



National Network of Parent Carer Forums
'Our Strength Is Our Shared Experience'

NNPCF Steering Group Meeting

Monday 2nd October 2017

Mott MacDonald, 10 Fleet Place, London, EC4M 7RB.

10:30 – 15:30

Present:

Maureen Morris (NE) (Co-chair)
Mrunal Sisodia (EE) (Co-chair)
Dave Nutting (EM)
Doug Morris (SW)
Fazilla Amide (LND)
Fiona Beard (YH)
Kath Bromfield (NW)
Kay Moore (LND)
Lara Roberts (SE)
Mrunal Sisodia (EE)
Tina Emery (SW)
Zara Bowden (WM)
Sarah Gallimore (Minutes)

1. Welcome

The co-chairs welcomed the group to the meeting. Tina Emery was introduced as the newest member. As there are 3 new members to the group (Tina Emery, Fazilla Amide, Kath Bromfield), each member was asked to provide an in-depth introduction about their personal and professional lives.

2. Induction of New Steering Group Reps and Handbook

The South East steering group role is up for re-selection next, then it will be the North East and then Yorkshire and Humber. LR will be putting together a handbook for new steering group representatives, which will be made available for both the steering group and national team.

The terms of office might be changed at the next annual conference. There were all sorts of external factors that affected the terms. It would be better to stagger the selection process. 4 years feel better as a term. You are also limited by the 0-25 function.

3. National Reps Planning Day

What is the objective of the day? We want them to feel part of the team. We probably need to start with an apology. We have established a process but we need to start embedding them. Plate spinning. Clarity around the role – what does it entail? Making expectations clearer. It might be asking them about how they feel and what they feel about the process. Helping national reps understand the steering group role. The group outlined soft and hard objectives.

The group took a brief recess for lunch.

KM raised the issue of Brexit report and specifically in relation to parent carers who are not British citizens.

As people are changing over from DLA to PIP transport is an issue. They have changed the criteria for many things, home school transport, Blue badges, carer bus passes.

If you are getting motability (either DLA or PIPs) LAs are trying to means test through the back door. Motability only covers 2 drivers, also if you're carer is under the age of 25 they can't use it.

Transports should be one of our talking points for next year.

Accommodation for post 16, adapted housing needs. The high proportion of debt that people have accrued. Homelessness and evictions will increase. The rules on supported accommodation – local authorities are not making movements on this issues because they are waiting for the government to clarify the situation. The rules are going to change. National Preparedness for Adulthood team have just published some new guidance on housing.- PFA.

4. Website Redesign

Over the summer ZB has reviewed the NNPCF website. There are quick wins that are available to us. Some of the images need to be changed, some of the images and the text needs rejigging. The website will be reviewed over the next few months. MS discussed us creating an 18month business plan after the AGM. We will have that direction from our members. DM – don't underestimate how much time this will take you.

5. IPSEA DfE legal workshops.

There is a second round of workshops taking place. This is not a workshop that is open to all parent carers. The DfE are making this available to local authorities and they are inviting the NNPCF to attend.

6. Annual Report

The steering group discussed the annual report and looked at further amendments.

7. Participation Contract.

An email has gone out to forums from Contact. The group discussed the Parent Carer Participation Contract.

8. Doug Morris

The Steering group bade farewell to Doug Morris the South West Steering group representative. Doug's contributions and commitment to the Network have been un-floundering and relentless, his vision and approach has been instrumental to the Network's future. The group were saddened to see DM step down in his steering group role and wished him all the best for the future.