

Further Update - Brighton and Hove OFSTED and CQC Local Area SEND Inspection, 23rd-31st March 2023

19th May 2023

PaCC are aware that Parent Carers are waiting for news of the outcome of the recent Local Inspection. Now the local elections are over, we are writing to let you know that we are moving closer to Brighton & Hove's local area inspection outcome letter being published.

PaCC want to share with you information we sent to the inspectors during the inspection. The presentation contains parent carer feedback from the PaCC steering group, PaCC partner groups and associated parent carer groups, ensuring that families with Children and Young people with SEND are represented. Please see the link to the slides below:

<https://paccbrighton.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PaCC-slides-for-Ofsted-March-2023-Final1.pdf>

Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS Sussex continue to work in co-production with PaCC and parent carers to address the priority areas in the SEND Strategy 0-25, which includes key challenges for families identified in the slides.

PaCC felt it was important to share with inspectors a balanced approach of framing strengths and areas for development of SEND provision in the city, as well the good progress made through co productive working such as the Home to School Transport Service, increasing the number of specialist places for autistic pupils, the Dynamic Support Register and developing the Hidden Children Officer role (slide 15).

During the inspection, PaCC were invited by the Council to attend all keeping in touch meetings with the inspection team throughout the process and requested that PaCC were invited to the strategy and commissioning meeting and the co-production meeting. The time allocated to PaCC in meetings was limited but we did our best to get the parent voice heard, in order to share family's experiences accurately and highlight where there is a need for service or provision improvement such as with short breaks, SEMH specialist provision, transition to adulthood and aspects of the neurodevelopmental pathway. PaCC hold a position that the inspection process allowed insufficient contact time for the PaCC steering group and parent carers.

A draft Local Inspection outcome letter has been sent to senior leads within the local authority and the Integrated Care Board (ICB). PaCC are disappointed that Ofsted and the CQC instructed senior leads in the city that the draft report cannot be shared with PaCC. We thank senior leads in the Council and NHS Sussex for querying this instruction. It is a view shared by PaCC inspection leads that the decision made by the inspection team does not reflect the strong ethos of co-production in Brighton and Hove.

PaCC will continue to feedback to the National Network Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) about our experience of the newly developed local area inspection framework, and processes. PaCC hope that our feedback can be used to positively influence and improve inspection processes going forward and to ensure consistency across the country.

PaCC will provide another update to the parent carer community when the outcome letter is published.

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PaCC's previous updates regarding the local area SEND inspection:

<https://paccbrighton.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PaCC-Start-of-Ofsted-Inspection-Final-Comms.pdf>

<https://paccbrighton.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/PaCC-End-of-Ofsted-Inspection-Final-Comms.pdf>