

Minutes of CHSWG Meeting

22 June 2016

Apologies: Esther Hutton, Barbara Stanton, Alison Lawson, Jan Wilson,

Present: Jan Seaman, Teri Cockburn, Lisa Slater, Angela May, Jenny Alden, Denise Dunwoody, Lindsay Short, Cassandra Towes, Suzanne Monaghan

1. Minutes from last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Introduction

Three new members: Jenny Alden (Children's Service), Lindsay Short (Newborn Hearing Screening) and Cassandra Towes (Newborn Hearing Screening). JS briefly explained CHSWG. She explained to JA that the meeting may have limited value to her; a Rep from Children's Services can be sent to feedback to the team, it doesn't have to be a senior member of staff. This is the only CHSWG group from, Northumberland to Middlesbrough that does not have a Rep from Children's Services.

3. Audiology

Charlotte Wilson is on maternity leave.

4. NDCS

Unable to attend.

5. Update from Newborn Hearing Screening

- LS shared an update of the quality performance indicator data 98.7% of screens took place within 4 weeks of birth.
- The QA reported that unilateral referrals were higher than the national average – this has come down. The team are looking at: screening techniques, equipment, babies are discharged quickly could it be fluid/unsettled baby.
- 92% of children attended appointments attendance to Audiology. These are acceptable levels.
- SM will add LS and CT to the mailing list for CHSWG

6. Update from SALT

- The Trust has been inspected by the QCC, they were inspected over 5 areas; 4 of these areas were outstanding. Community, children and young people were outstanding in all 5 areas.
- Lindsey Grey is shadowing AM; Lindsey is an experienced therapist, developing skills in hearing loss and deafness. She is attending some training at the Ear Foundation. There maybe an opportunity for Lindsey to shadow LS; the easiest way to arrange this is to get consent from the parents and then LS will coordinate is so that she attends the session.

7. Updates from the Cochlear Implant Team

- Employed 2 new members of staff: Clinical Leader and Assistant Clinical Leader.

- 2 key workers leaving – already employed one person for 4 days. Looking to employ someone else for 3 days
- 2 audiologists on maternity leave – training staff from audiology to come over to the Cochlear Implant Team
- There are accessories available for implanted children; suggestions of what accessories would be best for individuals would be useful. An upgraded list of accessories is available.
- Appointments are being introduced at Stanley. James Cook Hospital is a long way for children to travel, it is also stressful for their parents.
- Phil Yates is now doing some of the Cochlear Implant operations; these are done at the RVI, 1 operation a month but this will increase. JS asked if it was possible to have appointments at the RVI, as this would be less stressful for children and parents. LS explained that new venues have been looked into but it's a difficult process.
- We are nationally behind for referrals to the Cochlear Implant Team this is because we were trying out Radio Aid first.

8. Updates from North Tyneside Sensory Service

- JS is leaving at Christmas – job has been advertised for the second time. Short listing and interviews will take place this term.

JW is leaving in July – the new manager will interview for a new team leader in the summer term.

The authority will replace both posts.

- Next term we will be down 1 member of staff for 1 term. JS will have to cover JW's timetable.
- JS attended the Heads and Deputy's meeting – it was suggested that the OFSTED inspection would be early on. This is new for the Sensory Service; we are usually inspected in school. We will now be part of the Quality Care Inspection.
- Audiology Transition Day – this is to prepare children for the transfer to adult services. There is a huge difference and it was felt that a transition day would help with this process. This runs every 2 years in the autumn term and we try to coordinate it with the Listening Bus. JS will ask Emerik to add LS to the mailing list. The last transition day involved students from Years 10, 11, 12 and 13, it was held in Cramlington. This year it will be held at the Freeman. The transition day gives students and their families a chance to gather information; various groups and organisations are there to give advice. Everyone will contribute to an interpreter.
- JW has worked hard over the years with deaf children in main stream and their parents. She has built up a social group, STAR's: Baby STAR's, STAR's and Teen STAR's. Teen STAR's is the most popular group. Last night JW organised Bowling with the STAR's, it was a great success. Baby STAR's is a difficult group to get together, this may be because it is difficult if their baby has additional needs and isn't progressing as they should be. JS will run the STAR's group for a term. JS has spoke to Elaine Rayner about the possibility to do some joint pre school activities.

- North Tyneside Disability Forum holds lots of different activities; these aren't just directed to the Deaf. Information about events is on our website.
- North Tyneside's Deaf Children's Group is now part of the NCDS.
- Charles Murphy is trying to get secondary students to meet once per month in Sunderland.
- In the past children with a high need have had a statement of need; this has changed to the EHCP (Education Health Care Plan). If a student stays at Sixth form in the authority our input would continue. Tyne Met College buy in our service. Most of our students go to Newcastle College; they have a large cohort of deaf students. If a student falls into the high need bracket, then their needs will be assessed before they move onto FE colleges or Sixth Form. The results of this will be discussed and any concerns addressed.

9. **A.O.B.**

- LS will let JS know available dates for October. JS to see if the new manager wants to come along.
- JA will feedback to her team and will let us know who will attend future meetings.

The next meeting will be held at **Beacon Hill on 12 October 2016 at 1.30pm**