A picture containing shape

Description automatically generated

Complex Needs Meeting – Notes

Tuesday 31 January 2023 2-3.30pm on Teams

* Actions from the last meeting:
  + Two requests were made re respite care needs – AMC agreed to respond – Action Completed
  + AB to attend the Partnership meeting to represent this group
  + Decision on a chair for this group needed
  + Circulate a list of identified topics for discussion to plan agenda
* Everyone introduced themselves and explained their role within this group
* The topic for this meeting was a focus on Therapies and access to them, as well as a presentation from SD on Second Transition.
* Covid has caused many places where therapies were available to shut down. DR offered to send details of a place in Epsom. There was a discussion about health needs and how some are able to access physiotherapy and hydrotherapy after assessment, as a funded activity through health.
* There was an agreement that the future chair of this meeting should be someone with a good understanding of complex needs. All parent carers gave their comments on what providers should respond to by sending in a paragraph in response to the follow, with consistency and a good understanding being highlighted as important:

*Please explain:*

* + *Your understanding of Complex Needs*
  + *Why it is important to have a dedicated group focusing on Complex Needs*
  + *Evidence an understanding of supporting people who cannot represent themselves*
  + *Show a good understanding of what parents are dedicated to, for the rest of their lives*

*This role would require a commitment to chair 6 meetings a year - 2-3.30pm on Teams on a Tuesday afternoon. The role will involve:*

* *Chairing the meeting*
* *Setting an agenda in collaboration with the Parent Carers’ in the group (currently around 8)*
  + *Linking in to the Partnership to share updates*

*We will need to receive your expression of interest paragraph by Friday 24th March*

* SD attended to present on Second Transition work (presentation to be circulated). There is work being done to introduce a dedicated worker approach who would support the family, building relationships to understand support and complexities and specific need. Tina highlighted how Health and Social Care are working collaboratively. A pilot project is currently working with 12 families.
* Points were raised by parent carers’ about new staff struggling in providing care and how agency staff are not the answer. Parent carers’ need confidence in services, such as respite care, that provision can meet specific need. That it is a huge set back to not be supported correctly.
* The discussion continued for therapies. TW clarified decisions of funding are made on a case by case basis and individual circumstances. It was discussed that all Social Workers would be aware of ICB funding for therapies and parent carers can approach their Social Worker regarding this. Some Parent Carers’ felt there should be more creative thinking such as using existing swimming facilities to heat to the right temperature and be used for hydrotherapy. Physio was thought to be more difficult to access, parent carers also highlighted the importance of training of carers regarding digestive system issues and complex needs. AC has fundraised and bought in services at Parity for Physio, speech and language therapies, applying for a lottery grant to employ and Health and Welfare Officer and will feedback on this as it develops.
* Information share:
  + Warm Home Discount can be applied for £150 off bills- raising awareness
  + Carers Together grant discussed
  + Gosport Memorial Hospital has fabulous Makaton and good multi sensory
* Next time topic will focus on staff training and providers. Consistency across providers, residential and supported living care. Direct payments and personal health budgets, good providers of training. Improving services being offered, the impact of training variations on outcomes for those with Complex Needs.

Meeting ended 3.30pm