

**Minutes of a meeting of the PiP Parent Forum
Held on Thursday 13 July at 10.00 am**

Present: Roxanna Kishore-Bigord, Debbie Olutunfese, Diana Albiston, Jane Henderson, Louise Jones, Agnieszka Gebka, Jane Speller, Hollie Chisnall

Apologies: Sarah-Jane Orr, Jane Poulter

ACTION TABLE

Item No	ACTION	BY WHOM	WHEN
3	Hollie and Louise to attend Autism Partnership Board as parent reps. Date to be confirmed.	LJ/HC AG	tbc
3	Roxie and husband to attend the next parent reference group on 18 September. JS to confirm VG's attendance	RKB VG	18 September
3	LJ to attend meeting about the new Local Offer	LJ	8 August
3	DO to be parent rep at the Children's Health Steering Goup	DO	13 Sept (1.00 to 2.30)
3	RKB, LJ and DO to attend the newly formed steering group to design the ASD diagnosis pathway. JS and LJ to approach another 3 parents to join.	RKB, LJ, DO JS,LJ	4 October Asap
3	PF members to think about who could be a representative on the Adult Learning Disability Partnership Board	Parent Forum	Ongoing
3	PiP to organise fundraising training for VG	AG	Autumn
3	Organise a coffee morning at Kingsley for autumn term.	JS/DA	Autumn
7	PiP to think about how to provide more training/support opportunities for parent carers managing challenging behaviour	AG/JS	ongoing
8	PiP to approach Healthwatch about providing a patient representative	AG	August

1. Welcome and Apologies

Jane welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies from members unable to make it.

2. Notes from meeting on 21 June

Jane went through the table of actions from this meeting with a status update.

Under item 8, it was agreed that Hollie and Louise would attend the next Autism Partnership Board. Date to be confirmed.

3. Planning parent reps work for autumn term 2017

The group ran through the list of working groups/meetings/activities needing parent carer representation over the next 3 months. JS and AG thanked parents for their commitment to contributing to the different areas.

Autism Partnership Board

Hollie and Louise agreed to be the parent reps at this Board. AG to find out the date of next meeting.

Parent reference group

Roxie and her husband will attend the next meeting on 18 September. Vijaya had also expressed an interest at a previous parent forum meeting. JS to confirm that.

Local Offer

Louise to attend the next meeting about the new Local Offer on 8 August. A meeting dedicated to the Education part of the offer will be organised by the LA for September. Date to be confirmed.

Children's Health Steering Group

Debbie to be the parent rep for the Health Steering Group. Next meeting is on 13 September (1.00 – 2.30).

Pathway design for ASD diagnosis

This is a new steering group being established to design and sign off the Autism diagnosis pathway for children. Caroline Boardman (Paediatric services redesign manager) and David Garrett (Assistant Director of Operations for Croydon Health Services) will be running those meetings. Roxie, Louise and Debbie will attend, as well as another parent Louise will approach. It was also agreed to ask another couple of parent forum reps not present at this meeting.

Learning Disability Partnership Board (adults)

It was agreed that the forum would look for a new representative to join this Board.

SEND service

A meeting had been scheduled for 19 July with Amalia Banon to follow up on a conversation started at the last leadership conference about the 5-16 SEND service. AG, JS and Vijaya to attend. Roxie expressed an interest in attending too and JS would confirm that with her.

At this meeting AG is proposing to introduce the idea of PiP running monthly 'coffee morning' sessions for members of the SEND service to answer questions about the EHCP process. The excessive case load of caseworkers (350 plus per person) would also be addressed.

Newsletter, leaflets

Catherine Webb had kindly agreed to take a look at the format of the PiP newsletter in the autumn term. Date to be confirmed.

Fundraising

Vijaya has expressed an interest in fundraising and PiP will be organising some training for her in this area.

Children's Hearing Services Working Group

Diana gave an update on this group and it was agreed to have this as a separate agenda item at the next meeting in September. PiP would also liaise with DA to organise a coffee morning at Kingsley in the autumn term.

4. Education panel/school funding (see www.london.gov.uk/nide/39215)

The forum discussed this paper about special needs education in London which will be addressed by the Education Panel and agreed to take a look at it individually and respond by 18th September if they so wish. It was agreed that as individuals it was important to engage local MPs in the question of funding for schools in general, as well as SEND funding.

It was also agreed that the forum would like to engage with MPs Sarah Jones and Jennifer Braithwaite to talk about school funding.

5. Carers survey report

This was highlighted to the forum and parent reps encouraged to take a look at it outside the meeting.

6. Training for parent reps

On Monday 11th September (10.00 to 15.00) a training session in facilitating solution circles will be run for PiP staff at the carers support centre and there are 5 spaces available for parent reps. Louise, Debbie and Hollie expressed an interest in attending. The 2 remaining spaces are still up for grabs for other parent reps who are interested.

7. Possible new project for PiP – ideas about a possible dedicated information phone line

Given the need to constantly be on the look out for new funding streams, at a recent mapping day PiP had considered the possibility of starting a new information phone line at dedicated times of the week. It is clear from parents that one of the frustrations they experience is the difficulty of getting hold of people at the LA.

This is only an idea and a discussion took place about whether there is a need for it and how it might work. It would essentially provide information, a

friendly voice at the end of the phone to signpost parents and the assurance that calls would be answered during a specified period of time.

Different questions were raised about how it would be set up and monitored and whether volunteer parents could be trained to get involved. AG will continue to pursue the possibility with Trustees.

Challenging behaviour

Out of this conversation about a phonenumber came a further conversation about the need for workshops/training/support in managing challenging behaviour.

The point was made by parents that support with behaviour is needed throughout the life of a child/young person and there is very little available locally. And in some people's experience, what is available locally is not appropriate to all parents of children with additional needs and/or disabilities.

As well as agreeing that the forum needs to constantly remind the LA and local service providers of the day to day needs of parents/carers and young people regarding behaviour, it was agreed that PiP would look at whether they could design a programme of support for parents on the subject of challenging behaviour.

8. AOB

PiP will approach Healthwatch about providing a parent representative.

AG asked the forum to think about any well known people in/from Croydon who they could approach to consider being a champion for Parents in Partnership.

Hollie recommended Centre of Change in New Addington who offer a counselling and mentoring service for children and parents.

9. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting is at 10.00 on Thursday 28 September.
(Please note there is no parent forum meeting in August).