# Lambeth and Southwark CHSWG- Wednesday 14th October

* Sasha Sarapenko- Parent rep, Lambeth.
* Joseph Freeman- Parent rep, Lambeth.
* Nicola Freeman- Parent rep, Southwark.
* Petra Mitchinson- Community Paediatrician, Lambeth.
* Louise Englund- NHSP Lead.
* Susanna Keusch- Speech and Language Therapist, Lambeth and Southwark.
* Arthur Cefai- TOD, Southwark.
* Sue Hawkins- TOD, Lambeth.
* Alison Lawson- NDCS Representative.
* Keiran Joseph- Children’s Audiology, Evelina London.
* Susan King O’Neil – TOD, Southwark

# Terms of Reference- Susanna

* Our Terms of Reference have been drafted by Susanna using the NHS England: “What works?” document template.
* One point for discussion: Making minutes available to the public. How could we do this?
* Discussed creating CHSWG website, using NDCS forum posts, or the local authority website.
* Agreed to explore having a short sentence and a contact name on the local authority/ HSS website
* Also discussed updating the minute’s distribution emailing list if needed. (Could include details of this in the line to be shown on local authority websites).
* Second discussion point: suggested frequency of meetings.
* Agreed to change to at least 3 times a year, perhaps every other month. Next meeting confirmed for 1pm Weds 16th Dec for 1 hour.
* Third discussion point: Chair and Vice Chair.
* Keiran agreed to take the first year, with Caroline Jackson from Children’s Audiology as Vice Chair.
* Planning to rotate this across services and parents with the next Chair due to start in our July 2021 meeting.
* **Action Points  
  :** Keiran to circulate ToR for any final comments.

**:** HSS to explore using local authority websites to advertise meeting minutes distribution list.

# Updates from All- Chaired by Keiran

* Susanna (Lambeth and Southwark SALT): Back in school. Caseloads opened up. Seeing under 5s also (mixture of virtual and F2F at local clinics).
* Louise (NHSP): Kept screening throughout lockdown, even though some local clinics were closed. Screened 95% despite this. Audiology helped with this by redeploying staff.
* Nicola (Parent representative): Schools don’t seem to have a plan for another lockdown? (For visitors to schools). Any means/ approach to start querying this?
* Arthur Cefai (Southwark HSS): Concerns with seeing early year’s patients as no local space free and no home visits allowed, but schools visits running smoothly. Look in to improving reports distribution.
* Sue Hawkins (Lambeth HSS): Lambeth Edu Div meeting recently. Director of Education says all Lambeth schools are ready to run online, if needed. Also been using a local space to have parents attend.
* Note from Keegan re Post 16: Lambeth College students from another borough still need to be referred to their local service.
* Sasha Sarapenko (Parent representative): Going well at schools with bubbles- less sharing of support staff etc is actually beneficial. Catch up fund- booked telecon with SENCo to see how this will be used. Benefitted from SLT virtual apt with advice on tasks to do at home. Also going to try and get login details for Lambeth group.
* Petra Mitchinson (Community Paediatrician): 12 new borns have been referred this year. 3 older children. No clinics from April-August. Started virtual appts to take history but still will need F2F to examine. Managed 6 virtual appts and 4 F2F.
* Keiran (Children’s Audiology): Updates from YTD stats. Every child referred from NHSP has been seen on referred for a targeted follow up. Petra asked about FSAs- KJo confirmed we have 50 waiting. Hoping to clear 20 in Oct and 10-15 pcm going forward. Audiology has increased to 100% of pre-covid number of appointments seen per month, but some remains video/telephone consultations and this will continue for the foreseeable future. The numbers of children waiting for appointments rose significantly during covid but have started to reduce over the last couple of months. Without any further changes to national guidance we anticipate reaching our pre-covid waiting list levels by Feb/March-21.
* ENT (Keiran): Keiran confirmed that the ENT service manager is on the minute’s distribution list and hoping to attend a future appointment. Referral rate for BC aids hasn’t notably gone up, but we are fitting more BC aids as we are taking a more proactive stance knowing about the change in ENT guidance.
* Alison Lawson (NDCS): Offices are still closed. Did discuss opening in Feb 21, but TBC. Parents training is going online. Mostly starting in Nov. Still offering F2F support but likely to be more triaged. Helpline is still open. Encouraging parents to utilise online forums.

# Catch up Fund

* Some professionals/ parents held a meeting on the Catch up Fund and agreed to question schools on how they plan to utilise this.
* TODs agreed to speak to schools regarding specific difficulties deaf children may be having since Covid 19.
* Letters to schools explaining the impact of COVID on Deaf children have been drafted from HSS boroughs and are in the process of being sent.
* TODs are not able to access the funding, it is sent directly to schools.
* **Action Points**: Parents to ask schools for their plans/ specific documentation on how the fund is being used

: NDCS to consider writing an open letter to schools requesting the same information.

# School Screening

* Alison Lawson (NDCS): Did Covid have an effect on school screening?
* Keiran discussed how this is not currently a service available in Lambeth and Southwark. Petra recalled there being a service but it was abolished in early 2000’s.
* There is a service run by school nursing teams in some other boroughs in the region. A lot of referrals are received from these programmes but anecdotally pick up rate is very low.

# CHSWG Action Plan

* A method of documenting the actions plans of the CHSWG and monitor their progress. Attempted to add some examples for Education today but opted to distribute with the minutes and ask each area to add the sections relevant to them and return to Keiran to collate in advance of the next meeting.
* **Action Points**  
  : Individual services to identify any areas that they are working on and add to action plan  
  : Feedback to Keiran before next meeting.

Next meeting 16/12/2020: Focus on reviewing and agreeing action plan.