

Expert by Experience Board

12th July 2021

Attendees

Board members:

- Judith Denton (Chair)
- Janet Kay
- Chris Wild
- Helen Bell
- Angela Fraser-Wicks
- David Akinsanya
- Esi Cathline
- Arif Salarzai
- Margaret Mulowska
- Chloe Robinson
- Julianne Bayford
- Charmaine Orchard

Review Team:

- Josh MacAlister, Chair of the Review
- Review team members

Apologies:

- Rhiannon Parkinson
- Chris Hoyle
- Duncan Dunlop, Independent Adviser to the Review
- Sean Geoghegan
- Jerome Harvey-Agyei

Agenda Item 1: Check in and updates from the Design Group

- The Chair welcomed the Board and divided everyone into small breakout groups for a check in activity.
- Board members updated the Board on the last Design Group meeting discussion.

Discussion

- The Board had a short discussion on the role of social workers and the need for more practical training.

Agenda Item 2: Update and reflections on the Case for Change

- The review team presented slides on feedback and reactions to the Case for Change.

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Discussion

- The Board reflected on the Case for Change. They highlighted areas that the review should look into in more detail or further work, including: 16–17-year-olds living in semi-independent accommodation and other viable options that provide the stability and love they need; gypsy and traveller communities; and where permanence for children doesn't mean separation from significant people in their lives;
- The Board agreed that the Case for Change does highlight the existing problems. They considered that the review needs to now look at quick fixes and longer-term solutions to overhaul the whole system. Some members of the Board felt deflated at the size of the challenge and complexities that the Case for Change set out.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion on plans for the remainder of the review

- Review team presented some slides on the approach for the remainder of the review, including a brief outline of the 3 Horizons approach to change.

Discussion

- Members of the Board wanted to explore how to develop creative new ideas for a new system that is fit for purpose, whilst fixing things in the existing system, avoiding just tweaking around the edges.
- The Board would like more opportunity to share ideas with the Design and Evidence Groups, and to have more detailed discussions.
- Board members expressed interest to be involved in certain work strands they have experience in.

Action

- Review team to hold a session on the three horizons model.

Agenda Item 4: Bridge the Gap 'open space' Events & Board engagement

- Review team presented slides outlining the 'open space' events approach and the review's plans.

Discussion

- The Board were positive about adopting this approach. They queried whether the team could offer incentives to care experienced adults to encourage them to participate. They discussed options for ensuring that participants are supported properly before, during and after participation, and also considered timing – avoiding school holidays for social workers and carers.


Action

- Review team to come back to the Board with a revised proposal.



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Agenda Item 5: AOB

- Board meetings to now move to every 6 weeks rather than monthly with the option of an informal drop in each month. This means the next meeting will be in September and we will circulate a poll to see how Board members feel about doing this face to face.
- The Board are reminded to claim for honorarium payments.