Brighton and Hove Children’s Hearing Services Working Group (CHSWG)



  

Minutes of meeting held on 02/11/2017

Present – Virginia Harvey; Alyson Davies; Anna Jenkins; Naomi Austin; Sul Regan Eva Jolly; Caroline Palmer; Janine Blundell, Angie Ward; Polly Strauss; Laura from West Sussex deaf children’s society

Apologies – HV team; Sussex community audiology

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| Item | Detail | Action |
| 1 | **Service updates**-**Audiology:** 2resignations. .3 FTE post advertising joint adult lead, vestibular lead and some paeds. Naomi will be on maternity leave (YAY!) from March so a new chair of CHSWG has been requested. A business case for the hospital move and the cost implications for the move there has been completed and charities approached for the funding. Audiology have also completed a mailshot of 150 families ‘survey monkey’ to look at parent information given out.**SNS –** Sul attended the Ear Foundation & A.G,Bell conference in London and will feed back next time. Providing radio aids to pre-schoolers was recommended and this is an area that the SNS are currently in discussion about as Chris Browning is leading the team through the NDCS FM Quality Standards.We will be running the NDCS family sign language curriculum again, and now offering this pan Sussex.Although information about after school events were sent out, not all parents received them. We discussed creating a database of all families’ emails and re-sending.**Parents** – PACC website is being created.Paediatric audiology move to the Alex: an email response to the reps’ complaints was received but it did not answer the questions raised, and so this will complaint will now be escalated. An NDCS mailshot has gone out so it is hoped that there will be more response. Anna is planning to attend Caroline Lucas’ surgery, and Ali met with peter kyle. Leisure centre access for deaf people: eg swimming lessons: an online survey was made available to ascertain what people want. Following this an offer of deaf awareness to freedom leisure from the deafness council . Eva mentioned that the NDCS: ‘me too’ programme trains leisure centre staff on how to include deaf children. The hearing therapists from audiology can also offer deaf awareness training.Ali and Anna attended the council led BSL charter evening at Hamilton Lodge School – the council is seeking to engage with deaf community on how deaf children and adults access council services. We had a discussion on the changing nature of deaf culture.**SLT** – Virginia is leaving on December 28th. A replacement has been advertised for, which may mean internally developing a SALT. Prioritised caseload. Bevendean children will be supported and families will not have a break in their support.**Janine** – the deafness panel was previously only severe – profound, has now been brought down to include moderates. Now, genetics are starting to use the genome. Janine raised her concern that this will pick up issues that can’t be interpreted, requiring referral to geneticists for full consultation to interpret the results.CMV: Kate Fiddler, infectious disease lead has been trying to make contact and would like to meet. Paediatricians pan Sussex want to have excellent practise, eg saliva testing labs in Brighton – Janine has written to Kate fiddler.**Community audiology**: new audiologist Zoe Bell. Rachel Bowman has taken over Vanessa’s role. Practise Navigator is making it easier to communicate between services. Eva asked about the IQUIPS – they are coming back to visit.**Polly**:* screening takes place within 28 days 99% of the time in Brighton and Hove.
* 50 ABR referrals annually.
* Occasional home visits are made if the mother is too ill to come to clinic or there are repeated DNA’s.
* A clinic has opened in Goodwood park in Hove to reduce the numbers going to RSCH.
* Taken over from the HV service – giving leaflets to parents about monitoring a baby following a screen – do parents remember this? Do HVs follow up?
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| 2 | NDCSFM research: the ear foundation research document: Eva read through some of the statistics which are on the Ear Foundation flyer ‘why use radio aids with young children’ (see attached document).The NDCS asked local authorities to look at research which shows that only 49% of radio aids are given to pre schoolers.Naomi would like to know of charities that might fund radio aids for families.There is an issue with the new BAHAs as these have had their DAI inputs removed.Concern was raised and discussed that with the move of hearing aids towards including Bluetooth, whether the quality of sound is as good as radio aids? – Eva will follow this up.Eva talked about the ‘special provisions fund’ which can be used for radio aids.NDCS fund under the ‘reasonable adjustment’ under the equalities act, so parents shouldn’t have to have insurance (parents often cannot get this).YAB – NDCS looking to recruit new board. Emails sent out to encourage applicants. |  |
| 3 | Audiology, Naomi:Survey monkey sent out and got 50% response.Discussion re leaflet ‘ helping your child’ that audiology currently gives out to parents. VH commented that it would be good to add the care pathway. Sul added that it would be good to create the leaflet jointly.Agreed to do the pathway together at the next clinical meeting 21st November. Eva will send in Leeds Care pathway to look at.Audiology and SNS greed to arrange a joint half day meeting to create leaflet. |  |
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|  | New actions:**Naomi** will find a new chair of chswg.**Sul** will follow up on re sending parent info via email.**Naomi and Sul** will meet to amend leaflet for parents – **Eva** will send Leeds care pathway to compare to. |  |

**Future Dates**:- 22nd February 2018 & 7th June 2018 10-12 Stapley Road offices of Sensory Needs Team.