



PARENT CARER VOICE HEREFORDSHIRE

Annual General Meeting & Challenging Behavior Workshop March 11th, 2020

Parent Carer Voice Herefordshire(pcvh)

Working in partnership to give parents and carers a voice to be heard

BE Informed

Get Involved

Have Influence

Annual Report & Accounts April 2019 – March 2020

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- **www.parent-carer-voice-herefordshire.com**
- **Debbie Hobbs (Chair)**
- **Max Bassett (Vice Chair)**
- **Kirsty Scott (Treasurer)**
- **Clare Hobbs (Secretary)**
- **Cat Hornsey (Communication and Social Media)**
- **Sian Davies (Steering Group Officer)**

Official Information

Objectives and Activities :

PCVH is overseen by a Steering Group made up of Officers and Parent Reps .The group sets the direction and Strategy on the work of the forum .We currently have six officers and four Parent Reps . The steering group perform the day to day tasks for the forum but are supported by the parent representatives.

All are responsible for representing the views of a wider group of Parents. Each member has a system of networking and disseminating information to other parents. The Steering Group meets at least once a month. Venues and meeting times are arranged for the convenience of parents/carers .

Official Information

Parent Carer Voice Herefordshire is a parent carer forum which welcomes all parents or carers of a child or young person up to the age of 25 with a disability or additional need that lives in the County of Herefordshire.

"Parent Carer Forums are representative local groups of parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities who work alongside local authorities, education, health and other service providers to ensure the services they plan, commission, deliver and monitor meet the needs of children and families. Parent Carer Forums have been established in most local areas and local Authorities are actively encouraged to work with them ."

Department for Education (Jan 2015) Special Educational Needs and Disability 0 to 25 years : Code of Practice. 1.13

- **Official Information**

Our aim is to:

**Inform parents about what is going on Locally and nationally
Involve parents in shaping of local services and national priorities.
Influence local service providers and decision makers.**

By doing these things, we aim to inform and empower parents of disabled and SEN children, young people and to improve services and outcomes for families, children and young people affected by disability or additional needs.

The forum is Supported by Contact(www.contact.org.uk),the national delivery partner for Parent Participation. We are also members of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums(www.nnpcof.org.uk) and attend regular regional meetings in the West Midlands .This ensures local issues are raised at a regional and National Level.

Highlights of the Steering Group Reps

- **What this year has meant to me – Max Bassett**

- This year has been tough, inspiring, liberating, hard work, positive and negative.
- There is always the risk of me overcommitting my time and that was my worry about becoming vice chair of PCV Herefordshire. I always feel I am not able to devote as much as I would like to really give this role justice. I am inspired by the other steering group members and mums of children with additional needs, the work that they put in, what they deal with on a daily basis and still keep going is inspiring. Liberating in the fact that I had the first night away from all my kids at the National conference for Parent Carer Forums! Where I also was inspired by what can be achieved when dedicated parents come together with a common goal of improving outcomes for our children. It has been hard work trying to fit everything in around work, family life and all that children bring! Positive in the steps forward we are making with the local authority and other public bodies and negative in how far we still have to go in some areas!
- I have met many parents who do an amazing job, supported one or two, been supported by many, and look forward to the coming year with no doubt much of the same!

Highlights of the Steering Group Reps

- **Kirsty Scott Treasurer**

- I initially joined the first Parent Carers group under Herefordshire Carers, but I was never involved or invited to take part in any planning. I joined the new PCV steering group approximately 9 months ago, and on a personal level it has been brilliant to be able to be part of the new forum. We have set up a co-production group with the local authority which has produced a fantastic two-way relationship on an equal basis, we have already made changes to the family conversation on the EHCP forms. It has been interesting to speak to different professionals from various partnerships and feel that we are being listened to which has given me confidence that we could make changes on behalf of our parent carers that will support them. I am looking forward to being involved in more changes and requests that come directly from our families that use the service. I am so proud of the work we have done that I am now treasurer for the forum as well steering group member, it is my way of giving back for the support I've received.

- **Sian Davies Steering Group**

- I am the newest member of the steering group but now feel more comfortable in my role than at the start due to all of the support from other members and the fabulous training from Kate from Contact. It is good to know that there will always be 2 of us attending meetings with the local authority (safety in numbers!). It looks like all the hard groundwork is almost complete and now the fun starts with dealing with the issues that crop up and supporting parents to navigate through The maze that is SEND in Herefordshire!

Highlights of the Steering Group Reps

- **My first year on the PCV Herefordshire steering group. Cat Hornsey**
- It has been an interesting year; I have been able to go to a number of different meetings such as the co-production workshops, helping to make changes to the family conversation part of the EHC plans, working with SENDIAS on their website plans, short breaks capital Grant's and regularly attend the SEND Strategy meetings. I have also been able to represent PCVH at other events and with other organisations.
- It has been good to take what parents are telling us and feed that back to those who manage different teams to improve outcomes for all.
- Co-production appears to be going well with many services engaging with us, though this needs to be embedded into standard practice to ensure it continues.
- I have also gained knowledge through PCV and personal experience to help other parents.
- The 'I count' cards have been a lot more challenging than expected but will keep trying to get more recognition and acceptance from businesses and attractions.
- My other 'hats' as city councillor and mum to 3 children with additional needs, has meant at times my availability is stretched, but the use of social media and other apps has made communication easier between each other and the wider audience.
- I look forward to the next year and hope that it is even more successful than this year for PCV .

- **Clare Hobbs – Secretary**

- My first foray into the PCVH life was at a meeting to discuss the Grant application and budget setting,
- I've never done this before, so it was a daunting thing to take part in.
- It was then on into to the deep end of being a parent rep with one of our first official events –Meet the Councillor. It was not as scary as setting budgets but still out of my comfort zone.
- The Co-production Quality Indicators meeting with our Strategic Partners on the Council and being taken seriously and not just as a 'tick box exercise'. These have now been a year in the taking part of, we are now in the process of finalising a Co- Production Agreement.
- A series of workshops on the EHCP process and we instrumental in changing how the Family Conversation was implemented and we still have more work to do to make it a more user friendly and understandable process.
- I hope that next year will be as informative and enlightening as this year has been.

Chairs Report

- Achievements and Performance :
- Quality Indicators used in Coproduction with our Strategic Partners ,Which we feel has been successful as we are just about to sign a Coproduction Charter for the benefit for Parent Carers in the future.
- PARTNERSHIP work with the Local Authority Commissioners , Wye Valley Trust , CCG ,NHS STP & Sendias.
- Send Summit in November 2019 as we were able to have input into the organisation of the event .Which has led to the June Event being in the Evening so that more parents will be able to attend.
- The collaboration work on the Family Conversation document in the EHCP.
- Short Breaks Capital Grant Work.
- Attended 126 meetings over the year in making sure the Parents/Carers voice has been heard.

- **What Next?**
- **We aim to continue to inform and empower parents of SEN(D)children and young people. By sharing their views with our strategic partners we aim to help shape services for our families. We will continue to work in partnership with strategic partners and their statutory partners (including our schools and academies and the Voluntary Sector).**
- **Continue to network and work alongside other Parent Carer Forums in the West midlands Cluster and the National Network of Parent Carer Forums including attending the NNPCF National Conference and AGM.**
- **Parent Representation on Operational groups and Strategic boards.**
- **Input to relevant Government Surveys, consultations and reviews including Local Area SEND Inspection.**
- **Continue to spread the reach of PCVH across the whole communities to expand our membership and ensure your views are represented.**

Quotes from Parent & Carers

"you helped me join the dots

"Relevant,
Current,Interactive,
Personal,Professional&
Great ,Keep up the good work !"

A wonderful event with great talks from the relevant professionals"

Keep up the fab work"

Financial Summary April 2019 - March 2020

Income

Department of Education Grant £15,000 Contact Discretionary Grant £2,600

Expenses Breakdown		
Events	514.00	Agm, Ehcp Workshops , Member Meetings
Meetings	82.78	Refreshments for Steering Group meetings
Training	1,263.68	Leadership x2, Parent Reps x2 , Treasurer
Staffing Costs	2,400.00	Admin Support
Seldom Heard	288.00	Targeted Engagement Initiatives
Infrastructure	3,056.00	Laptop, iPad, Insurance, domain , Office 365 , Phones, Tablets
Develop info & Resources	756.25	Branded Merch , Publicity , postage , stationary
Website Dev	499.20	Website
Parent Carer Expenses	496.38	Mileage , Parking , refreshments
P/Carer Remuneration	2,695.59	External Meetings prearranged
Other	4,233.49	Contact Fee , Regional Network, NNPCF Conference Assoc Support
Total	16,285.37	
Total Grant	17,600.00	
Remainder to spend	1,314.63	CORRECT DATA @11th March