

Updates from the steering group

For regular updates visit the Strategy Group pages of the Challenging Behaviour Foundation website: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

General updates

1. Engaging with people with learning disabilities

A draft easy read charter has been sent to the national Forum and will be discussed by their advocacy sub group. Vivien Cooper has had discussions with Michael Radcliffe (co-chair of the National Forum) about this work and we have asked if we can present at a National Forum meeting.

2. All Party Parliamentary Group

As you know the Steering Group were pursuing a date with the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in England. Roger Banks and Vivien Cooper have followed this up with Peter Hand (MENCAP, Senior Parliamentary Officer) and Ellen Broome (NAS & APPG autism clerk).

It has been agreed that an APPG on challenging behaviour will be held in December 2010. It will be a joint meeting between the Learning Disability APPG and the Autism APPG. Peter Hand and Ellen Broome will attend today and present more information.

3. National Children and Adult Services (NCAS) Conference

The CB-NSG has been successful in securing a policy presentation at the National Children and Adult Services (NCAS) Conference in Manchester on Wednesday 3rd November 2010. Roger Banks, Theresa Joyce and Sally Meadows have agreed to speak on behalf of the CB-NSG. An audience of approximately 1200 attendees discuss and debate the latest issues affecting children and adult services. This event is vital to councillors, senior officers, policymakers and service managers with responsibilities for children's services and adult social care in the statutory, voluntary and private sector. It is also an important opportunity for networking with partners and MP's in related fields.

4. Next national CB-NSG meeting

The next national CB-NSG meeting will take place on Friday 10th September 2010. Please make a note of the date in your diary. Venue to be confirmed. If you would like to offer a venue please contact Helen (helen@thecbf.org.uk).

5. The Charter

A list of organisations and individuals who have signed up is in your delegate pack along with a copy of the charter. Please encourage organisations and individuals to sign up. Further copies of the charter can be downloaded from the Challenging Behaviour Foundation website: www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk

An easy read version of the charter is being developed in consultation with the National Forum.

6. Website

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation has allocated a section of its website to the CB-NSG. To access these pages go to www.challengingbehaviour.org.uk and click on the Strategy Group tab. All papers relating to meetings and other useful information will be updated regularly.

Updates arising from action planning work

Planning, Commissioning and Monitoring Action Plan

1. Sarah Bernard & Jane McCarthy (South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust) – pamphlet for commissioners on workforce skills

CB-NSG members identified that an evidence based best practice pamphlet for commissioners on the importance of workforce skills would be helpful. The steering group asked members to volunteer to lead on this and Sarah Bernard (South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust) agreed to take this work forward along with Jane McCarthy. Sarah will present a draft at the next national CB-NSG meeting.

2. Jo Poynter (SHA's) – Evidence gathering regarding high cost placements

Jo Poynter (Strategic Health Authorities) has contacted 19 Commissioners in South East England to request details of the 5 most expensive placements that they commission (cost, age, gender, disability, nature of placement and future plans). 12 returns received to date. Information has been passed to Peter McGill (Tizard Centre) for analysis.

3. Tizard Centre & CBF – Valuing People Now Scoping report

The Valuing People Now (VPN) Scoping report has been drafted and will inform the Mansell 2 implementation work in the VPN delivery plan 2010-2011. The CBF are developing 2 new resources for families “Planning your House” and “Getting your House” to enable families to be well informed of the housing options when engaging with commissioners.

4. CBF – Becoming a deputy information sheet

The CBF has identified that a significant barrier to obtaining local housing is the appointment of a deputy for individuals who lack capacity to sign mortgage or tenancy agreements. The CBF is developing an information sheet for families “Getting legal authority to make decisions about money, property & welfare” (Becoming a deputy) to enable family carers to understand and negotiate this complicated process.

5. John Morgan – Promoting joint commissioning

John Morgan has been promoting joint commissioning in Buckinghamshire, Swindon and Wiltshire. Progress has been made in Buckinghamshire, where the out of area budget is now being reinvested in local services. John Morgan will continue to promote joint commissioning in Swindon and Wiltshire.

6. CBF – Family carer case studies

The CBF has carried out in depth interviews with 6 family carers regarding their experiences of support received to date and support offered for planning ahead. Key learning points have fed into the VPN Scoping report (see point 3 above) and other information will be utilised in various formats as the work of the CB-NSG progresses.

7. Request from steering group - Case studies required

It was identified at the last meeting that case studies are required to highlight the financial cost of failure to provide appropriate support. United Responses have shared the examples given in Jim Mansell's presentation at the last CB-NSG meeting in November. A request went to all members for further examples but no responses have been received to date.

Early Intervention action plan

1. Roger Banks (RCPsych) - Unified Approach Stage 2. Children & Early intervention

Roger Banks is negotiating a further working group to be led by the Royal College of Psychiatry (RCPsych) and British Psychological Society (BPS) in collaboration with other significant organisations and with children's services.

2. Roger Banks (RCPsych) & Theresa Joyce (BPS) – Pathway

Theresa Joyce and Roger Banks are currently attempting to collect examples of existing pathways / good practice with the intention of presenting a completed pathway later in the year.

3. Jill Rasmussen (Royal College of GP's) – Training requirements of GP's

Following discussions at the last CB-NSG meeting the Royal College of General Practitioner's (RCGP) will develop an e-learning module addressing challenging behaviour (via Department of Health Autism & Education Group). The proposal is for a comprehensive package that will cover all aspects of Autism Spectrum Condition's - prevalence, diagnosis, management options, specialist services, legal aspects, results of recent research. This will be appropriate for qualified and training GP's as well as other groups of health-care professionals. The proposal is under discussion at present.

4. Lisa Hopkins (Dimensions) – Capable environment pamphlet

An unallocated action arising from the last meeting was to develop a best practice guide aimed at commissioners and providers to detail the key points of a capable environment. The steering group present the proposal to Dimensions who agreed to take this work forward. Lisa Hopkins will present a draft of the pamphlet to members today.

5. Phil Boulter (Surrey & Borders NHS Trust) – Scoping of early intervention

It was agreed at last meeting that it would be useful to scope what early intervention is being provided to families in the UK. Phil Boulter agreed to take this forward via the UK Consultant Nurse Network. To date only two responses have been received (Central Lancashire & Coventry and Warwickshire).

6. Genevieve Smyth (COT) – Linking adult and children’s sections of the College

At the last meeting it was identified that there was no link established between the Adult and Children’s section of the College in respect of learning disability. The College of Occupational Therapy (COT) adult section is now linking with the specialist section for Children, Young people and Families regarding the work of CB-NSG and how to work in partnership. especially around early intervention.

7. CBF – Identify CB-NSG member from Ofsted

The CBF has contacted Ofsted and invited them to nominate a member to represent Ofsted at the CB-NSG.

8. CBF – Moving from crisis management to proactive approaches

The Department of Health have invested in a project called “Partnerships for Older People Projects” (POPPs). POPPs provide evidence of preventative interventions that work to maximise older peoples quality of life and to support them to be healthy, active and independent for longer. The CBF has contacted the programme lead (Guy Robertson) to investigate any learning or potential joint working.

Families Action Plan

1. Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) - Suite of pamphlets re support for families

The SCIE programme board has agreed to undertake this piece of work which was identified and suggested by Elaine Cass at the last CB-NSG meeting. Catriona Moore will lead this piece of work and is joining us today to get input from CB-NSG members.

2. MENCAP – Sharing policy briefings & responses to consultations

MENCAP have agreed to notify the steering group when drafting briefings and responses to consultations to enable the CB-NSG to tailor a response.

3. CBF - Linking with Carers Strategy work

Vivien Cooper has arranged to meet with Philippa Russell (Chair of Standing Commission on Carers) on 22nd March 2010 to discuss opportunities for joint working.

4. BILD - Raising awareness of CB-NSG work with the Care Quality Commission

Keith Smith (Chief Executive of BILD) will write to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) advisory group about the work of the CB-NSG to ask for an agenda slot to present the work.

5. BILD - Top Tips for professionals

CB-NSG members identified a best practice resource for professionals about working with families who have a child described as having challenging behaviour. Including “What to say” and “What not to say”. BILD will produce a draft by the end of May 2010.

6. Hannah Rutter (Department of Health) – Healthcare for all recommendations relating to family carers (Recommendations 1, 3 & 4)

Hannah Rutter has provided a comprehensive list of the work that has been taken forward in response to the 3 *Healthcare for All* recommendation listed above (training, family carer involvement and informing local planning and commissioning). Hannah Rutter suggests two opportunities: 1. Engage with local self assessment framework and creation of LDPB reports to ensure they reflect the needs of those whose behaviour challenges. 2. According to the Ombudsmen’s recommendations, all NHS and social care bodies should have received board reports by the end of March on whether they have the systems, capability and capacity to meet the needs of people with learning disabilities. It may be worth following up locally to see if the needs of those whose behaviour challenges have been considered as part of this.

7. Peter Oakes (University of Hull) - Family centred planning

CB-NSG members questioned if a “family centred” approach to planning was an option. Peter Oakes (University of Hull) has indicated that there is an increasing interest in a family based approach with general child and adolescent work based around restorative practice. An idea originating in the criminal justice system, but now used more widely. It focuses on being collaborative and positive with families and professionals working together to deal with problems and identify positive ways of moving forward.

8. Peter McGill (Tizard) - DCSF national indicators of family satisfaction behaviour subgroup data

Peter McGill has requested access to the behaviour subgroup data from the Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF). This has been refused on the grounds that further reports are being published in the near future which may contain the information – the DCSF only provides data when there is a “Business case” for doing so. Peter McGill will monitor the reports being published by the DCSF.

9. John Clement (Independent Psychologist) – Learning from the Layard report

John Clements has reported that the Layard report was produced by a unit at the London School of Economics that Professor Layard heads up. It was not a hugely substantive piece of work but has led to the government immediately funding two pilot schemes (Doncaster and Newham) and promising many more millions to extend the work. Why such an impact?...The report was really about getting people off benefit and back to work and so appealed to a broader direction in government policy...even though the action suggested was unusual...getting more people access to talk based therapy, especially Cognitive Behaviour Therapy...but the thrust was economic. Implications for us? It is always good to have friends well connected in high places. If we are going to pursue an economic argument then I suggest we need the help of a serious and credible economist. We could certainly steal some of Layard's clothes...the funded initiatives go out under the heading of Improving Access to Psychological Therapy...kind of what we are asking for too... we need to push for competence in services and ease of access not more of any particular profession.

10. CBF & BILD - Scoping funding for family carer training

CBF has contacted 9 regional carer leads with 4 responses received to date. No clear route for funding opportunities has emerged with responses indicating that local authorities do not have a budget for family carer training as such.