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# FVP Interim Report

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August – December  
2019

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FVP Parent Representatives

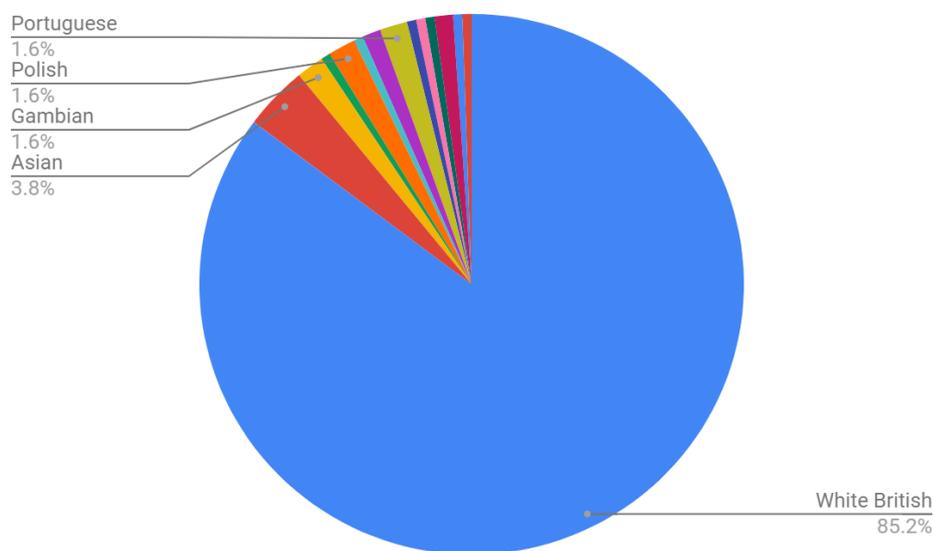
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Introduction:

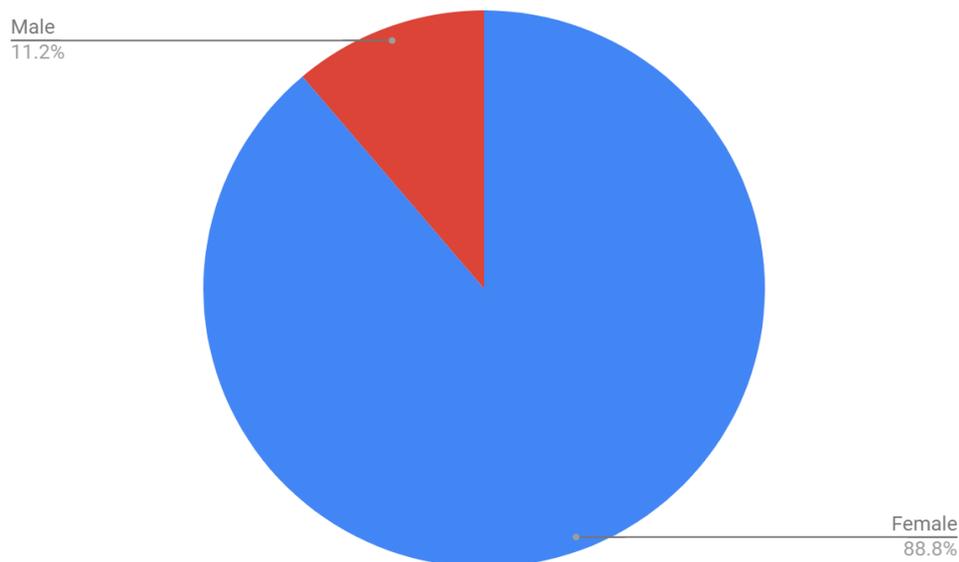
This period has been one of heightened levels of parental engagement and strategic work. A number of new partnerships have been forged, including closer working with Phoenix School and Cherry Lodge as providers of services for children and young people with profound and complex needs. In addition we have continued our drive to engage parent carers from seldom heard groups, with a new outreach officer joining our team.

Population

From August 1st - December 31st we have engaged with a total of 150 named parent carers on 373 occasions. We also engage with parent carers informally in situations which will be discussed below, and while we do use their experiences to shape our work we do not record specific data on their demographics. The demographics of our named parent carers are displayed below:



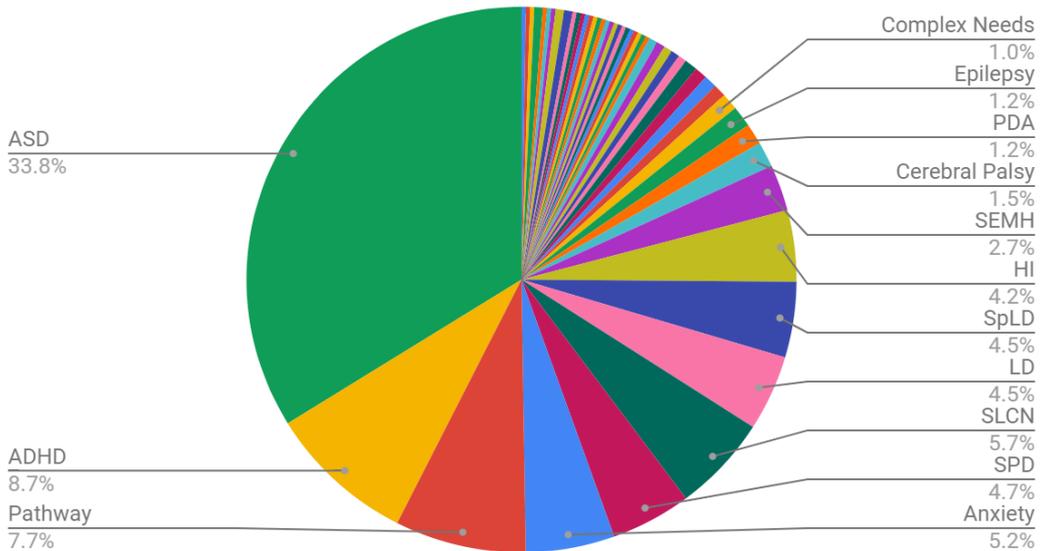
**Fig. 1 Ethnicity of Participating Parent Carers  
July - December 2019**



**Fig. 2 Gender of Participating Parent Carers July - December 2019**

As per our previous interim report, the majority of individuals who have engaged with the forum have been White British females. During this period 8 males have engaged strategically. This number is a lot lower than the first three month period of 2019/2020 which saw 19 males engaging. In order to address this, Family Voice Peterborough (FVP) is investigating the possibility of hosting events specifically to target a male parent carer audience. FVP have maintained a close working relationship with the Aiming High Group – a community of Asian mothers who all have children with a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND). In addition to this, FVP’s outreach worker has engaged with a number of specific BAME groups within the city, including forging links with a Lithuanian community which has led to representatives attending Saturday school gatherings. Contacts have also been made with leaders within the East Timor, Latvian, Nigerian, Syrian, Ghanaian and Portuguese communities. Work is underway to build upon these contacts to forge a trusting relationship whereby we are able to access parent carers within these communities to offer advice and signposting, as well as feeding their views into our strategic work. Within this period we have held one participation activity aimed specifically at engaging Seldom Heard families – a day trip to Drayton Manor attended by 92 individuals, whereby parent carer views were gathered during the coach journey.

## Histogram



**Fig. 3 Child/Young Person SEND as reported by parent carers**

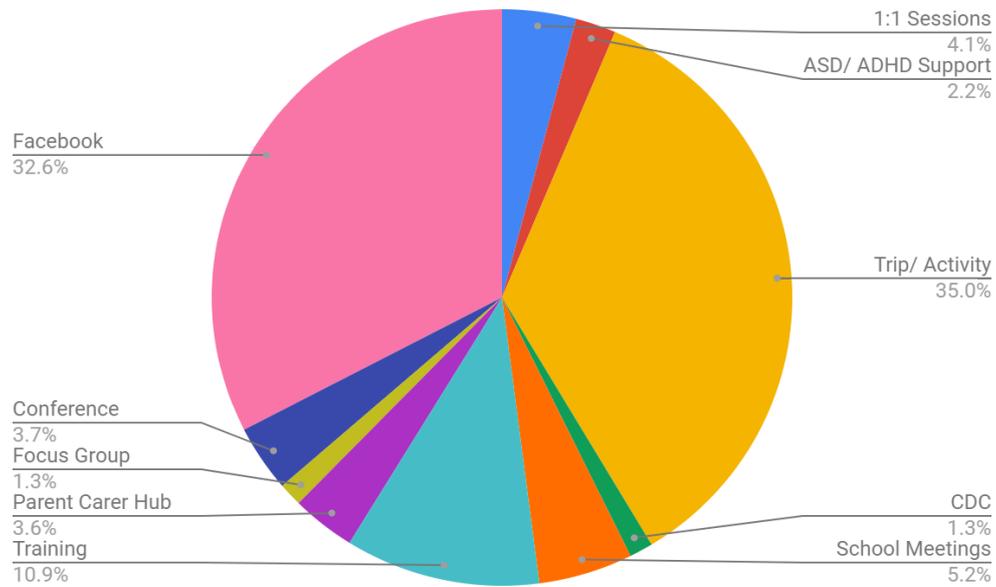
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) remains the predominant area of need declared by parent carers, regardless of this the proportion of other areas of need is increasing. Through the work we have done within the Child Development Centre and specific outreach work with other 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations such as Shine we have increased the number of parent carers who have a child with physical or sensory needs who are engaging with the forum. We also maintain our close working links with Peterborough and Area Downs Syndrome Group, and Peterborough and District Deaf Toddlers Society – raising awareness of the forum within specific disability communities.

We are able to engage a large number of parent carers who are currently going through the Early Help Pathway – this is largely due to a partnership that we have developed with Barnardo's and the Early Help team who deliver the city wide Webster-Stratton as part of the Social, Emotional and Behaviour Pathway. We find that the pre-diagnosis stage is often a crisis point for parent carers, who do not yet have the full picture of their child's needs, and are unable to access disability specific support.

There remain a large proportion of Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs being disclosed as an area of need within children and young people. This is often disclosed as a co-morbid need associated with neurodevelopmental conditions, but we are seeing a rise in the number of parent carer's whose young people are struggling with standalone anxiety. Mental Health services widely viewed as being inadequate within Peterborough, with CAMHs appearing inaccessible to all but the few most severe cases, and CHUMS currently reporting a 10-12 month waiting time to access support.

Parent Carers choose to engage with us using a range of different formats. Some are more comfortable with online engagement, whilst others are regular attendees at our trips, events

and activities. Below is a breakdown of some of the different forms of engagement used during the reporting period.



**Fig. 4 Breakdown of engagement methods**

### Events and Activities

Event Name	Date	Number of Attendees
Robin Hood Festival Coach Trip	07/08/2019	46
FVP Fun time	14/08/2019	18
Pizza Making	23/08/2019	24
Hunstanton Coach Trip	28/08/2019	61
Aiming High Group Drayton Manor Trip	23/10/2019	92
Spooktacular Activity World	25/10/2019	68
Afternoon Tea	02/11/2019	24
Community Story Telling	07/12/2019	18

Activity World Christmas Party	20/12/2019	109
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**Fig.5 Breakdown of Attendees at our Events during the reporting period**

Event Name	Date	Number of Attendees
Family Fun with Music	02/08/2019	9
Family Fun Crafts	22/08/2019	18
Cookery for the Family	11/09/2019 – 09/10/2019	52
Stress and Anxiety Management	23/09/2019- 14/10/2019	16

**Fig.5 Breakdown of Attendees at events held in conjunction with City College Peterborough during the reporting period**

A total of 555 individuals have attended an event or activity hosted by FVP during this recording period. This figure is a mixture of parent carers, children, young people and other family members. We use these events as an opportunity to reduce isolation within the parent carer community, and to assist individuals in building a supportive network of peer relationships. We also ensure that attending parent carers have an opportunity to share their views and opinions on specific workstreams whilst attending events, for example, members of the Aiming High Group were invited to complete an open survey on Preparing for Adulthood whilst on their coach journey to Drayton Manor. At the end of every event or activity feedback forms are circulated for completion by attendees, the forms include general event feedback as well as space to give general feedback on SEND. The overall event satisfaction rating for all events taken place during this reporting period are in excess of 4.75/5.

Parent Carer Hubs.

These sessions are run in conjunction with Peterborough City Council, enabling parent carers to attend one-to-one meetings with professionals from varying services. A maximum of 6 individuals are able to attend each session. Following a high demand for meetings with professionals from the Parent Partnership Service (PPS) at their initial Hub we have arranged for the PPS to attend every hub session alongside interchangeable professionals from across the SEN and Inclusion Services.

Hub Date	Services	Attendees
28/10/2019	Parent Partnership Service	5
25/11/2019	Autism and ADHD Specialist Teaching Service	5
25/11/2019	Parent Partnership Service	6

**Fig. 6 Attendees at Parent Carer Hubs**

### Focus Groups

During this period we have held one focus group – a family based consultation on the plans to build a new children’s hospital on the site of Addenbrokes in Cambridge. The focus group was well attended, with 12 adults and 29 children and young people getting involved.

### Workshops

Within the time frame FVP have held one workshop, the topic was Carers Rights and completing assessment forms. The workshop was attended by six parent carers, all of whom reported a rise in confidence managing their right as carers at the conclusion of the workshop, with the average understanding of the topic rising from 5.5/10 before the workshop to 9.75/10 at its conclusion.

Within this period Family Voice also held their annual conference. The full report for this is available on our website, and summary figures are detailed below:

Event Name	Date	Parent Carer Attendees	Professional Attendees	Other Attendees
Annual Conference	09/10/2019	27	50	16

**Fig. 7 Annual Conference Attendees**

Throughout the day four workshops were facilitated by professionals across Peterborough SEND Services, these were:

1. Peterborough Local Offer
2. SEN Support
3. Preparing for Adulthood
4. Maintaining a semblance of normal family life whilst raising a child with complex physical and medical needs.

Topics from speakers on the day included formal and informal exclusions and off rolling, Peterborough's recent Ofsted and CQC Inspection and an inspirational talk on recovering from a Traumatic Brain Injury.

### **CDC Partnership**

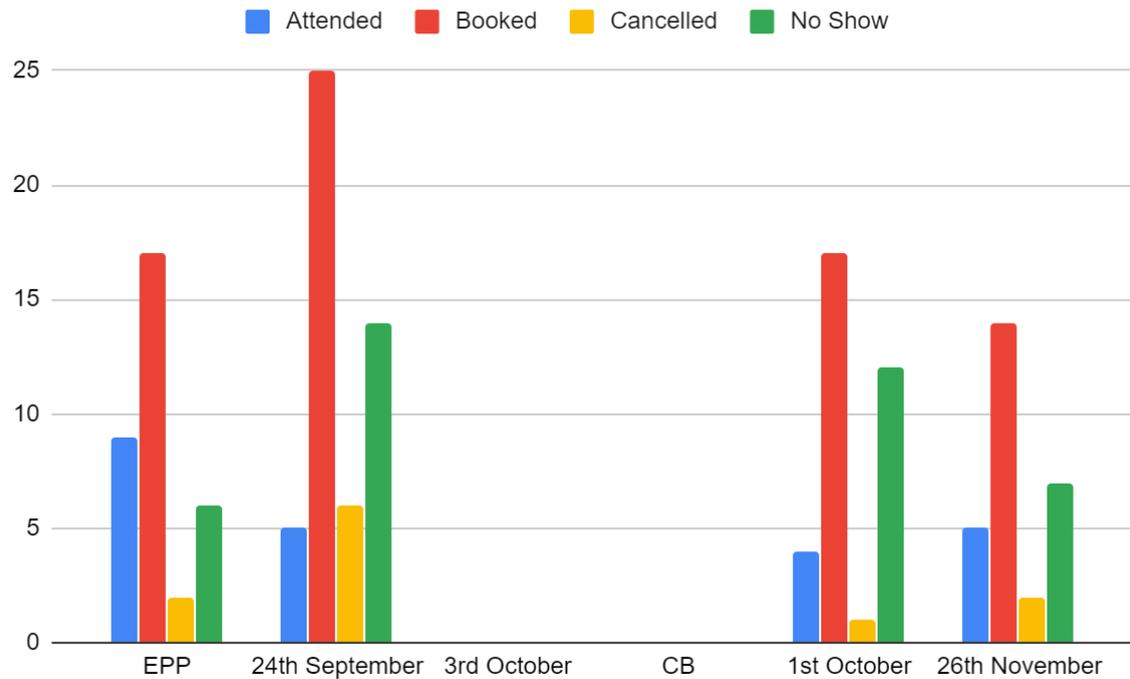
During this reporting period Family Voce have continued working in partnership with Peterborough Child Development Centre. Within this, Parent Representatives hold an information session at the CDC monthly, and support is provided for on-going parent training sessions – such as Imam training on Neurodevelopmental conditions. Information sessions within this timescale have had the following engagement:

<b>Date Attended</b>	<b>Parent Carers Engaged</b>
19/08/2019	3
23/09/2019	3
16/10/2019	21
05/11/2019	5
19/12/2019	7

**Fig. 8 Parent Carer Engagement at the Child Development Centre**

### **Training**

Family Voice conduct two training courses; The Expert Parent Programme and the Challenging Behaviour Workshop, which are free of charge to all Peterborough parent carers. These courses are joint funded between Family Voice Peterborough and Cambridge and Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT) and are held six times per year - one per each academic half term. Attendance at the four courses held within this time frame has been lower than previously within the year – this is despite an increase in interest and booking numbers, which are growing in line with a push on face-to-face advertising as well as partnership that we have developed with Barnardo's and the Early Help team who deliver the city wide Webster-Stratton as part of the Social, Emotional and Behaviour Pathway and recommendations made to new contacts made at information stands. The slightly lower numbers of attendees is indicative of the stresses and pressures that parent carers encounter on a daily basis – juggling a calendar of work, medical appointments and managing their young people's needs.



**Fig. 9 booking figures for training August – December**

Upon completion of the courses, parents are asked to complete feedback forms. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Parents report they feel empowered to manage their child/young person’s challenging behaviour and have an increase in knowledge of SEND systems and how to achieve the best possible outcomes. One of the most common issues raised comes in regard to the Challenging Behaviour Workshop, which is currently run over 3 hours. Parents are telling us that they want this to be at least a full day so that there is more time available to discuss individual issues and receive advice, taking this on board we are currently working on the development of an extended course. Examples of feedback received are detailed below:

Found all the information very valuable, enjoyed the way the course was delivered

Everything helped with others saying their difficulties too.

**Fig. 10 Comments gathered following training courses**

**Schools Sessions**

Family Voice are currently running a “Schools Offer” Pilot, working with a small number of named educational settings to provide training, coffee mornings and SEN Information Report support. Full details on the pilot can be found in our April – July Interim Report and a full report will be compiled upon the pilot’s completion. Sessions which have occurred within the current reporting period are as follows:

Setting Name	Date	Number of Parents Engaged
Jack Hunt	11/09/2019	12
Jack Hunt	23/09/2019	7
Jack Hunt	13/11/2019	9
Hampton Gardens	05/12/2019	9
Nene Park Academy	14/10/2019	1

**Fig. 11 Parental Engagement at Schools Sessions**

### **Facebook Participation**

FVP manage two main Facebook platforms: a Page entitled “Family Voice Peterborough” and a Group named “Family Voice Peterborough SEND Participation.” The group is made up purely of Peterborough parent carers, whereas the page is a mixture of interested individuals, and is also used as a platform for our community work. The use of Facebook Polls enables FVP to gather feedback on a large scale whilst eliminating barriers relating to childcare, transportation and time. Polls are used to gather basic initial data which is then explored in more detail.

Poll Name	Number of Responses - Yes	Number of Responses - No
Have you been told your child needs to be at least two or more years behind educationally to get an EHCP?	26	6

**Fig. 12 Breakdown of Responses for Facebook Poll relating to EHCPs**

Poll Name	Number of Responses - Eating	Number of Responses - Toileting	Number of Responses - Mobility (Willingness to walk)
Poll for parent carers who have a child/ young person with ASD. Does your child/ young person have issues around eating, toileting, mobility? You can select more than one option. My child/ young person has issues with:	22	18	12

Fig. 13 Breakdown of Responses for Facebook Poll relating to ASD Needs

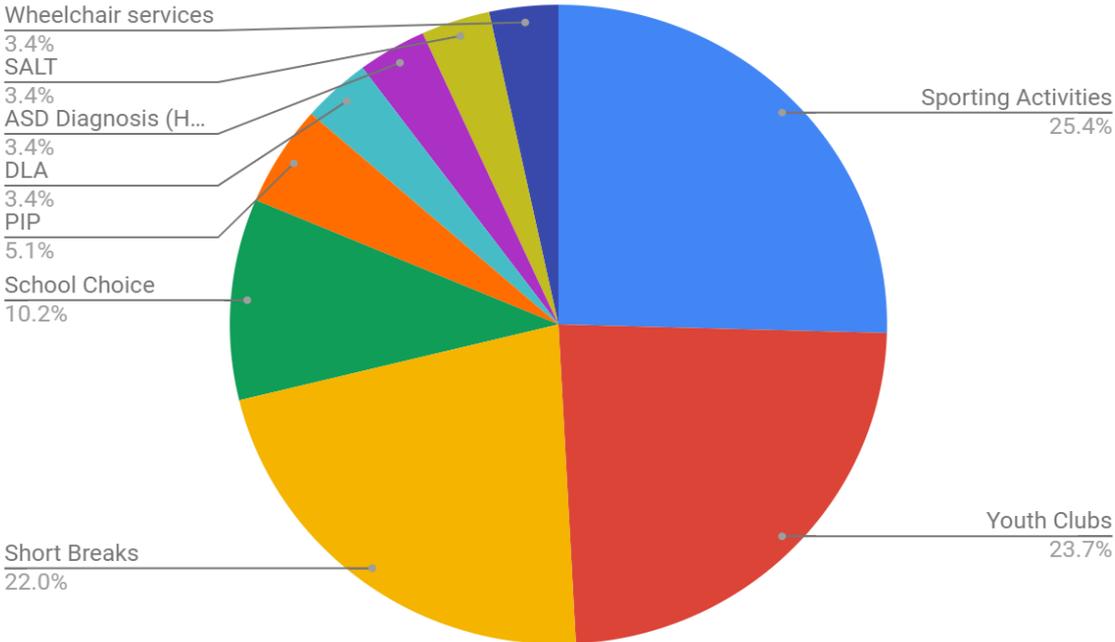


Fig. 14 Responses to Poll entitled "Information Required"

The above poll had a total of 25 individual respondents.

Surveys

When more in depth responses are required from parents, FVP create surveys using the online platform Survey Monkey. Surveys are taken anonymously, and as such demographics not collected, however, parents are required to affirm that they have a child or young person with SEND and provide their postcode to ensure Peterborough residency. Information has

been gathered to inform the Ofsted/CQC SEND Inspection, to provide an insight into parental experiences of communication and information sharing, and to gather feedback on parental input into educational settings SEN Information reports. Upon the closure of all surveys a full report is completed detailing the data collected, and is placed on our website at [www.familyvoice.org/participation](http://www.familyvoice.org/participation)

Survey Title	Number of Respondents
Childcare and SEND	32
Preparing for Adulthood	10
ASD Needs	14

Fig. 15 Responses per Online Survey

### Strategic Work

Family Voice engage in a number of strategic workstreams, working in co-production with professionals across health, education and social care. Parent Representatives attend a wide variety of strategic boards, working groups and the SEND panel; a new system of specific monitoring has been put in place this year in order to accurately demonstrate the amount of time spent with these. These sessions are the platform which we mainly use to feedback from parents into the system. This period has seen an increase in FVP's strategic workload due to the creation of Peterborough's Written Statement of Action and a focus on co-producing a way forward following the joint Ofsted and CQC inspection.

Type Of Meeting	Number of Meetings	Total Rep Time at meeting (Hours)	Total Travel Time (Hours)	Total Preparation Time (Hours)
Working Group	9	15	4	7.5
Workshop	2	10.5	1	1
Strategic Board	10	24.5	12	12
NNPCF	2	22	8	1
Focus Group	5	8	3	3.5
Panel	7	28	7	35
PCC Interview Support	2	11.5	2	0.5
Individual Meetings with Professionals	5	7.5	3.5	6.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>67</b>

Fig. 16 Sessions Attended by Parent Representatives

During this reporting period, Representatives of Family Voice have attended a total of 44 sessions with professionals across SEND Services. This has amounted to a total of **234.5** hours of time spent.

### Short Breaks Provision

Family Voice own and manage two caravans in order to provide affordable short breaks to families who have a child/young person with an additional need or disability.

#### Butlins Skegness

At Butlins is a 2017 Rio Willerby Premier Wheelchair Accessible caravan, which has two bedrooms and sleeps 6.

#### Haven Caister:

At Haven Caister is a 38 foot long 2014 Swift Serenity which sleeps 8 individuals but is not fully disabled accessible. The caravan at Haven has proved to be less popular than that at Butlins, and as such in order to avoid running at a loss financially FVP have reached an agreement with Haven whereby they will sublet the dates that we do not fill with local families, boosting the income so that the short breaks offer remains sustainable.

The caravan sites operate between March and October each year. From August to October 2019 a total of 170 individuals have accessed this service and had a short break at one of our caravans.