and the sporadic statutory work in place to prevent exclusions
* The ISOS partnership began to design a new model. This was concurrent with the structure of school effectiveness to include an attendance and inclusion team
* Current set up is two locality panels supporting secondary schools. Panels are well supported by secondary heads and council officers across the CES directorate
* The panels have incorporated the Fair Access protocol
* Early feedback is positive. Panels have worked with over 100 children since September. High buy in from stakeholders. Exclusion rates are less than half of the 2019/20 figures
* Around half of the children have been identified as being SEN support

 Power of cross directorate working- SEND, Education Psychology, Early Help, Social Care, Health, VCS, Youth groups * Team Around the School established around 5 schools with plans to roll this out further
* Supporting extension of Zone West project
* Plans for pilots around good inclusive practice and the enhanced inclusion programme

The Board acknowledged concerns towards: * The pace of availability within alternative provision
* The local authority’s role in sustaining financial support
* The need to review and expand SEMH primary provision

Next steps after discussion with the Board:* Investing in key workers to support the inclusion panel
* Pilots re best practice for reintegration into mainstream settings
* Produce case studies to demonstrate impact
* Work to improve the period after transition and to offer ongoing support
* Ian to consider a formal review, potentially around September 2022
 | Ian Dawson | Progress to be reported to September Board at 12-month period  |
| 3 | **Accelerated Progress Plan update** The Board were updated on: * May 2021- OSTED requested an APP to demonstrate impact
* The progress against targets demonstrates the 20-week time scale is starting to improve
* SEND subgroup attended a workshop re sharing good practice with schools
* The relaunch of ASAP is showcasing positive evidence regarding the graduated response
* Challenges with EHCPs remain- there are high level of referrals. The Educational Psychology service have received 170 new requests since March
* Work is ongoing to help schools decide when the right time to refer is- this will be showcased at the high-level relaunch in June

The Board will receive: * A further update at the July Board with papers being approved before submitted to DfE / NHS E.
 | Deanne Taylor | Progress to be reported to the July Board APP report to be shared with the Board |
| 4 | **OT / SALT provision update** The Board were updated on: * In the interim of the APP work, the LA and CCG have commissioned a private company to triage waiting lists
* A priority is to contact all parents on the waiting lists to provide advice, support and signposting to universal services in the meantime
* Parenting programmes are being developed
* There are plans to recruit two band 7 and band 6 occupational therapists
* Aim to capture case studies of families and access real feedback

The Board discussed the parenting programmes:* The parent/carer forum challenged the DCO on whether parenting programmes are an intervention to target waiting list figures and whether there could be an adverse impact on parents not receiving professional support when advocating for their child’s sensory profile
* The DCO assured the interventions would not be a replacement for an OT input
* The parenting programmes will provide ‘sensational parenting’ which is around sensory parenting
* This will coincide with sending band 6 nurses into schools to train staff
* The work upskilling education staff will contribute to better understanding parental advocacy
 | Jenny Ellis | Progress to be reported to the July Board  |
| 5 | **Therapies redesign update**The Board were updated on:* The aim is to reimagine the provision of children’s therapies and to build on feedback from the parent/carer forum
* April 6th- wider stakeholder discussions began at a well-attended event
* April 28th- colleagues from education settings attended a focused session on Teams
* Next step is to establish the working group, or ‘transformation team’ to model the new way
* The focuses are on simplifying pathways, concentrating on dialogue and building trust
* Plan is for a sketched-out model to be ready for Autumn
* There is intention to complete a peer review for speech & language services at the end of July
 | Sarah Kerrigan  | Therapies redesign progress to be reported to the Board in September Speech & Language peer review update to be reported to the Board in July |
| 6 | **Accessibility and outcomes** The Board endorsed the shared responsibility for improving accessibility and creating a cultural change The Board discussed the challenges:* The task of changing cultures is difficult, but it is important to acknowledge the improvements in recent years. Any communication of good progress is key
* The challenge of changing culture in individual schools is key
* The parent/carer forum have substantial worries there is too little trust
 | Jill Bauld Sarah Ledger | Progress to be reported to the Board in September  |
| 7 | **Voice Trainee update**The Board were updated on:* Jack Hussey has full-time employment. Jack has described the traineeship as life changing and has highlighted how his confidence has improved
* Philip Blackburn has a 3-mont extension with some specific work around summer holiday activities planned. Philip also has an upcoming interview
* This is a rolling programme and adverts for the next cohorts will be sent to post-16 providers. Planning to enroll two new trainees for September
 | Jill Bauld  | Update on new trainees to be provided to the Board in September  |
| 8 | **Pupil place planning update** The Board were updated on:* Newcastle has faced a relatively unique challenge in the increase of population of 0–25-year-old
* Numbers of children with SEND have grown significantly- a 50% increase since 2016
* Growing demand for pupils with social & communication difficulties- working with ARPS in schools
* Provision has been expanded several times- the plan is to continue this
* Exploring possibilities of establishing a new school
* For post 16 options- a preparation for adulthood lead is recruited to start in June
 | Deanne Taylor | Progress to be reported to the Board in September  |
| 9 | **Green paper update**The Board were updated on:* All details of the green paper consultation are published on the Local Offer
* The intention is to capture the collective voice; however, the Department of Education are committed to considering each individual response
* The Local Consultation plan involves an online survey

Deanne Taylor asked the Board to complete and circulate the online survey. The Board are invited to the two drop-in sessions Deanne Taylor will be hosting- dates / sign up links are available in paper 7  | Deanne Taylor | Board members to receive the consultation response prior to it being submitted. |
| 10 | **SEND Strategy proposal** The Board were updated on: * The SEND Strategy has been due for renewal. It was produced before the key changes in partnership in the last few years
* The SEND team are keen that the renewed strategy is a long-term plan
* Proposing commission of Council of Disabled Children- once the strategy is introduced it will align with high needs budget
* A reminder that this strategy will be part of the wider children and young people strategy
 | Deanne Taylor | Board members to be involved in the production of revised SEND Strategy. |
| 11 | **SEND ASAP relaunch** The Board were updated on: * Proposed plans for significant investment in resources and support and increased commission of specialist schools

The Board were notified of: * On the 23rd of June, at Gosforth Park, there will be an opportunity for schools to collaborate and share good practice. Following information will be available to circulate widely
 | Deanne Taylor | Update to be provided to the July Board as part of APP update |
| 12 | **Special schools update** The Board were updated on: * An ongoing review of special schools in line with the advice from the LA, DfE and NHS (regionally and nationally) of what models should be available
* Working with Public Health on how best to fund a model
* Plan to meet with specialist heads after half term
* Once there is documentation- this will be shared with the Board (estimated for July)
 | Jenny Ellis | Update to be provided to the July Board  |
|  | **AOB** Jackie Cairns updated the board of her retirement The Board noted thanks and appreciation of Jackie Cairn’s support to the board  |  | The Board to decide on future chairing arrangements |