Written Statement of Action (SEND)
Preparation for Adulthood (PFA)
Listening Event
7th July 22

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Background

A number of families contact RPCF directly with experiences around the issues they are experiencing described in the SEND local area inspection report of July 21. For further information click the link to our website:
https://www.rpcf.co.uk/local-area-send-inspection-20212

RPCF are committed to facilitating the voice and lived experience of families to reduce isolation, gather a collective voice and ultimately enable better outcomes for our young people. We are committed to working in partnership with services to shape the delivery of services our families receive. The aim of this session is looking to inform and work in partnership with parents/carers across Rotherham borough of the action being taken to address the areas of concern identified by Ofsted and CQC.

RMBC have been tasked by Ofsted and CQC to produce a WSoA (written statement of action) focusing on each of the areas of significant weakness identified by the inspectors. The WSoA sets the time frame which may be long term or short term (within 18 months) which will demonstrate progress.

RPCF are aware of some questions/queries families have around the areas of weakness identified – It was suggested that a Q and A session for parents would give a snapshot of the current experience of parent/carers.

Methodology

RPCF facilitated a virtual session with senior practitioners to address this and invited questions from participants through a pre-event consultation.
Participants remained muted throughout with option to use the chat facility for clarification.
Colleagues in attendance were:
Julie Day – Head of SEND Services for Education and Inclusion in Childrens and Young Peoples Service at RMBC
Garry Parvin – Joint Head of Commissioning Learning Disabilities and Autism, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health for RMBC, ICB & NHS
Maggie Johnson – Interim Commissioning Manager for Childrens, Young People and Maternity Services at RMBC
Kristie Denston – Team Manager for Transitions at RMBC
Deborah Johnson – RMBC Performance and Business Intelligence Manager for Central Corporate Services at RMBC
Chloe Jakes-Shawcroft –
Lauren Rochat – Interim Assistant Director for Adult Care and Integration at RMBC
Harry Clarkson – Programme Development Officer for RMBC
Helen Fisher – Head of Service in Adult Social Care, Operational Lead for Independent Living
Helen Sweaton – Joint RMBC, ICB & NHS, Assistant Director for Commissioning, Performance and Quality
Catherine Hancox – Peer Support Co-ordinator
Sarah Alexander – Neurodiversity Lead for RPCF and RANSS
Claire Callear – Strategic Business Support

Opening Statements

Jayne Fitzgerald – Strategic Manager RPCF - Jayne gave an overview of RPCF's role in the WSoA and PFA.
Preparation for Adulthood was one of the areas highlighted in the SEN local area inspection and is a workstream within the Written Statement of action, this then reports to the Department of Education and the Care Quality Commission. The reason for the listening events is a sense check of impact, of what's making a difference and what would make a difference to our parents and young people, who are also partners in providing us with those solutions. As a sense check the objectives are to understand where we're going, to make sure that things are progressing as they should be and are on track. This is also to give information to people coming in to PFA, it's Y9 and age 14 but often people don't know where to go, who to go to or how to access information on and around PFA. Any questions that can't be answered or arise from or following this session will be re-visited in the future at another listening event. We will develop a Frequently Asked Questions document; this will be treated as a live document which we can feed back to our families. To add any responses to questions or to contribute content please email Claire.callear@rpcf.co.uk

Julie Day – Head of SEND Services for Education and Inclusion in Childrens and Young Peoples Service at RMBC – Context.

As part of the remit of WSoA there are dedicated senior leaders from D of E, National Health England who work with us and have official monitoring visits. We had our first monitoring visit on 9th May, which was a discussion around everything that has been done so far around the 4 main areas of concern. We concentrated on being prepared and moving things forward, discussing the leadership and partnership process, how we own it equally and that we have the right people in the right meetings helping with the right actions and developments. It was noted that we have got off to a good start but we now need to pick up the pace and think about the evidence, the dataset, the scorecard we're designing and any kind of milestones that we can use to share at our next monitoring visit. It's important that we create the story around the actions on the plans but also what difference is it making. Kevin Rowland, our lead D of E is constantly repeating, they don't want to hear about the detail behind each action. They want to know the difference and see the figures to see how things are progressing and then look at case studies and stories of lived experiences. Also, as well as co-production with partners and multi-agency working, evidence of how SEND is equally owned by CCG, health partners, colleagues in social care and education and making sure things are moving forward in relation to that. Overall, we were judged as having a good strong start to the implementation of the WSoA and that all partners were contributing to the progress being made. We expect another monitoring visit in September, we need to start embedding and getting the evidence at dataset compiled to share in the future.

Garry Parvin – Joint Head of Commissioning Learning Disabilities and Autism, Adult Care, Housing and Public Health for RMBC, ICB &NHS – Gave an update in PFA

Update and slide presentation, **see the slide presentation appendix 1**.

Questions and Answers

Following the slide presentation Claire and Catherine asked questions on behalf of PRCF members. **See appendix 2 for the questions and answers during this session.**

Closing Statements

Jayne Fitzgerald

Thanked the practitioners and everyone else who was able to join and contribute to this session. We want to actively involve and encourage parent carer involvement, so we can represent their views accurately.

We are always on the lookout for more strategic representatives to continue this work we want to absolutely ensure that parents voices are heard within this work. Should anyone be interest in being a part of this or thinks of any further question please don't hesitate to contact us at claire.callear@rpcf.co.uk

Recommendations from the session and next steps

- We will continue the discussions
- We will organise another PFA event in the Autumn term for the questions which we were unable to ask during this session
- This report will be circulated to parents and all other relevant parties

Thank you to everyone who contributed, lived experience and sharing what works and what barriers are experienced informs policy and practice and ultimately creates better outcomes for our children and young people and their families. Together we make a difference.

Anyone interested in contributing please contact us at admin@rpcf.co.uk