

Expert by Experience Board

 The independent review
of children's social care

05th October 2021 (in person)

Location: Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, Coram Street, London, WC1N 1HT

Attendees:

Board members:

- Judith Denton (afternoon only, Chair)
- Janet Kay
- Chris Wild
- Helen Bell
- David Akinsanya
- Margaret Mulowska
- Chloe Robinson
- Charmaine Orchard

Review Team:

- Josh MacAlister, Chair of the Review
- Duncan Dunlop, Independent Adviser to the Review
- Review team members

Apologies:

- Julianne Bayford
- Angela Fraser-Wicks
- Esi Cathline
- Asif Salarzai
- Rhiannon Parkinson
- Chris Hoyle
- Jerome Harvey-Agyei

Agenda Item 1: Welcome & review reflections

- Josh welcomed the Board and shared his reflections and hopes for the review.
- Josh thanked the Board for its contribution so far and told the group Sean Geoghegan had chosen to step aside from the Board now we are the halfway mark of the review. Josh, the team and the Experts by Experience Board members noted their thanks and gratitude for Sean's participation and expertise.

Jerome Harvey-Agyei and Julianne Bayford have also chosen to stand down as Board members due to personal circumstances and Josh, the Board and review team have shared their thanks and gratitude for their participation in the review.

- The Board were asked for their reflections on the review so far.

Discussion

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- The Board agreed they felt supported by one another and pleased to see passion and ambition for children's social care across the EbE and review team.
- Board members felt like they had learnt from each other – and that participation on the Board had shone a spotlight into different aspects of the system for members that had little prior knowledge of, for example kinship care. The Board reflected that it felt empowered by the common goal for improvement.
- The Board thought communication from the review team was good. Where Board members have influenced the reviews thinking, they wanted this to be relayed back.
- The Board discussed the importance of supporting the review team to make sure recommendations are picked up by government.

Agenda Item 2: Three-horizon approach & recommendation ideas

- The review team presented slides on a model for capturing and framing its final recommendations, called “three-horizons”.
- The Board shared their early ideas for recommendations.

Agenda Item 3: NSPCC Board support session

- The NSPCC facilitated a session for Board members to focus on their wellbeing and the NSPCC shared practical tools and tips.

Agenda Item 4: Close & AOB

- The Board were asked to share their hopes for continuing work together beyond the review.
- A review team member informed the EbE Board of an opportunity to meet one or all of the National Children's Bureau's expert by experience groups (disabled children, care leavers or parents) in November.
- Josh thanked the Board for attending and closed the meeting.