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



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Minutes of meeting held on 13.04.2017

Present – Virginia Harvey; Alyson Davies; Anna Jenkins; Vanessa Sharp; Jane Sloper; Angie Ward; Janine Blundell; Naomi Austin; Sul Regan

Apologies – Eva Jolly; Laura Mulhern; Caroline Palmer

Agenda:-

* Service updates
* PACC partnership and what this means
* PACC funding to parent reps (progress report)
* New Chair for the next phase of CHSWG
* Ideas for what we need to do next as a group (brainstorming)

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| Item | Detail | Action |
| 1 | **Service updates**-  **Audiology** – Naomi reported on staff changes, Anna is back and Vanessa Grant is leaving. There is some optimism about the prospective move of the department as Rob has a meeting next week. The current noise levels due to building works is very difficult at times. Following on from the CQC results placing the hospital under special measures a Worthing CEO is overseeing everything.  **Community audiology** – Vanessa – Interviewing for a Band 3 today. Hove Polyclinic has wound right down and as of July there will be no clinics there and the rooms will be going over to the MSK adult services! SSV is the main testing site now. The communications team are helping them to let everyone know of the changes.  **SNS –** Chris Browning is reducing his time to 2 days as part of a phased retirement. Sul Regan appointed professional Lead and a new trainee appointed starting after Easter (Gillian Hart – 4 days a week). Slight shift in all caseloads. Anita Walker has now left. Chris will continue his Educational Audiologist role and a small caseload + 1 day at Hamilton Lodge School. Sul to take clinical meetings and attend CHSWG. Changes in special schools may have an impact on their service and how it is delivered.  **Paediatrician** – Janine – things fairly constant, Angie Ward 2 days as specialist nurse and all going really well.  **Parents** – Alyson and Anna – Caroline trying hard to get parents together e.g. coffee mornings and the parent reps have been invited to talk at Springboard. Looking at trying to widen attendance. Discussion around social media and other ways of alerting people to events. Naomi mentioned the idea of having set clinic days with teams present to offer advice/information e.g. transition aged clients.  **Health Visitor** – Jane Sloper – Jane is leaving and going to work in West Sussex as part of the management re-structuring less H.V’s on the ground and the teams will be changing. Siobhan Hier is overall manager of the Healthy Child programme covering children from 0-19. Unsure of HV rep for future meetings!  **SLT** – Virginia – now working 2.5 days in Deafness only. Case-load growing a little more complex children with very different needs. Generally all going well but not doing the core work with TODs around newborn profoundly deaf children due to decline in numbers. |  |
| 2 | PACC partnership – as chair of CHSWG I have given some information about our group which is now on the PACC website and also had to fill in a questionnaire to support the recent funding. Alyson now has a cheque and they are working on a website/forum for parents. Naomi suggested circulating information via e-mail through their system to all clients. PACC awayday was held recently and they have achieved a lot – protecting funding and doing a lot of innovative work. |  |
| 3 | The new chair for the group as of close of this meeting will be Naomi Austin. |  |
| 4 | Clinical issue raised by Janine Blundell – Janine has concerns about the workings of the Deafness Panel, a very expensive and comprehensive genetic analysis performed at GOSH. The results are coming back with non-pathogenic mutations being identified and is difficult to know how to report this to parents. Janine is concerned that she is requesting and analysis that cannot be fully interpreted and this is creating a dilemma for her. There have been 6 tests back to date and 4 have been ambiguous. Janine wants to be transparent and honest with families but it has not been easy. It is work in progress and the data, as it accumulates, will inform us better in the future.  CMV testing is still an issue and is not moving forward….when it is positive what do we do about it? Kate Fidler and Kate Fisher need to drive this forward. There needs to be a workable plan! |  |
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We did not have time to brainstorm ideas about our way forward as a group this will have to be put on the next meeting’s agenda.

**Future Dates**:- Thursday July 6th 10-12 Stapley Road offices of SNS team.