

**VOCAL – Children, Young People and Families Forum**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**10:00-12:00**

**St Sebastian's Community Centre, Douglas Green**

**M I N U T E S**

1	<p><b><u>Transformation Plans for Children and Young People's SEN and Disability Services in Salford.</u></b></p> <p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p><b>Present:</b></p> <p>Phil East (Salford Foundation); Louise Murray (Salford CVS); Debbie Fallon (SCC); Ashley Chapman (SCVS); Janis Stout (JSENSE); Kate Hornsby (Barnardos); Laura Edwards (Gaddum Centre); Lewis Nelson (Gaddum Centre); Lucy Sutcliffe (SCVS); Sandra Hardingham (Leonard Cheshire Disability); Steve Westhead (SCVS); Sylvia McDowell (Positive Moves CIC); Rachel Jones (ASPIRE); Elliott McKinell (You Can); Wendy Priscott (Prince's Trust); Mike Burke (Embrace); Elizabeth Tangata (Warm Hut UK); Shelley Lewis (The Fed); Jon Uttley (Sport Works)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b></p> <p>Paul Brighouse (Adventures Await); Paul Moran (Gaddum Centre); Nigel Johnson (ASPIRE)</p>	
2	<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p>The Chair, Phil East, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves to the group. Phil introduced the main theme of the forum as 'Transformation Plans for Children and Young People's SEN and Disability Services in Salford'.</p> <p>The Chair introduced the format of the forum and the 20 minute group discussion opportunity. The Chair introduced the four presenters as:</p> <p>Debbie Fallon – Head of Partnerships, Children's Services, Salford City Council</p> <p>Dr Alison Pike – Consultant Pediatrician in Community Child Health Clinical Director of Children's Services, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>Elliott McKinell, Programme Manager, You Can</p> <p>Deanne Shaw, Salford Parent Voice</p>	
3	<p><b>Salford's developing statutory offer:</b></p> <p><b>SEN South Locality Pathfinder - Debbie Fallon – Head of Partnerships, Children's Services, Salford City Council</b></p> <p>Debbie introduced herself and talked about joint working with the CCG and the aim of the 0-25 pathfinder. She gave an overview of current issues</p>	

faced by children/young people and parents. The amount of time an assessment takes, lack of transparency and numerous amounts of barriers were some of the main issues faced by parents.

The 0-25 SEND Pathfinder will put children and families at the centre of the process, enabling families to make the choices that best meet their children's needs.

Any children or young person with complex needs who require the support of 2 or more services/organisations and who are in education or live within the south locality can access the 0-25 SEND Pathfinder.

The pilot in the South locality starting in September 2017, running for a total of 12 months. Debbie then presented the pathway to the group and explained that it may change over the course of the pilot.

There are three roles within the pathfinder:

1. Engagement Lead – They will support the family through the process.
2. Pathfinder Operational Manager – Manage the pilot and provide support to staff when needed.
3. Panel Co-ordinator – support the multi-agency panel and related paperwork.

Please see Debbie's presentation below:



SEND025  
Pathfinder Presentat

Phil thanked Debbie for her presentation.

**Salford's Autism Pathway- Dr Alison Pike – Consultant Paediatrician in Community Child Health Clinical, Director of Children's Services Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust**

Alison Pike introduced herself and delivered a presentation on Salford's Autism Pathway, please see Alison's presentation below:



Salford's Autism  
Pathway.pptx

The prevalence of autism in the population is about 1-2%. There are around 34-68 new cases a year and this seems to be getting bigger with an expansion in the diagnosis of children.

Alison informed the group that the current ASD pathway is long and poorly co-ordinated. By using a multi-agency group who share expertise and information, a better pathway can be devised for children, providing an

	<p>overall smoother process.</p> <p>There will be several changes in the new pathway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing information will be used. Children tend to be involved in a number of services of which will have captured their own information on a child, this will be assessed during the pathway.</li> <li>• New specialist clinical coordinator roles to support families throughout assessment.</li> <li>• Diagnoses made in pediatrics and CAMHS.</li> <li>• New ASD panel for quality assurance and consistency across Salford. NICE standard will be adhered to.</li> </ul> <p>Alison explained the ASD diagnostic pathway in further detail. If the panel do not feel there is a diagnosis after all assessments a multi-agency meeting will be arranged to further assess the needs of the child.</p> <p>If there is a diagnosis an ASD pathway is followed. A support package is put in place and reviews are arranged when needed.</p> <p>Alison then explained the next steps for Salford's Autism Pathway and that more needs to be done about peer support.</p> <p>LS suggested that children should be observed in a community setting, e.g. after school clubs, in order to gather information on children in a variety of different situations. Alison agreed as this would add another dimension to the information collected. Working with the VCSE sector allows more people to come together to share expertise and knowledge</p> <p>ASD includes a wide spectrum of symptoms, JS asked whether a child had to be on a certain level to access the pathway. Alison confirmed that the pathway can end without a diagnosis, therefore there isn't a certain level of symptoms needed to start the process. It was also confirmed that the pathway wasn't age dependent. Children can present at any time, Alison informed the group that it is often diagnosed in year 1, 3, 5 &amp; 6.</p> <p>JS then asked where the pathway links with education. Schools are represented in groups and are included from the beginning of the pathway and meetings are held in school. After families, schools are the key point of contact.</p> <p>Phil thanked Alison for her presentation.</p>	
4	<p><b>VCSEs working with disabled children and young people and their parents/carers:</b></p> <p><b>Elliott McKinnell, You Can Programme Manager</b>  Elliott gave an overview of what You Can do and the activities they deliver to engage young people.</p> <p>You Can work help to develop personal, social and emotional well-being in</p>	

people aged 10-25. Elliott then explained that social development, staying safe and gaining employment were three of the main issues faced by young people.

Young people want to be able to make and keep friends and remain safe, which currently isn't being dealt with in communities, even though young people have stated they struggle with boundaries.

In regards to remaining safe, Elliott explained to the group that safeguarding issues are reoccurring in their reports as things become more difficult when children reach 18-25.

There are a number of services for children and young people, but no support to help them get jobs. Members of You Can are struggling to gain employment. Elliott played the group a video showing members of You Can discussing volunteering and unemployment.

The youth club work in partnership with several other charities and organisations, Leonard Cheshire Disability and Salford Lions were two examples. Working in partnership has allowed them to offer sessions on internet safety and volunteering projects.

You Can encourage young people to have a voice, advocate for the group, speak to other young people for further information and speak about their issues so they are known within the public domain.

Elliott ended his presentation by informing the group on ways to support the club and help with development of the charity.

Phil thanked Elliott for his presentation.

### **Deanne Shaw, Salford Parent Voice**

Deanne provided an overview of who and what Salford Parent Voice are.. There are 150 parents in the group located over 5 different regions.

They offer a platform for parents/carers of children/young people with a disability or additional needs. They work alongside parents and carers to make sure planned services meet the needs of the children and families.

The Board meet regularly at the Beacon Centre and the children have a variety of different disabilities, every child is different, with different needs and services.

Salford Parent Voice successfully launched at the Beacon Centre in March 2016. Through parent feedback it was discovered that parents wanted knowledge on how to support their children in their homes and in the community and wanted to improve social communication with their children.

They provide 'funded max' cards for parents, which allows families to save money on enjoyable days out for everyone.

	<p>Deanne explained that they are currently in the process of writing funding bids to provide training sessions requested by parents and that they are looking to recruit further steering group members.</p> <p>Phil thanked Deanne for her presentation.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Workshops:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>What more we can do in the VCSE sector to support disabled children and young people and their parents/carers?</b></li> <li>• <b>What would help us to do this?</b></li> </ul> <p>The meeting divided into small groups with the guest speakers to discuss the questions above.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Feedback and actions:</b></p> <p>Communication and linking up organisations was the key theme from the workshops. There are lots of organisations out there helping, but it needs to be clear what they do, who they help and communication from them needs to be easily accessible.</p> <p>Services need to be known in order to connect with families and provide relevant help. LM made people aware of the VOCAL CYPF newsletter and Salford CVS website, these can be utilised to advertise and increase awareness of groups and services available in Salford.</p> <p>The group agreed that emails are useful, however, they can sometimes get lost or missed and traditional means of advertising such as flyers, posters and leaflet drops are just as useful.</p> <p>LM and PE will look further into comms and how they can improve information sharing.</p> <p>People need to be aware of the great services offered in Salford, making use of current services is just as important as new methods. WUU2 a website for young people in Salford and Life in Salford magazine were suggested.</p>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>No actions from the last minutes to complete.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>VOCAL Reps Update</b></p> <p>Phil gave an overview of what and who the VOCAL Reps are and explained that they represent the sector.</p> <p>LM is contributing to work on a co-located model of people and organisations that provide early help in the West Locality, including VCSE organisations. This will spread across the city and will provide a model for how early help professionals from statutory agencies should link with the VCSE sector. The group were informed that there will be a consultation</p>	

	event at the end of October to discuss this further and that details will be circulated once a date has been secured.	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>All: updates and networking</b></p> <p>LM gave information on the City Council grant – Short Breaks Care. Application was encouraged as the grant will go if it is not spent.</p> <p>Steve Westhead, CVS Development Worker, Safeguarding, introduced himself. He will be supporting organisations with safeguarding policies and procedures. He will be developing, changing, checking policies and offering safeguarding training for both children and adult safeguarding. Steve is responsible for sending out the Children &amp; Families newsletter, which will go out once a fortnight. He advised people to email him if they wish to promote services, events; etc. Steve then advised the group of his working days, which are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.</p> <p>Jon Uttley gave an overview of the Swimming and Activity sessions provided by Sports Work. These are being held at Salford University's sports centre for 16 weeks, 8 places have been filled and there are currently 8 remaining.</p> <p>Lucy Sutcliffe informed the group on the LPOH Schools Community Partnership Challenge. The grant is for anything up to £15,000 and it is to encourage primary schools and VCSE organisations to work together on a project and create partnerships in Salford. Lucy provided her email and can help with any queries on the grant or project. She also informed the group that Salford CVS can help with relationships and provide them with advice and expertise if needed. The grant will close in the last week in October and the VCSE organisations can lead the bid.</p>	

**Date/Time of next meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10 am

**Venue:** St Sebastian's Community Centre, Douglas Green

**Chair of Meeting:** Phil East

**Minutes taken by:** Ashley Chapman, Salford CVS

**Meeting Closed at:** 12:00 noon

Action	Details	Allocated to
6.1	Look further into comms and how to improve information sharing.	LM & PE