



Department
for Education

Children with Complex Trauma Task and Finish Group

Notes of meeting on 14th November 2023

Held 10:00 – 11:30, virtually via MS Teams

Chair

Prathiba Chitsabesan: National Clinical Director for Children and Young People's Mental Health, NHS England

Fran Oram: Director of Children's Social Care Reform, Department for Education

Attendees

- Fran Oram – Department for Education
- Prathiba Chitsabesan – National Health Service England
- Department for Education Officials
- Department of Health and Social Care Officials
- Ministry of Justice Officials
- NHS England officials
- Childrens Commissioner's Office Officials
- ADCS Officials

Introductions

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance, facilitated introductions between attendees and briefly outlined the meeting agenda.

Update since the last Task and Finish Group

The Chair outlined the major updates since the last Task and Finish Group in September. Included in the update was a summary of upcoming communications, including the joint DfE/NHSE/ADCS blog post.

Stakeholder Council

An update was given to the group on the status of the Stakeholder Council. The next Stakeholder Council meeting will be either in mid-December or early-January and there will be planned meetings from then onwards. NHSE are currently working on

making sure there is a clear ask for the council, and next steps are to work on the ask and membership for each upcoming subgroup.

Case Studies Subgroup

The DfE presented an overview of the insight we gained from the case studies subgroup on the four stages of the child's journey (pre-DoLO, at risk of a DoLO, on a DoLO and post-DoLO). The chair reflected that if the constant changes and churns in the child's life are managed, they will be able to flourish.

Sequencing of Work

Prathiba Chitsabesan (NHSE) presented our current timeline to the group, noting that we want to work at pace, but need to recognise the interdependency between different pieces of work. She explained that we have had to radially rethink our approach to testing, and that co-design will be a key element.

Testing and Learning

NHSE explained that they have had to change the approach on testing partly due to delays on commissioning, but also because there is already a lot of good practice in the system, and what really is lacking is a consistent approach to system change partnership integration.