



September Summary 2022

Thank you to the parent carers that have shared feedback for the layout/look of the Summary's. we hope that this works better and, as always, please do let us know if there is anything you'd like to feed back on.

NDD Pathway

During the month of September, we received some contact from parents highlighting that there seemed to be a lack of pathway for those children and young people who did not fit in the ASD/ADHD pathways. We challenged the head of the pathway as we were assured that this would be a pathway for all those who had a NDD concern. This is currently being investigated to ensure all within the pathway are aware of processes for each condition presentation. We will report back once we have heard an update.

DfE Review

We have yet to receive any contact or notification of a decision being made. We have chased this up and are awaiting a response.

SEND Accountability Board and SEND Programme Board

All agendas, minutes and paperwork for these meetings are supplied by Suffolk County Council and can now be found on their Infolink page: [SEND Governance](#). We have been informed that there are certain documents that have had issues being uploaded due to the size but SCC are working on a resolve.

SEND Priority 1 – The Local Offer

SPCF have raised many issues with regards to the Local Offer page and its accessibility. Changes had been made however, they were not sufficient to resolve the experiences that users were facing. Due to the lack of change, we raised this at a higher level and were invited to provide feedback during a small slot in the CYP Leadership Team meeting. It is hoped that this will allow investigations into the use of another platform so that the Local Offer page is not directory based. We will update once we receive the outcome.

SEND Priority 2 – The SEND Journey

During attendance at these meeting, SPCF have been supporting the improvements of the [Wellbeing in Education](#) webpage. It was originally devised for schools during covid but have been found to be of benefit so have been further maintained. One of the focus areas chosen for Priority 2 is EHCPs, including the lack of person-centered approach and the non-specific wording. There will a breakout room dedicated to this, as well as one for embedding the graduated response, during the October meeting.



SEND Priority 3 – Services & Provision

SPCF raised concerns around the lack of specialist places and that there are still children and young people waiting for placement. Phase 1 of the new specialist units/schools is nearing completion. Sir Peter Hall school and Woodbridge Road Academy have experienced a delay so pupils have been placed at alternative school until opened. Oulton Broad has experienced severe delays but they are continuing to push forward.

An ARFID working group has come together to assist with the formation of a new ARFID pathway. SPCF have asked parent carers with lived experience if they would be willing to be part of a focus group to feed back their experience. We are very grateful to the 5 parent carers who have come forward to attend the meeting with professionals.

We have also fed back that there are still some parent carers being told that support can only be offered/put in place once the child or young person has a diagnosis. This is not the case and because this is against all advisement, we are now being asked to name settings so that this can be taken up with them directly. If you have been told this by a setting and are happy for us to share this information (anonymously) please let us know via email: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk or our feedback form: <https://suffolkpcf.co.uk/feedback/>.

SEND Priority 4 – Transitions to Adulthood

The choice of the focus milestones on has highlighted a link with Priority 2 as both selected 'embedding person centred planning. Members of the Priority 2 meetings will meet with Priority 4 members to discuss how they can work together in the common goal. After SPCF raised the lack of information around SaLT transitions, speech & language colleagues have created a session specifically on how to navigate adult services and the differences from child services. SPCF, Children & Young People's Network and workforce development will be in attendance. We are hoping to have resources to share with parents. One of the 'I' statements that were chosen by young people was wanting to learn how to drive. Do you happen to know a driving instructor in Suffolk that is SEND trained? If so, please let us know so we can share with our Young People's Network.

All Age Autism Strategy

SPCF have been busy this month reading and evaluating all the bids as well as being present at the organisation interviews. It is such a difficult task. With so much to consider and the impact it will have for our children and young people it is taking a lot of deliberation and clarification questions. We are very happy to have been able to a part of it and sharing lived experience to ensure the right organisation is chosen. We are hoping to be able to share the results soon.



Feedback Update

Parent carers have fed back their experiences and issues in regards to ECH needs assessments, plans and annual reviews. This feedback has been used to make improvements to the system that is currently in place by creating an online portal-based system. More information can be found on this interactive poster:

<https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/lehcpspcf>

The team would also like to invite a few volunteers from SPCF to Endeavour house, Ipswich to review the new EHCP online portal functionality and provide some feedback. They are looking to host the session on Friday 18th November. If you would like to attend the session, please email us on info@suffolkpcf.co.uk with the times that you are available.

Waveney Parent Carers

We have been invited to a monthly meeting with the Norfolk & Waveney Health services and Family Voice Norfolk. During this meeting we will have the opportunity to feed back the experiences that parent carers have shared with us. We have raised the N&W NDD pathway and the information for families, the post 18 diagnostic pathway and the wait times. If there is anything else that you would like us to raise, please do let us know through the usual channels.

Parent Reps

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parent representatives who do attend meetings on behalf of SPCF. We do have reps that have additional needs and/or disabilities themselves and would encourage any parent carers who are interested in becoming a rep to contact us as we are able to support with removing any barriers to access. Parent carers are remunerated for their time attending strategic meetings and expenses covered. Reps would be subject to the signing of the parent representative agreements/policies.

Future meetings

As well as the usual meetings (SEND Priority Meetings, Priority Leads, SEND Accountability & Programme Board, the steering/oversight meetings for CYP Mental Health, Speech Language & Communication Needs, Key Worker, Learning Disabilities & Autism and the NDD pathway), we will be attending the East of England Neurodevelopmental Disorders Network along with the other PCFs for the East of England and the national Keyworking Community of Practice. We will also have a session with Impower with regards to VSEND, an approach that is being rolled out to schools, we are hoping to share more information on that next time.



Upcoming Events

Accessing Public Services Workshop: Cerebra will be providing a virtual workshop on Tuesday 1st November 22 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm to support families who are encountering difficulties in relation to the provision of health, social care and education support services. This is FREE and will come with a learning pack so we need those interested to sign up by 23rd October 22. You can get a place by emailing: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk



We invite you to join us at our virtual Accessing Public Services Toolkit Workshop

Hosted by Cerebra - A charity dedicated to those with Brain conditions.
Tues 1st November 2022 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm

The aim of the workshop is to support families who are encountering difficulties in relation to the provision of health, social care and education support services. The workshop isn't about giving legal advice or solving individual issues, but about general strategies that parents can use to get the services that they need for their child and family. By the end of the workshop you will be able to:

- Identify commonly occurring problems facing families accessing services and recognise different types of dispute
- Come up with problem-solving approaches to these problems
- Use a number of template letters when corresponding with public bodies

The workshop includes working on a case study.

A pack is required to attend the workshop so booking will close on 23/10/22

Please email to book your place: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk



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