

## North West of England NNPCF representative update

October 2018  
 Kath Bromfield

Item	Description	Action required
<b>NNPCF Update</b>		
<b>1</b>	<p><b>NNPCF steering group updates</b></p> <p><b>CIC update</b></p> <p>There are two areas of the set-up of the CIC that we need our membership to vote on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The steering group recommends that we set up a CIC with a small membership model (as opposed to a large one). The advantages of this are that it is easier and cheaper to administer and run. Also, it will not require our member forums to be legal guarantors of the NNPCF – many forums have indicated that they would not be comfortable doing this. It also reflects what our membership have done – all of the local forums we are aware of that have converted to a CIC have adopted a small membership model.</li> <li>• We would also like our members to choose whether CIC directors (NNPCF steering group members) should have a term of 3 or 4 years. Currently, the term of office for steering group members is 3 years. Each steering group member can serve two terms (and this would not change). There are advantages and disadvantages to this change. The NNPCF steering group is not making a recommendation to our membership – we believe it is right</li> </ul>	<p>Look out for the webinar and make sure that you vote..</p>

that this is a membership decision.

Voting will be open from the 17<sup>th</sup> October until the 15<sup>th</sup> November. Each Forum will have one vote.

Mrunal Sisodia and Maureen Morris will be holding a webinar on the 17<sup>th</sup> October to brief you on progress in setting up a CIC, and to explain these options in more details. You can find a link to book onto it here.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6205508780798362881>

Please remember to contribute to the consultations that NNPCF are developing national responses to

<http://www.nnpcf.org.uk/get-involved/consultations/>

## 2 Government activity

### Secretary of State for Education Letter to Dame Christine Lenehan

In September Damien Hinds wrote to Christine Lenehan as a formal response to the Lenehan review. It is worth reading the letter. There are few key headlines:

- The SoS identified three key areas of focus: mainstream schools supporting children and young people with SEND; the way education health and social care provide and commission SEND services; and to increase our efforts to help young people with SEND access opportunities to find employment.
- He promised to set up a national SEND leadership board.
- He promised to continue to work with organisations that represent the interests of families who have children and young people with SEND (I read this as including PCFs)

Take a look at the letter and share.

- He promised to continue to fight for resources, set the vision and provide leadership.

You can find a copy of the letter here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/730603/SoS\\_to\\_DCL\\_31072018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/730603/SoS_to_DCL_31072018.pdf)

### **WOW moments**

A massive thank you to the forums that shared some “wow” moments at very short notice. As a movement we are terrible at blowing our own trumpet, and the NNPCF steering group really enjoyed reading your successes. Some of the stories were truly inspirational and showed that when co-production happens across ALL partners and from start to finish in a process, this makes a difference.

We will be presenting three of the national wow moments to Undersecretary of State for Children and Families Nadhim Zahawi on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, and explaining how these are innovative solutions to some of the most difficult problems that families face. We will be very careful to make sure that he understands that these areas are very much exceptions to the rule.

The wow moments will be referenced in our annual report and at the conference .

## **3 Other national activity**

### **Local Area SEND Inspections**

We have been having some fruitful conversations with the Ofsted / CQC joint inspectorate and the DfE on this topic. There were three recent announcements in response to representations we have made:

- Local area inspections will be continuing after 2021 (see Damien Hinds speech to ADCS

in July)

- The webinar and survey for LA inspections are changing
- The joint inspectorate have been instructed to re-inspect areas with a written statement of action.

For more details see our briefing: <http://www.nnpcf.org.uk/local-area-inspections-of-send-updates-to-processes/>

### **NHS 10 year plan**

In June, around the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS, the Prime Minister announced an extra £20bn of funding for the NHS by 2023. As a part of this, she required NHS England to work up a 10 year strategy for the NHS. The NNPCF have been invited to participate in shaping this strategy. There are some positive signs:

- Children and young people and their families feature (they were hardly mentioned in the previous 5 year forward view published by NHSE)
- There is a specific engagement stream around learning disabilities and autism

The strategy is being produced very quickly and is due for publication in late autumn. We will wait and see...

### **IASS Minimum standards**

The consultation on IASS minimum standards has now closed. Hopefully, many of you had the opportunity to respond. The draft standards were coproduced by the Council for Disabled Children with a group of stakeholders including the NNPCF. You can see the draft standards here <https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/information-advice-and-support-services->

[network/resources/minimum-standards-iass-draft-consultation](http://www.nnpcof.org.uk/network/resources/minimum-standards-iass-draft-consultation)

#### 4 Coproduction and campaigning

As local authority cuts deepen and limitations on the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant and High Needs Funding Block are implemented, many forums across the country have been seeking guidance on how to respond. In particular, we have been asked for guidance on how to work with local campaign groups that have been set up in response to cuts. We have discussed the role of forums in campaigning with the Department for Education and Contact and the NNPCF have issued some joint guidance. <http://www.nnpcof.org.uk/coproduction-and-campaigning-a-guidance-document/>

Read the guidance and if in doubt contact me or Julie

#### 5 Annual conference

The dates for our annual conference are confirmed as the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. The venue is Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Coventry. You should all have received an e-mail with details.

- Please book your attendance as soon as possible – places are limited and last year some forums were disappointed.
- Do not book your hotel and travel until you have booked your conference place. There are a limited number of rooms available at the Doubletree Hilton once you have a conference booking reference.
- As per last year we will be holding a survey to decide which workshops you would like on day one of the conference. Based on feedback from last year we have a mixture of styles of workshop -some are giving out information to forums, some are looking to get information from forums.
- Please accept our apologies for the difficulties in accessing the AGM Workshops Survey,

Book your places and accommodation on the conference ASAP

Please vote for the workshops you would

there was a technical fault but this has now been resolved. Please follow the link <https://fame.op-online.co.uk/q.asp?sid=464&k=mcfmtdgylb> and complete the survey at your earliest opportunity. The survey provides you with the opportunity to shape Day 1 of our conference this year. Please take the time to discuss your responses with your forum steering group/colleagues.

### Regional Update

#### 8 Regional activity

We had a very successful workshop in Wigan last month, around succession planning. Its been great to see the workshop being attended by a range of forum members, and is really helping to develop the wider understanding of the region.

The regional steering group members have been working hard behind the scenes to get a regional discretionary grant, to further the work of the region. As a small group we have been beset by personal difficulties but thanks to the structure you voted in last year, progress has continued to happen.

#### 9 Upcoming regional meetings

7<sup>th</sup> December – CDC Regional Event

#### 1 Future NWPCF meetings

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We will be sending out some survey monkeys to gather your thoughts on how our regional meetings might continue. The feedback so far has been that people prefer a workshop each

Please let me know if



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

term, and a regional meeting each term. We need to think about the format of our regional meetings; what do you want from these meetings, and how can the agenda help us to achieve that - watch this space!

Daisy Russell who runs the IASP programme at CDC has also offered to come to a regional meeting

Also – please let me know the dates of your local conferences or open meetings – I am always very keen to attend and meet our members. It is the best way of me learning what is going on with families with SEND.

you have  
other  
thoughts  
about  
regional  
meetings