

Note of meeting: Secure Care Champs Group: May 31, 2022

Attendees: Ruby Whitelaw (Chair and notes), Kerry Watson (Keeping Families Together), Alison Melville (Scottish Government), Julia Swann (CYCJ), Gary Peebles (Kibble), Diane Cafferky (GSC), Angela Boyle (SMK), Lizzie Thomson (CELCIS), Emma Miller (Talking Hope), Ashley Gilchrist (Dundee), Shannon Buchan (Dumfries & Galloway)

Apologies: Lesley Mollison (Rossie), Leona Donnelly (GSC), Diane Dobie (South Lanarkshire), Leah Findlay (Dundee City Council), Josie Clark, Natalie Donaghy, Fiona Lorrain-Smith (Highlands), Louise Morrison (GSC), Alison Gough (GSC)

Agenda:

1. Introductions and Welcome new attendees
 2. Note from last minute
 3. Update since last session
 4. Input: Cyrenians Keeping Families Together
 5. Input: Talking Hope
 6. Standards focus
 7. AOB
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1. RW stated that there had been a few apologies prior to the meeting which was likely to be quieter than usual this week. DC also advised that the meeting time clashed so she sent apologies for colleagues at the GSC, she was representing this centre. Introductions given from the new members to the group.
 2. The group advised that they have accessed the minutes through the website. No issues from the minute.
 3. Ruby updated the group on progress with the Standards work sharing a powerpoint presentation (available on the Standards website). There is a greater awareness of the Standards although this has not translated everywhere. There is recognition that information is needed to ensure that communication is clearer and there was agreement that not everyone is good at evidencing the Standards or finding the right information. Posters and snap fax information is only a small part of the jigsaw. DC spoke about how GSC have incorporated the Standards into the referral form and this is shared with all local authorities. They also ask if young people are aware of the Standards. AB spoke about how SMK are chipping away at some of the stereotypes people have around children who require secure care. At the point of referral they are having conversations about taking an individualised approach. DC said that there has been greater joint working and discussions around the use of the main entrance have resulted in more detailed discussions about the layout of the centre. The GSC has introduced a video tour re the garage or the front door promoting choice. This will be the approach until the new entrance is in place.
 4. Input from Kerry Watson from Cyrenians Keeping Families Together (see powerpoint presentation on the Standards website)
 5. Input from Emma Miller from Talking Hope (see powerpoint presentation on the Standards website)
 6. The following Standards were explored in today's session. 26. My family, and people I care about, are encouraged and supported to stay connected with me and are treated with dignity, compassion and respect. There is a welcoming, friendly and comfortable environment for us to meet. 27. If my time with my family and others I care about is

supported, supervised or restricted, this happens sensitively and I fully understand the reasons for this and these are recorded. 28. My rights to safely access digital technology are upheld and actively supported. This encourages connection with people who are important to me.

AB spoke about the standards set at SMK re relationships, knowing when to support, being aware of neurodiversity, recognising when visits are overwhelming. Recognised that some people find it difficult to speak to care staff, really simple things can make a difference. Introducing a fidget gadget and rocking chair validated a parent's experience. Had envisaged blue sky thinking, parental input on learning self-regulation, visit planning. EM opportunistically asked if AB would be interested in working with Talking Hope to write a blog or to develop something for the toolkit that would be of benefit to families. They agreed to catch up outwith the meeting.

LT spoke about the importance of family time with brothers and sisters. New legislation, what does this look like.

Discussed self-evaluation re Standards. Family rooms, family supported to manage difficulties, needs of siblings, conflict, use of the kitchen and everyday life events, messy play, games of football, family swimming and toys/games (SMK). GSC similar although covid has impacted. Pride self on unity – good family spaces. Spoke about brothers playing football. The visitor's room has been revamped. Privacy and dignity activity focussed. Relationship building is very important.

7. Discussion about the format of the meeting and strong view that specialist input is valued as it allows people to learn about resources available across Scotland. The next meeting in six – eight weeks will be organised via doodle poll.

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