

## MINUTES

### **Dorset Children's Hearing Services Working Group (CHSWG)**

**Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**10:00am to 12:00 noon**

**Dorchester County Hall, room W1w4**

<b>1</b>	<p>Introductions and apologies</p> <p>Attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sue MacDermott (HSS)</li><li>• Ken Tucker (HSS)</li><li>• Emma Hooper (Boscombe Audiology)</li><li>• Amanda Theobald (Operational Manager (NHS East))</li><li>• Sarah Morris (Consultant Paediatrician)</li><li>• Shirley Sorbie (DDCS)</li><li>• Sarah Collinson (NDCS)</li><li>• Rachel Beeby (Clinical Scientist, Audiology, Dorset County Hospital)</li><li>• Nicola Foley (Parent and Trustee)</li><li>• Jemma Buckler (NHSP local manager)</li><li>• Dorothy Goodall (UoSAIS)</li><li>• Roberta Buhagiar (Principle Clinical Scientist, UoSAIS)</li><li>• Janet McKrill (School Nursing, East Dorset)</li><li>• Elaine Okopski (DPCC)</li><li>• Marie Larue (Nursery Nurse, School Health)</li><li>• Sue Stirk (Poole CHAD)</li><li>• Sue Hall (Bournemouth CHAD)</li><li>• Claire Nixson (Bournemouth CHAD)</li></ul> <p>Apologies from: Helen Joscelyne, Christine Rainsford, Claire Lawrensen, Philip Scott, Erica Davies, Deepa Shenoy, Claire Archibald</p>
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2	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>Hoping to get ENT representation from East at meetings in the East (nobody from West available at the moment)</p> <p>Elaine Okopski informed the meeting about four workshops in June/July for parents and carers of CYP with SEND on EHCPs, the 'Person Centred' approach and related areas. See flyer</p>
3	<p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neonatal Hearing Screening Program</li> </ul> <p><b>Jemma Buckler:</b> KPI (Key Performance Indicators) – #1 how many babies were seen within 5 weeks 98.8% (Oct-Dec). #2 Babies without clear responses should be seen within 4 weeks 87% (due to 2 babies DNAing). #3 Quality assurance – rescreened 57 babies. Audiology have been very good at making room for them.</p> <p>Contract for running NHSP ends next March. Other authorities run a hospital model, Dorset uses Health Visitors (Community Model). Commissioning will decide the route forward. Contract likely to be for 3 years. The general hope voiced in the room was that the current system would continue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audiological Services:</li> </ul> <p><b>Emma Hooper (East)</b> – 2<sup>nd</sup> tier audiology (referred from school nurses, HVs etc) has commenced at Canford Heath. Quite a few DNAs so appointment times are being adjusted to make better use of time. Working closely with Dorset County Hospital.</p> <p>Working towards IQIPS accreditation – a lot of work. Amanda is working on this and on keeping it up to date. It is an expectation of the contract that this would be achieved (initially by April 2019... although this will not be met). Finding time to do it is very difficult. EH currently covering for Paediatric Lead. Recruitment has improved and hoping to be fully staffed by the autumn.</p> <p>Temp conductive losses – lots of referrals from ENT for hearing aids. Discussions ongoing about the expectations.</p> <p>20 new children fitted with HAs (4 SNHL)</p> <p>New pathway for children requiring sedated ABR. This has improved and enabled EH to begin clearing a backlog.</p>

**Rachel Beeby (West)** – 6 new babies diagnosed with permanent hearing loss from NHSP (all from Aug onwards) 1 mild bilateral SNHL , 3 moderate bilateral SNHL, 2 profound bilateral SNHL. Also one baby diagnosed with congenital CMV (mild unilateral SNHL) and 7 older children (mild bilateral or unilateral). **See attached table of diagnoses**

In addition, in 2017 29 children with conductive hearing loss were fitted with hearing aids. There were also 9 additional cases where a decision was made to fit hearing aids for conductive hearing loss, but repeat audiometry at the hearing aid fitting appointment showed that their hearing had improved, so the hearing aids were not required.

IQIPS – project manager left at the beginning of the year. Partly because of performance targets not releasing people to give time to IQIPS. Feeling that IQIPS needs to be embedded in the service and given time to attend to this. All of this means that IQIPS has stalled somewhat.

Some new Band 4 staff are being trained to perform basic/routine adult audiology work to release the Band 5s to do the work requiring a registered member of staff. Paediatric audiologists are dropping adult work to focus on Paediatrics to cover the maternity leave.

- Consultant Paediatricians

**Sarah Morris** - Will provide a breakdown next time. When there is a new diagnosis, the reports from audiology are very thorough and useful.

Sedated ABRs – has proven difficult but is so much better than it was.

Philip Scott would be happy to come from ENT in future – please keep on circulation list.

- School Nursing Team

Janet McKrill and Marie Larue– School nursing team sees and screens all reception children (not independent schools – should use their own nurse and refer via GP). Refers on if needs be. Increasing immunisation programme impacts on how referrals are dealt with from schools. Parents now need to opt out if they do not wish their child to be seen, which has meant that more children

are being seen. Parents, paediatricians, GPs, schools can refer to nursing team in addition to screening. There is no school entry screening in e.g. Somerset because of a recent research article, but that article was very limited and suggested that other arrangements needed to be in place which has not always been the case in other authorities.

- Hearing Support Service

HSS and VSS jointly work in Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth. SM had prepared a document for a joint meeting which she shared with everyone. SM detailed the number of children that we see or contact schools about in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. A total of 636 children

Currently 9.6 Advisory Teachers (11 teachers)

2 specialist TAs (one retiring who will not be replaced)

Ken Tucker recently qualified as an Educational Audiologist

East Dorset parent support group has been well attended as was a technology day with a speaker from Connevens kindly supported by DDCCS.

Trying to organise more social events for children to meet each other, also kindly supported by DDCCS.

HSS collects and submits benchmarking data on exam results to NATSIP annually and to the CRIDE survey on staffing and case numbers.

Also collect qualitative survey data from parents, pupils and SENCOs.

Protocol for private schools is that we would do a one-off visit for a new pupil or one where hearing has significantly changed. Any subsequent visits would be charged and radio aids would need to be paid for (can generally trial for a term). We work quite hard to make sure schools understand their responsibilities under the Equality Act.

Sarah Collinson felt that there was a piece of work to be done by NDCS with independent schools. SC also asked about home-educated children. Dorset HSS does not visit these pupils. Sue Hall informed us that the law is changing with regards to home

education. SC informed us that NDCS have a home education section on their website.

- University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service

**Dorothy Goodall** – a little spurt of referrals of profoundly deaf babies and young people (3 from east and 3 from west with another referred from Bristol implant centre)

‘CI the basics’ course is now available online IN ADDITION to the course which people can attend in person. **Dorothy provided an info card. Link to online course:**

<https://www.efolio.soton.ac.uk/blog/usaistrainingportal/>

or [www.bit.ly/CI-Basics](http://www.bit.ly/CI-Basics)

CI/Radio aids advice will be published soon.

Medel ‘Adhear’ BCHI – approval for UoSAIS to give this for conductive losses with no SNHL. For children awaiting surgery or single sided deafness.

- Dorset Deaf Children’s Society

**Shirley Sorbie** – family residential weekend next week at Osmington PGL. 26 families coming (70 people)

Family fun day coming up in June

Just addressed new GDPR and awaiting responses. Letters may be coming to people at CHSWG – please return the slip.

Stocking of leaflets at Dorchester – they ran out but this has now been replenished. But SS having difficulty getting printed literature from NDCS. Leaflets from NDCS are available in many languages in addition to English.

Sue Hall asked for links to websites like DDCS and NDCS for ‘The Local Offer’:

<http://www.ndcs.org.uk/>

<https://www.dorsetdcs.co.uk/>

Rachel Beeby would like a copy of the Unilateral booklet which is no longer available. KT/SM to supply

- NDCS update

	<p><b>Sarah Collinson</b> – new resources are available including on Speech and Language Therapy Guidance for Children with HI (aimed at commissioners)</p> <p>Quality Standards for Educational Support for Deaf children from NATSIP → there are quality standards available for pre-schoolers on NDCS website.</p> <p>Annual survey on staffing run by NDCS. SC will be writing to leader of Dorset Council about recruitment freeze.</p> <p>Steve Haines will be the new Director.</p> <p>Family Officers have resumed support in localities (rather than in national teams). Referral may still be through the main helpline (with Debbie Ravensdale still 'attached' to the SW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children's Social Care</li> </ul> <p>Social Care teams were pleased to be invited and included. Important to be included in local offer and an ongoing project at the moment is taking place on transition to adult services. Trying to make sure the same messages are coming from the different local authorities.</p> <p>EH mentioned that knowing the current referral process to adult services would be useful as she is in the process of updating their information on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent perspective</li> </ul> <p><b>Nicola Foley</b> - Evening Parent Support Group starting up for parents post preschool. 5 people at the moment going to meet up initially. Hoping to develop a good structure for this.</p>
4	<p>Update on the work of the Auditory Implant Service, Southampton University</p> <p>Dr.Roberta Buhagiar, Principal Clinical Scientist ( Audiology)</p>
5	<b>AoB</b>

**Dates of next meetings:**

**Thursday** November 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 Poole 10-12

**Tuesday** May 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 Dorchester