

From:
To:
Subject: SG Meeting
Date: 23 August 2022 11:55:23

Dear All

Re tomorrow, [redacted] can [redacted] and I meet you from 8-8.30 then we'll meet with others who are available at 2?

See below update from my meeting with SG. Not great news on a couple of fronts. [redacted] wasn't there- just [redacted] and [redacted] who works in 1140 policy section.

- They have briefed ministers at a very high level
- Their comms have had a discussion with our comms (albeit we were alarmed [redacted] when we thought they were about to put out a press release last week!)
- They have been liaising closely with Care Inspectorate to get a wider picture of the extent of number of nurseries involved- they think 9 currently
- Confidentially CI saying they have no confidence in ability to bring about change and improvement
- [redacted] has spoken to [redacted], Chair ADES EY Network to brief her and she has suggested it might be an idea to brief [redacted] who chairs the ADES ASN Network
- Having taken their lead from CI colleagues, they agree with CI that we wouldn't be looking at Bright Stars being a new provider. The company has bought into a service. They haven't bought it outright though they do have responsibility to continue to improve. However, they both said that it is for the Council to determine the status of the contract and they wouldn't be 'nailing their colours to the mast' on this
- [redacted] will send on the statement [redacted] read out in the last meeting
- I asked if they had a response to our question about delivering 1140 to those whose nurseries are closed
- They have looked at COVID legislation and although new legislation comes in next week it won't cover this specific situation, however their view is it remains our responsibility to deliver 1140
- I said that would be an issue for us with the numbers of children we're dealing with and he said that they won't be pressing us to do this quickly as they understand the pressure we're under- I said we would regroup to discuss and I'll raise at IMT to try again to get a clearer picture of how long we might be looking at for Nursery closures
- They suggested getting into discussion with Mid and Edinburgh re provision once contract ends as settings there might suit some parents

They have asked for the following information:

- A table of the numbers of eligible children from all 4 settings
- A more detailed explanation/ chronology of the events surrounding [redacted] children with ASN- when they became eligible for support, what that support was, what happened etc

[redacted] can you send this info to me and I'll send on.

Thanks

Head of Education

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NHS Coronavirus Information

