

**Notes from
Cambridgeshire Partners in Commissioning Group (SEND)
12 May 2015
Carer's Trust, St Ives**

Present:

Lenja Bell, pinpoint (Chair)
Jeannie Ambrose, pinpoint
Christine Stocker-Gibson, pinpoint
Richard Holland, Cambridgeshire County Council
Caroline Goodall, Additional Needs Support Group
Bianca Cotterill, parent (children with complex needs)

Apologies: Mary Whitehand, Elizabeth Locke, Jane Ryder-Richardson, Jon Soros, Jo Sollars, Joan Adamson, Sherie Paris

1. Welcome and introductions

Lenja welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Minutes from last meeting and matters arising

Minutes and actions from the last meeting on 4 November 2014 were agreed. Updates on actions from 4 November meeting were:

Action Point 1: *Lenja to arrange a meeting with Richard to discuss childcare sufficiency.* This is still ongoing and needs to be carried forward. **Action Point 1**

Action Point 2: *Invite Judith Davies to the next meeting to discuss post 16 arrangements including communication between special schools and colleges.* This needs to be carried forward as Judith Davies was not present at the meeting. Lenja to arrange a meeting with Judith.

Action Point 2. Lenja to speak to Meredith regarding discontinued roles within SEND and who will now be working with pinpoint. This gap also applies to health and Eva's previous role.

Action point 3.

Action Point 3: *Parents were asked for feedback on the impact of budget and service cuts, and whether any parents would like to be involved in the decisions leading to budget savings. Laura to check the outcome of this.* Laura is now away on maternity leave so this was not completed.

Action Point 4: complete - *Lenja to contact Adrian Loades regarding parent feedback on bullying and how it should be shared and acted upon.* An anti-bullying strategy group has been formed and are due to meet soon.

Action Point 5: complete - *Lenja to circulate Anti-bullying SEND Information Hub link.*

Action Point 6: complete - *Lenja to amend the October Network Meeting report to state that some comments are based on individual experiences.*

Action Point 7: complete - *Lenja to arrange to attend a special school heads meeting to discuss using school facilities out of hours and to contact Simon Bainbridge.* Eve Redgrave and Lenja attended a meeting and as a result Eve will attend a meeting with parents at Castle School to see if the school is able to open its facilities out of school hours. The school will run a pilot to measure how successful this would be. Richard wondered what rates the school will be charging parents as the County Council has to pay market rates.

Action Point 8: complete - *Fay and Jane to look creating a simple survey for collecting parents' views on the SEND Strategy.* This survey was sent out to parents and good feedback was received.

3. Post 16 Arrangements (Judith Davies)

Richard commented that statements are not as good as we would like them to be and parents should be encouraged to feedback their opinions. Any problems with SEND Reforms should be fed back so processes can be monitored and improved. The County Council should develop a formal response to parents.

4. Updates

Past Network Meetings: Bullying and Activities

With Joan Adamson (SCIP) and Rebecca Gilbertson (Living Sport), Eve Redgrave has produced an Activity Passport for children to use when accessing activities. The support group Welcome to our World have been working with Disability Sport Huntingdon and are running a pilot to open up leisure centres out of hours for children with disabilities.

March 2015 Network Meetings – key messages and SEND reforms

Discussed – as above

Wheelchair Action Group

A pathway meeting is to be held in June with the CCG and parents to discuss operational processes for accessing wheelchairs. Also more clarity is needed for when wheelchairs need maintenance and repairs. There are issues with the repair service Bartrams which need to be addressed.

Contenance Action Group

The budget for the children's service is now separate from adult services. Cambridge Community Services are now running this children's service and it is expected that assessments will now be much more thorough. Lenja to email Liz and Siobhan about putting the continence leaflets on the local offer. Also discussed the importance of having answers to questions like 'What shall I do if the number of pads doesn't meet my child's needs?' **Action Point 4.**

Rating System

pinpoint have promoted the ratings system but currently it is not being used. Lenja to email Richard Holland to circulate amongst his staff and providers. **Action Point 5.**

CAMHS

CAMHS is now closed to new referrals for diagnosis of ADHD and ASD. There is no alternative service for parents to signpost to. pinpoint has posted on the website and Facebook to suggest that parents refer back to their CAF if they have one. There is now a void in supporting these families and an Early Intervention Service is being looked into by pinpoint, Family Voice, the CCG and the County Council.

Other

pinpoint is now involved in supporting parents who have children who self-harm, and will be running a new support group shortly.

Parent group Welcome to our World has enquired to see if pinpoint could run a workshop with solicitors Irwin Mitchell to advise parents regarding children's rights. Lenja met with Irwin Mitchell and a legal workshop is to be held for parents on 17th July in Fenland and a September one will be run in Cambridge. Richard asked if legal information could go into the local offer. Lenja will look into this after the July workshop. **Action Point 6**

5. Feedback from participants

Caroline is facilitating a support group, and reported that many parents are unhappy with the CAMH service.

Jeannie, along with other staff members, attended a Train the Trainer session at Family Voice Peterborough. pinpoint will be introducing a registration sheet for all volunteers, and parent representatives will attend in-house training over a number of weeks starting from the autumn.

Christine informed the meeting that the trustees have been working on an operational plan for pinpoint. The trustees and Lenja attended social venture training at the Judge Business School over a weekend which was very useful. Potential new incomes streams are to be identified and they have formed a new fundraising focus group. An ICT subcommittee has also been formed to improve the pinpoint website.

Richard explained the cuts that he has had to implement over the last year. From next year, he has nothing left to cut but direct services to families which means raising eligibility criteria or stopping services. EDCM concerns regarding cuts were announced too late to make a difference. It would be advisable for everyone to be positively assertive in the light of any new cuts that may arrive. Richard to email Adrian Loades about how he would like pinpoint to link into members to highlight its work. **Action Point 6**. Lenja can then meet with Adrian and members to take forward.

6. Topics for future meetings

SEND commissioning strategy – going forward with parent involvement.

7. Any other business

Nothing to report

Action Points carried forward

The following actions were agreed during the meeting:

AP1 – Richard to send papers to Lenja regarding childcare sufficiency. pinpoint to put a survey out to find out parents views on childcare issues and discuss with regional parent carer forum network.

AP2 – Lenja to arrange a meeting with Judith.

AP3 – Lenja to speak to Meredith regarding discontinued roles within SEND and health, and who will now be working with pinpoint.

AP4 – Lenja to email Liz and Siobhan about putting the CCS continence leaflet on the local offer.

AP5 - Lenja to email Richard Holland regarding the ratings system to circulate amongst his staff and short breaks providers.

AP6 – Lenja to look into including legal information on the local offer and pinpoint website.

AP7 - Richard to email Adrian Loades about how he would like pinpoint to link into members.

Next Meeting

We will cancel 7th July and look to reschedule one for first week of September.