



Family
Voice
Peterborough

July 1

2016

This report refers to the organisation known as Family Voice Peterborough (working name FVP). The report details the agenda, attendance, themes and outcomes from the conference held on 1st July 2016 which took place in partnership with Peterborough City Council.

Report for
FVP 6th
Annual
Conference

Contents

1. Introduction
2. on the agenda
3. Attendees
4. – 6. On the day
7. Information from workshops
8. Feedback from workshops
9. – 12. Conference Feedback
13. – 14. Questions Asked
15. Conference Analysis

Introduction

The following information has been included in previous reports and still applies “*Family Voice Peterborough (FVP) as well as being a registered charity is also a Parents Forum who provides a collective voice for parents/ carers at strategic level with the aim of improving services for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs. One way to meet this aim is through the hosting of open meetings to bring parents/ carers and professionals together.*”

The open meeting (annual conference) facilitates wider participation in service development with information gathered on the day being fed in to local service design, development and implementation. Wider engagement is possible and key messages can be shared jointly with parents and professionals at the same time.

This year’s conference is the 6th formal annual conference FVP have hosted and is the second to be held fully in partnership with Peterborough City Council. Venue costs and professional input for workshops were provided by Peterborough City Council with speakers, the programme for the day and behind the scene running of the day provided by FVP staff, parent reps and volunteers.

On The Agenda

9:25	Participation in Peterborough OFSTED/ CQC Area Wide Inspections (Holistic View) Update on SEN and Inclusion developments in Peterborough	Stewart Jackson MP Brian Lamb OBE Led by Sheelagh Sullivan <i>Peterborough City Council</i>
10.30	Refreshment Break	
10.45	Work shops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparing for Adulthood (RB/ SR/ JM) 2. OFSTED for Schools (BL) 3. Care assessments, care plans & carer's rights (CB)
11.30	Feedback	
11.40	Panel Q&A	All
12.00	Lunch & Networking	
12.45	CAMHs Transformation and Q&A	Lee Miller CCG
13.15	Workshops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personal Budgets (CG/ JR/ SR) 2. SEN Information & LO (BL) 3. Q&A With Sheelagh Sullivan & SEN Services Inclusion Managers
14.00	Feedback	
14.15	Close	

Attendees

- ❖ Parents/ Carers/ Grandparents
 - 29 parents/ carers/ Grandparents attended the conference
- ❖ Professionals/ organisations
 - 44 attendees were professionals/ representatives from across the LA, Health or 3rd Sector.
 - Irwin Mitchell, Peterborough Regional College, Carers Trust, Independent Support (Scope), Inspire, Healthwatch, Peterborough and District Deaf Children Society, Peterborough SEN and Inclusion Service

On The Day

Attendance was slightly less than the previous year and unlike previous years the conference was held on a Friday. The topics were received well too. It was good to have the conference opened by Stewart Jackson MP and to be able to welcome back Brian Lamb OBE as the key note speaker who not only acted as key note speaker but also hosted two workshops; one in the morning and one in the afternoon both of which were well attended.

There was a lower number of parent carers in attendance than in previous years again with a marked increase in professional attendance especially professionals from an educational background. This meant unlike previous years there was roughly equal attendance between parents and professionals attendance was weighted towards professionals.

As with the previous year's conference the highest self-reported area of SEND from parent carers was Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) although other areas of need were also represented.

The most popular workshops were Care assessments, care plans & carer's rights with Irwin Mitchell Solicitors and SEN Services with Sheelagh Sullivan and SEN team members. The panel Q & A was also used again as it had proved popular the previous year. This time though no questions were sought ahead of the day. All questions during the morning were recorded on post it notes and a selection was then read out by the facilitator for the panel to answer. All questions will be placed on the Local Offer with answers in due course.

Work Shop Topics / Notes

Preparing for Adulthood (PfA)

The PfA workshop was hosted by the PCC SEND Training Co-ordinator who produced a brief report some of which is included as an appendix to this report. This session was attended by Local Authority, Health and other professionals as well as some parent carers who have young people aged over 16.

Care assessments, care plans & carer's

This workshop had the highest attendance out of the morning workshops and was particularly popular with parent carers and Education professionals. The presentation was led by Caroline Barrett from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors. A presentation was given with some questions asked and answered. A copy of the presentation can be downloaded from the FVP website events page <https://www.familyvoice.org/Events>

OFSTED for Schools

The OFSTED for schools workshop was delivered by Brian Lamb and the main group to attend where School SEN staff.

Personal Budgets

The Personal Budgets workshop was led by LA and Health Commissioners and provided those in the room the opportunity to inform and shape messages about personal budgets to be shared with the public. A leaflet will be placed on the Local Offer incorporating the views of those in the workshop.

Open SEN Session

The open session was the most popular session of the afternoon workshops and a variety of questions were asked and notes were taken by a FVP parent representative. The questions and answers are included in the full set of event questions and answers which will be available on the LO.

SEN Information Report and Local Offer

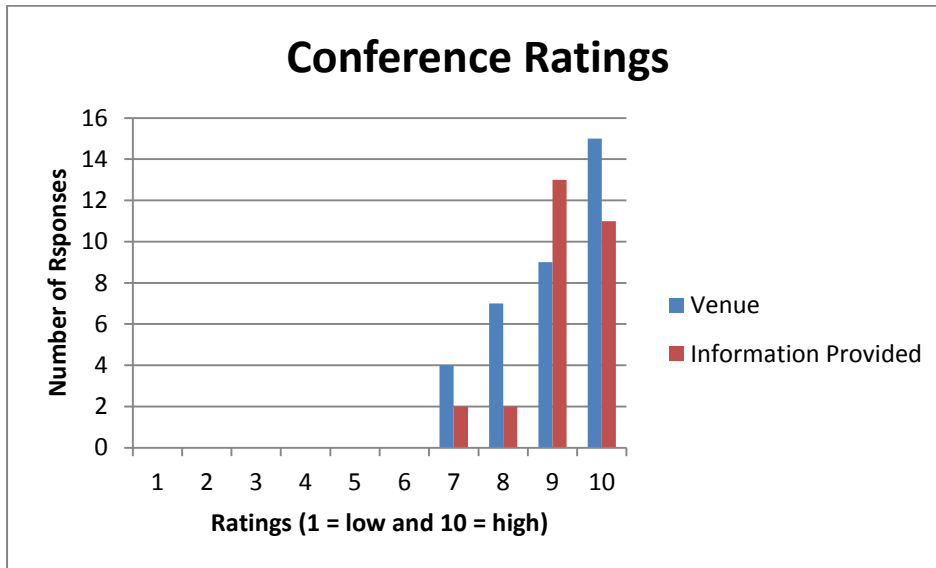
The SEN information workshop was generally attended by school staff and LA representatives.

Conference Feedback

Table 1: Children/ Young People Details

number	Age	Disability	nursery/school college	Gender	Ethnicity
1	15	Asd,Adhd,Dyslexia, Aplastic anaemia	Gretton special school	M	British
2	8,6	ASD, SPD, Epilepsy, hearing loss, club foot	copass, ravensthorpe	M/F	British
3	11,10,9	Dyspraxia,Autism, high functioning autism	kings, southfields primary	M,F,M	British
1	20	Muscular Dystrophy	peterborough college	M	Chinese
2	14,12	ASD,ADHD,ASD, Tourettes	bourne academy	M,M	
3		Ld, psychosis,sensory, behavioural, adhd	Marshfeilds, fletton, eyrescroft	M,F,M	white british
2	12,9	SPD,ASD,AUTISM, SPD, POSSIBLE FASD	Nene Park, home education	M,M	British/American
2	11,5	Autism, ADHD, SPD, Anxiety	Copass, ormiston meadows	M,M	
1		Aspergers, Dyspraxia	stanground academy	F	White/Native american
1		Autism, LDS	CAMBS	M	
1	14	Learning disability		M	British
1			Park lane Primary	F	White British
1		Autism	Copass	M	British
2	18,16	Aspergers, ASD	Nene Park, Copass	M,F	British
3		Dyslexia	Secondary	F,F,M	British
1	8	Autism and Tourettes	Longthorpe	M	British

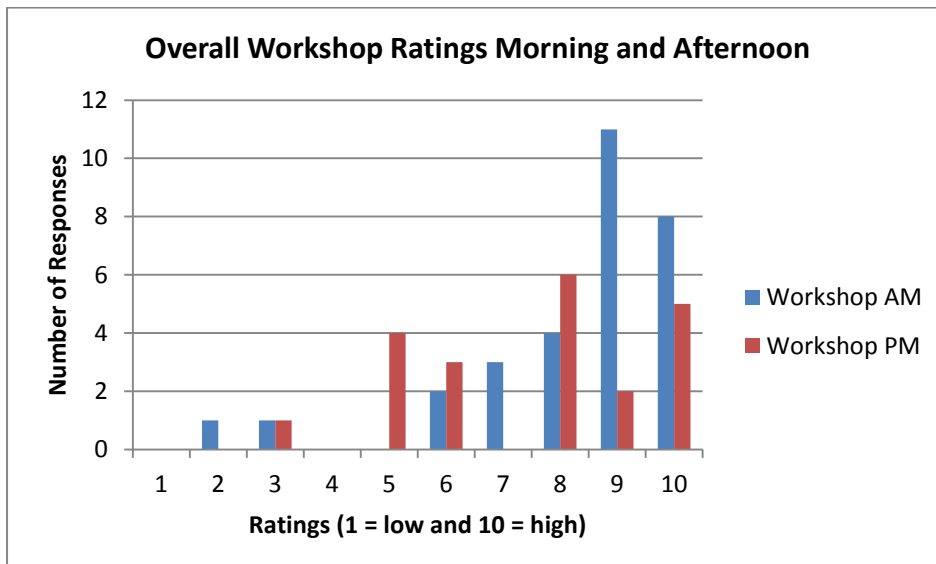
Chart 1



The chart shows how overall attendees rated the conference for Information and the Venue; The conference was rated well for information provided with all those who completed the forms rating it as over five. Overall of the forms returned 35 people rated the venue and 32 rated the information provided.

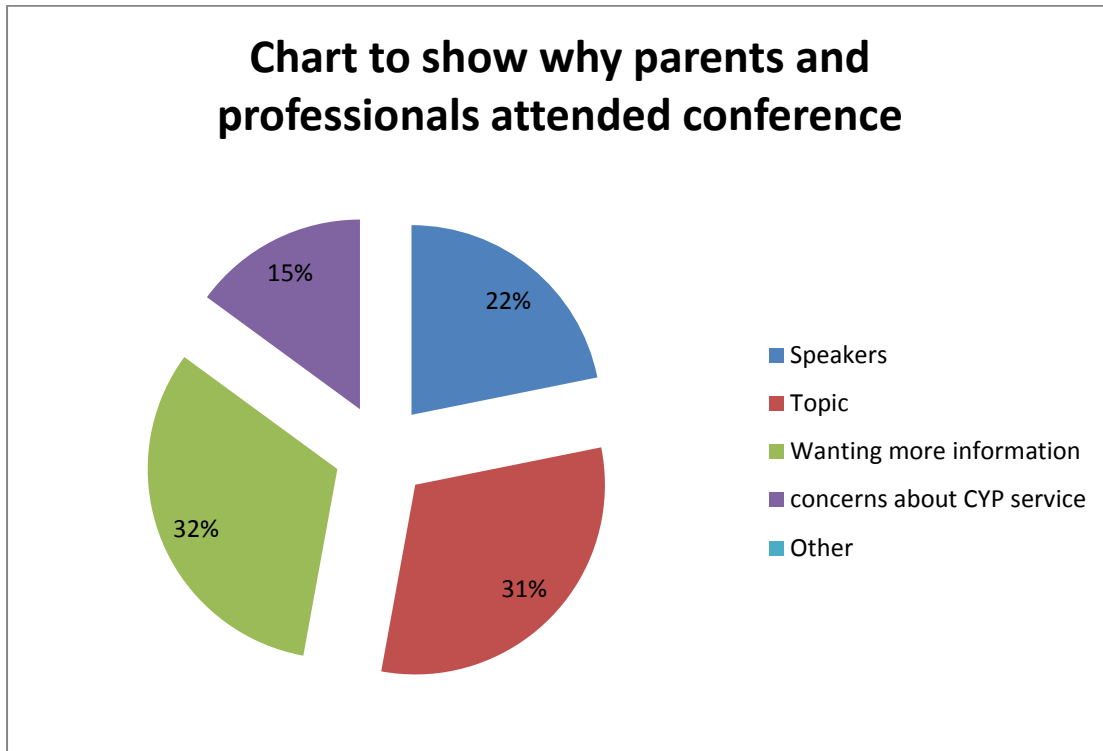
Of the 32 who rated the venue 34% rated the information provided as a 10 and only 6% rated it as 7 which was the lowest rating score selected.

Chart 2



The workshops were also rated 30 people rating the morning workshops and 21 rating the afternoon workshops. Overall the morning 93% of attendees rated the morning workshops at over five and 76% rated the afternoon workshops at over five.

Chart 3

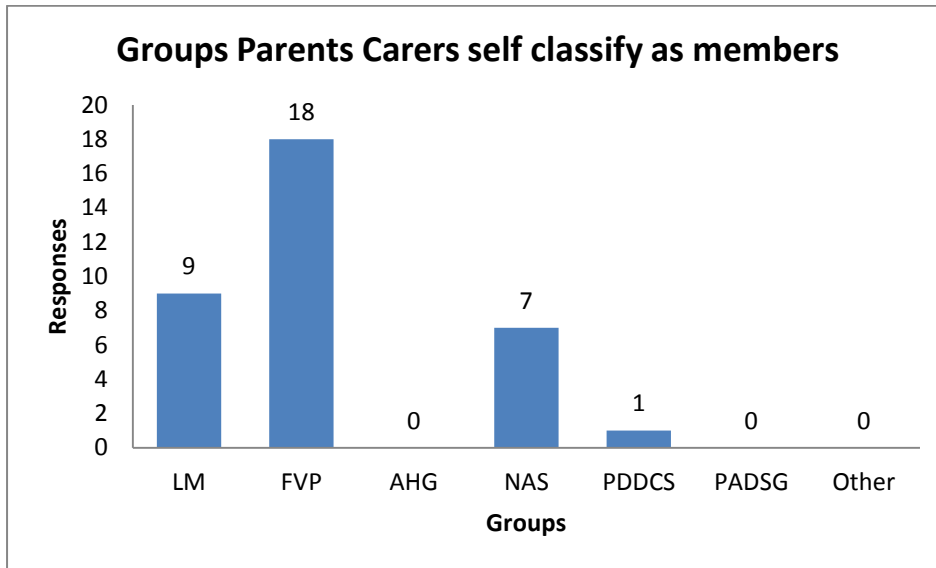


At 31% the most popular reason for attending the conference was recorded as “wanting more information” followed as a close second choice by “topic”

Some attendees provided comments as well as selecting the pre-defined reasons for attendance which are as follows:

- Networking, Education and sen provision,
- Networking with families and colleagues,
- Information stand,
- Interest in Camhs,
- FVP Rep,
- Able to display information

Chart 4



To ascertain how many parent carers are being reached in terms of what groups (charities/ organisations/ support groups) they class themselves as members of the feedback form also asks parents to select the groups they attend/ see themselves as members with. Parents could select more than one group and overall FVP was selected the most.

Table 2:

Which parts of the conference did you find most useful and why?
info on carers rights and whats our rights and kids rights
Workshops
Liked SEN update, Lee miller Update
Workshop and gather more information personally
Speakers
All Topics
The workshops, Irwin mitchell info great
Update on sen services in Peterborough
emotional wellbeing
Workshop was informative, sen updates and ofsted useful
ofsted, local offer, hearing feedback from other carers
Ofsted and send framework, knowledge is power
key messages about services
All of the speakers and questions and answers useful
Information ofsted and camhs
camhs talk
Shelagh's presentation Q & A
The speakers - especially CAMH
information about Camhs,ofsted and sen updates

SEN and local offer
Transition to adulthood
workshops and networking
CAMH info
workshops - very informative
Networking with parents and professionals
Sharing Ideas, hearing about the picture in peterborough
All of it to be fair. Nice to get refreshed and get it right
N/A
Networking and workshops
Care assessments workshop and great useful information
Found it all useful
Camhs feedback from Lee/ ofsted info
Irwin mitchell workshop
Post 16 transitions, networking with professionals
Q/A and PFA
Qusetion and answer session

Table 3

Which parts of the conference did you find least useful and why?
some ridiculous comments regarding educational psychology
nothing although PFA workshop was a bit one way - giving ideas rather than learning
Good to see lovely families we have previously worked with. Presenters and workshop
Questions asked too specific to personal circumstance, dominated by some parents.
would struggle to find anything not useful
limited knowledge of specific legislation
PM Q AND A - More appropriate for parents
funding
Angry parents without the understanding of the pressures that the new reforms have brought with them
camhs
Q AND A regarding personal budgets
workshop too rushed. Would have loved to attend more of them
none of it to be fair
Camhs transformation - awkward to stay focused on speaker

Table 4

How will this conference help you as a parent/ professional?
I can now make a complain and understand what our rights as a family are.
The information will help to understand send better
Good to be met p'b parents, contacts, cambs and UK wide info.
know more about the system and get the right help
More info on changes on mental health
I now know how hard I have to fight for the services available
updated my current information and services
Increased awareness of send and the the way forward
Greater depth of knowledge about my portfolio and associated services
greater awareness of different areas
provide contacts and pathways to support my child in their education
better understanding of ofsted local inspections and school inspections
I am always willing to take new learning into areas of work
Further informed to support
Meeting new parent/carers, awareness in the community
More information, contacts, sign - posting
FVP voice representations to have stepped in when SEND team were being bullied.
it helps because it tells us where the council is locally
I have been able to meetsome people who can help me with my childs needs
Generally keep updated on changes
Help me to understand this aspect with my work when signposting people
bridging the gap between cambridge and peterborough and feel more confident
all to be fair set out well
Would have liked to cover all workshops
Better informs parents on certain issues within LA and health
improve school policy and provision
Many parents we work with need pointing in the right direction of obtaining reviews
Proceeding into the future pathways for my child
EHC Help
Very much

Table 5

What could we have done better?
bit rushed, maybe a little more time time or held over 2 days
A Biscuit at coffee time, list of delegates
explain jargon terms before putting on powerpoint

Timings
workshops should have been longer
deaf interpreter
more time on workshops and biscuits at morning break
as always was amazing
more advice from professionals who are not employed by the LA
Nothing
FVP voice representations to have stepped in when SEND team were being bullied.

Tables 2 to 5 are used to present the answers to feedback form questions:

1. Which parts of the conference did you find most useful and why?
2. Which parts of the conference did you find least useful and why?
3. How will this conference help you as a parent/ professional?
4. What could we have done better?

The speakers and topics appear to have been the most popular responses to what was found to be most useful with a sense that the conference was more geared towards parents being the more frequent choice for what was found least useful and why.

Overall when asked how the conference will help you the most popular reason appears to be more informed and knowledgeable about the topics at the end.

When asked for what could be done better a popular suggestion was longer timings for workshops and different timings.

Conference Analysis

The conference was fairly well attended and the themes were popular with attendees from all areas. More time needs to be spent on working towards professionals and parents breaking down barriers to participation together. The SEND reforms are still a work in progress and working together will go some way to make sure children/ young people benefit in relation to individual participation.

The presentation on CAMHs led to a variety of questions and showed more in required to help parents and professionals understand the changes and new pathways to access services. Parents also took the opportunity to put their names forwards to be enabled to participate on an individual basis in the changes.

Generally feedback was positive with some useful suggestions for improvement being provided including; a deaf interpreter, longer workshops and biscuits as well as tea/ coffee for refreshments.

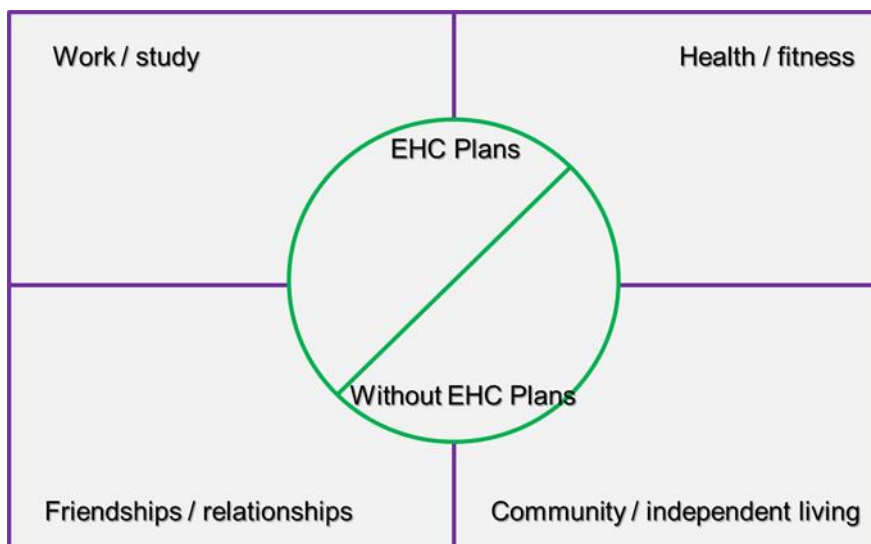
Appendix 1 – PfA Workshop Report

Family Voice Peterborough - Date of report: 13 July 2016

Annual Conference 2016 - Preparing for Adulthood Workshop

During the Family Voice Peterborough Annual Conference 2016, a short 45 minute workshop on the topic of Preparing for Adulthood was held.

Structure of workshop: A brief overview of the national and local developments under the theme of helping young people with SEND prepare for their adult lives was delivered. This was followed by approximately 25 minutes of group discussions around aspects of this arena that parents and professionals. The discussion groups were provided with a template discussion note paper illustrated below:



After the group discussions a few notes were made on topics that didn't fit the topics on the discussions notes templates. Please see Appendix 1 for a full list of the notes made from these discussions.

Next steps: The notes taken during the workshop will help inform the priorities of the Preparing for Adulthood sub-group of the SEND Reforms Project Group in Peterborough City Council in the next academic year (2016-17). Relevant notes will also be shared with other professional services including the Local Offer team.

An initial review of the notes from the discussions reveals that there were generally two types of requests made: services or information.

Most of the additional information requested could be displayed on the Local Offer and these notes will be passed on to the City Council Local Offer team. Careful thought will also be given over how to raise awareness of the existence and source of this information to young people and parents.

Requests for services will be reviewed by the Preparing for Adulthood sub-group to consider how it could investigate or facilitate the commissioning of such services. Family Voice Peterborough are a member of the sub-group.

Further information about the impact of this workshop will be reported to Family Voice Peterborough through the next academic year as the sub-group progresses.

Appendix 2 – Questions Asked

1. During an EHC Plan assessment if the LA request an assessment from a certain area of health. Are they required to fulfil this request or can they refuse? Is there a time frame in which they are required to do requested assessments for an EHC Plan?
2. If you are responsible for camhs across Cambs and P'boro. Why is only one of these areas recognising the diagnosis of PDA (pathological demand avoidance syndrome).
3. Why is most training in schools around autism? When most issues in school are around ADHD? My child will not get into the correct school for his need as he doesn't qualify.
4. After daughter had her hearing aids fitted. Why are the school allowed to wait until a report of PCC came (2 months to do a care plan for her).
5. Can we inform parents about the movement of deadlines. EHC 2 weeks
6. EHC to be completed by August. Are we given a grace period for planning in the first term.
7. Should be compulsory for parent's requests of assessments taken seriously or is it possible to appeal direct to LEA.
8. Missing from education – how quickly should they be highlighted and parents met.
9. How do you intend to ensure parents are given the information required to challenge a school and to seek outside support.
10. Progress – is gifted classed as additional needs and how can we challenge schools to ensure children progress to the best of their ability.
11. Can schools be allocated more than 3 hours per term from an educational psychologist.
12. Can the local authority provide any support for EHCP reviews with EAL families i.e. translation
13. Should not need to work extra hard when inspections as this indicates that they only work when inspection is due.
14. EHCP – Why start process if clear they won't be finalised or even drafts?
15. We have been waiting since January for a draft copy.
16. Please confirm appeal process of the legal fee that PCC Pay out and come out of the send budget.
17. Do you think it is vital for a send parent who cannot afford legal advice?