

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Presented by | Ros Somerville – Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) Assistant<br>Director Inclusion<br>Lianne Joyce – SRO Clinical Commissioning Groups (ICB) |
| Author       | Wendy Allen   |
| Purpose      | For Information   |
| Date         | July 2022   |

## **1. Recent Programme Activity**

---

Concerns have been shared by SEND Programme Manager, parent/carers and SEND Priority Leads regarding commitment, attendance, and actions within the SEND Strategy. We are at risk of trying to do everything and slowing progress in key areas.

At a priority leads meeting in June 2022, it was agreed that Priorities 1,2 and 4 Communication, Children & Young Persons Journey and Moving into adulthood would review the objectives. The objectives were to be reviewed and prioritised on what is most important to action for children, young people and their families. This would not mean that objectives would not be continued to be worked to, it just enables the system to concentrate on what is most important.

Each Priority group will identify at least one CYP 'I statement', as a focus area for their priority work for the upcoming term.

A presentation has been prepared for SEND Programme Board to share where the priority groups intend to focus on.

In addition, work has continued as reported below.

### **Priority 1 Communication**

#### **Analytics May – June**

Our web analytics are high again for May and June with a combined total of 4,541 unique visitors to the website, achieving over 2k for both months again. (March and April 4053) We continue to promote service updates and improvements via our social media channels are reached a combined total of 9.5k for the above period.

#### **Platform updates**

The new wireframe launched on 6 July 22 and includes a new visual style and layout, ensures we are compliant with accessibility requirements and features an improved search function.

We are currently running a full UAT to ensure all the new features are working correctly and any outstanding issues remaining are with the developer to be fixed.

#### **Coproduction**

Senior Officers attended another SPCF event in Stowmarket in July. The event has been a successful way for senior officers to meet parent/carers and to enable fluid conversations in a relaxed surrounding. The event created opportunities to link up organisations and services across SEND.

The new website platform project is still on track, the test version is going well and feedback from those testing the site is positive.

### **Priority 2 The Children & Young Persons Journey**

The Inclusion Support Line Advisors started in July 2022; they are currently undertaking an intense induction programme supported by IMPOWER. The Inclusion Support Line Advisors will be supporting colleagues in education settings to provide clear, accessible information so that the Local Offer website is maintained and accurate to support all users, this includes the work started in the sub groups to create appropriate landing pages on the Local Offer website for Mental Health, Universal Health Services and Statutory Services.

The Quality Assurance Programme Board have agreed to trial a different way of quality assuring Annual Reviews. 12 plans have been selected across the county from different plan writers and areas, criteria for selection included those that had Social Care and Health involvement. Parent/carers were emailed to ask how they would like to be involved, to date 2 parents have responded with 1 via teams and the other declining to participate. School settings have been asked to complete a Microsoft Form with the option of a follow up meeting. Social Care DCSO and Health DDCO have been reviewing involvement feedback from practitioners. This trial is due to be reviewed in August 2022.

Benefits of the new Designated Social Care Officer are being realised by closer working relationships across Social Care, including social care colleagues attending the SEND decision making panel training, partnership meetings and collaborative auditing of social care advice for EHCP's. A in depth update will be shared at the July Programme Board.

### **Priority 3 Commissioning & Servicing**

The SEND Sufficiency work has started, a draft plan will be provided in September 2022 to inform planning of services. An update will be provided to SEND Programme Board in due course.

Following presentation to Cabinet in June 22, a further funding for the SEND Capital programme was agreed. This includes covering the overspend in phase 1 of £4.6m and funding a further £6m for phase 2. Cabinet have requested that further work is undertaken to identify the need for phase 3 funding. The sufficiency report will inform this.

The pace of work for the Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing programme is improving, with new resource in place with NSFT CYP Transformation space. Milestones for core areas of work are continually reviewed.

There is currently a backlog in most core CAMHS areas specifically child and family and youth teams. A full action plan and trajectory is now being developed to address these waits.

The CHRIS service continues to support CYP, there is ongoing work to ensure the capacity with the team and wider teams can support CYP once stabilised. 111, option 2 continue to report low wait times. Due to the lack of tier 4 beds, demand continues to be high and is monitored for those that require this level of support, action plans have been developed and interventions are in development.

Improvement plan for the Care, Education Treatment Reviews has been submitted to NHSE. The Dynamic Support Register (DSR) for CYP is active, identifying those at risk of admission to Tier 4 with an LD and/or A and where a CETR might be required or having had one in the last year. Definitive DSR guidance is due to be published in quarter 1 22 (Apr-Jun) and along with an update of the CETR policy. This is linked with the keyworker initiative which was presented to the SEND Programme board at the end of March 2022.

£2.1m in funding has been ring fenced for Mental Health services for the next 2 years. Following a review to consider how this funding should be spent, it has been agreed as follows:

1. Childrens Homes to support for Mental Health of young people in care (£200k)
2. Increase in staffing for core CAMHS, work is underway by NSFT working with Jaime Hawkins to look at gaps identified in core CAMHS service- expected investment £1.4M.
3. £500k to voluntary sector to look at lower-level intervention to reduce pressure on CAMHS. Also renewing contract for digital support, tis is currently provided by Kooth who is seen as the market leader. An express of interest for this contract and family support contract (which is similar to families together), feedback from Social Care & Emotional Wellbeing hub and those that had experience service provided good feedback.

An improvement plan for the Care, Education Treatment Reviews has been submitted to NHSE, but we have yet to receive feedback. Implementation is slowed by vacancy for CYP Assurance lead post, but recruitment is pending. The Dynamic Support Register (DSR) for CYP is active, identifying those at risk of admission to Tier 4 with an Learning Disability and/or A and where a CETR might be required or having had one in the last year. Definitive DSR guidance is due to be published in quarter 1 22 (Apr-Jun) and along with an update of the CETR policy. This is linked with the keyworker initiative which is due to be delivered in September 2022.

#### **Priority 4 Moving into Adulthood**

There is no change in the progress for Moving into Adulthood, without a lead from Inclusion Services pace will remain slow.

Work continues with family services to ensure practitioners are working in a person-centred approach, this work is being linked in with WFD as they review the SEND Learning and Development Programme.

The Career, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance guide has now been reviewed however we do not have an officer who can implement the changes at present.

Capacity of the skills team continue to be an area of concern to progress opportunities for education, employment, self-employment, and apprenticeship. Initial agreement has been made to recruit an apprentice this has been delayed.

The white paper for the mental health capacity is out for consultation, an Oversight group has been established in health, and will link in with colleagues across CYP.

**2. Update on SEND specialist provision developments**

*Please note there has been no changes since May 2022.*

Newly created and future places

|  | Sep-20     | Sep-21     | Sep-22     | Sep-23     |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Additional Specialist Support Centre Capacity                                  | 10         | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Unit places at mainstream schools  | 180        | 174        | 24         | 0          |
| Additional Capacity at Units*  | 39         | 42         | 0          | 0          |
| Ashley School  | 0          | 24         | 0          | 0          |
| Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) Class Bases<br>at Thomas Wolsey & Riverwalk | 0          | 24         | 24         | 0          |
| Communication & Interaction School Bungay<br>(Castle East)                     | 0          | 40         | 40         | 40         |
| Communication & Interaction (C&I) School<br>Ipswich                            | 0          |            | 30         | 30         |
| Social Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH)<br>School Bury                         | 0          |            | 40         | 40         |
|  | <b>229</b> | <b>304</b> | <b>158</b> | <b>110</b> |

\*Created but not commissioned yet

New units

The table below indicates the new units that opened in September 2020: -

| Name of School        | Location   | Unit Type                                   | Number of Places |
|-----------------------|------------|---|------------------|
| Pipers Vale Primary   | Ipswich    | R/KS1 Specialist Unit                       | 12               |
| Rushmere Primary      | Ipswich    | R/KS1 Specialist Unit with expertise in C&I | 15               |
| Burton End Primary    | Haverhill  | R/KS1 Specialist Unit                       | 12               |
| Murrayfield Primary   | Ipswich    | KS2 Communication and Interaction Unit      | 18               |
| Causton Junior School | Felixstowe | KS2 Communication and Interaction Unit      | 18               |
| Houldsworth Valley    | Newmarket  | KS2 Communication and Interaction Unit      | 18               |
| Clements Primary      | Haverhill  | KS2 Cognition and Learning Unit             | 18               |
| Ixworth Free School   | Ixworth    | KS3/4 Communication and Interaction Unit    | 18               |

|                     |           |  |            |
|---------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| Newmarket Academy   | Newmarket | KS3/4 Communication and Interaction Unit     | 18         |
| Castle manor School | Haverhill | KS3/4 Cognition and Learning Unit            | 18         |
| Bungay High School  | Bungay    | Resource Base for children with Hearing Loss | 15         |
|                     |           |  | <b>180</b> |

The table below indicates the new units that opened in 2021: -

| Name of School         | Location        | Unit Type                                | Number of Places |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|
| Exning Primary School  | Newmarket       | R/KS1 Specialist Unit                    | 12               |
| Woodhall Primary       | Sudbury         | KS2 Communication and Interaction Unit   | 18               |
| St Edmunds Primary**   | Bury St Edmunds | KS2 Cognition and Learning Unit          | 18               |
| Mendlesham Primary     | Mendlesham      | KS2 Cognition and Learning Unit          | 18               |
| Copleston High School  | Ipswich         | KS3/4 Communication and Interaction Unit | 18               |
| Saxmundham Free        | Saxmundham      | KS3/4 Communication and Interaction Unit | 18               |
| Saxmundham Free        | Saxmundham      | KS3/4 Cognition and Learning Unit        | 18               |
| Stowupland High School | Stowupland      | KS3/4 Cognition and Learning Unit        | 18               |
| Beccles High School    | Beccles         | KS3/4 Cognition and Learning Unit        | 18               |
| Chantry High School    | Ipswich         | KS3/4 Cognition and Learning Unit        | 18               |
|                        |                 |  | <b>174</b>       |

\*\* opening Easter 2022

The table below indicates the new units that are due to open in 2022: -

| Name of School       | Location        | Unit Type                                   | Number of Places |
|----------------------|-----------------|---|------------------|
| St Edmunds Primary   | Bury St Edmunds | R/KS1 Specialist Unit                       | 12               |
| Oulton Broad Primary | Oulton Broad    | R/KS1 Specialist Unit with expertise in C&I | 12               |
|                      |                 |   | <b>24</b>        |

Some units faced delays due to the impact of Covid and challenges on-site. There are risks in the supply chain. We continue to experience longer lead in times on certain products and difficulty obtaining sufficient quantities of others. For projects which have a contract awarded we receive monthly cost reports. Monthly meetings are being held with the respective schools and colleagues in the Schools Infrastructure Team to ensure any challenges can be addressed promptly and more frequently where interim arrangements are being considered.

| New Unit             | Status   | Earliest on-site | Interim Arrangements from Sept 22   |
|----------------------|--|------------------|---|
| Oulton Broad Primary | Negotiations to complete the purchase have been agreed and the purchase will go ahead subject to planning permission. The building will be block built with timber cladding. Tenders are back and are more costly than anticipated however the work will proceed. The Programme shows a completion date of January 2023 is achievable. | January 2023     | Investigating possible alternatives that could be used as an interim measure from September 2022. |

### **New Schools**

**Woodbridge Road Academy (C&I School Ipswich)** – This is being led by the DfE. There have been considerable delays and the DfE are now suggesting a March 2023 completion date. It has been agreed that the Murrayside Community Centre will be used as an interim measure for academic year 2022/23. The DfE are hoping to handover the building at the beginning of March 2023 and the school should be operational in its new location from summer term 2023.

**Sir Peter Hall (SEMH Bury)** - New School on Moreton Hall adjacent to First Base and Abbots Green. Planning permission has been submitted. Steelwork is being erected and a 'steel signing' event took place on the 15 October 2021. Hand over is planned for July 2022, however there has been a small delay due to a legal issue, if there are any further delays a contingency plan will be explored and supported by SCC. The proposed opening date is September 2022, creating 40 places with an increase of a further 20 places in September 2023 and a further 20 places in September 2024.

**Castle East (C&I School Bungay)** – Castle EAST opened in October 2021 for 40 pupils and from September 2022 this will increase to 80 places. In September 2023, a further 40 places will be available, totalling 120 places from this provision.

**Chalk Hill** - Trust submitting a CIF application for a new build educational provision with a contribution from LA. The Trust is progressing the project through to RIBA stage 4. SCC will contribute £2,400,000 for the additional places created while the CIF bid will pay for pre-existing condition works. If successful, this will create 48 specialist places.

### **KPI Working group**

Please see KPI Working Group paper.

### **Liquid Logic EHCP**

It has been agreed that we will move the process of EHCP's to Liquid Logic. A project group has been set up. Governance of this will sit under the SEND Programme Board and updates will be provided at each Programme Board.

### **Education & Children Services Scrutiny**

Officers across SCC and ICB attended Education & Children Services scrutiny committee. It was acknowledged that sufficient work had been undertaken yet impact was not being felt by CYP, families and schools. A number of recommendations were made and are currently being agreed. Once these have been confirmed these will be shared with the SEND Programme Board.

### **Recruitment**

Significant work has been completed to review the capacity analysis provided by IMPOWER, alongside the development of SEND Services. The following new posts have been appointed to:

- 2 FTE Family Services Lead Coordinators
- 1 FTE Inclusion Support Line Advisors
- 1 FTE Education Access Manager
- 2 FTE Education Access Officers
- 1 FTE Project Officer (I Hub)
- 3 FTE Resolution & Tribunal Officers

The following posts are out at advert

- 8 FTE Family Services Coordinators
- 1 FTE Education & Engagement Officer
- 3 Education Access Assistant Officers
- Family Services Assistant Coordinators (tbc)

There will also be further recruitment across the leads and coordinator posts, as current staff have been successful in being appointed to new roles, thus creating more vacancies.

Work is underway with Workforce Development to design training and induction of new staff into Inclusion.

### **1. Risks & Issues**

- Staff capacity remains an issue, although heavy investment has been agreed, the impact of additional staff will not be realised until the staff are recruited, started, and trained, this is similar across services for qualified professionals as well other non-qualified staff.
- Continued negative behaviours from certain groups continues to have an impact on progression due to the time taken to respond and resolve
- The increased request for FOI's has impacted across the service and leadership. Proactive work is being undertaken to consider how we can share information online to reduce the need for FOI requests to allow officers to focus on driving forward change and improvements.
- Further investment of funding will be required, as we look to improve services and responses for CYPF.

### **2. Overall Priority Project Areas Progress**

The overall rating for the SEND programme is **AMBER**. This is a consistent from the previous report. We are now over 18 months in the SEND strategy, the Independent Review has identified further areas that need to be addressed which has widened the programme of



work. All areas are being prioritised however, it is a challenge shaping and changing processes, services whilst meeting statutory deadlines.

**Priority 1** is **GREEN** Communication remains a focus on all areas of service. Processes need to be improved for communication to have further impact across the system.

Consistency of communication has been hindered by vacancy with the communication team.

**Priority 2** is **AMBER** Despite the inclusion of further actions following the SEND Independent review recommendations, current actions have not evolved at pace. Areas are developing with priority 2 but not at pace, this is partly due to capacity. This last two months have seen a series of focused meetings to allow P2 reps to review journeys for CYP. This work is ongoing.

**Priority 3** is **AMBER** progress is being made across NDD and mental health system, both are not without their challenges.

**Priority 4** is **AMBER** minimal progress is being made due to capacity, vacancies and attendance.

### 3. Focus for coming period

- SEND Decision Making Panels
- Review of actions and impact across SEND Strategy
- Recruitment update

### Addendums

#### MONTHLY SEND REFORM REPORTING – Board Level Scrutiny

|                                       |                               |   |  |         |   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|---------|---|
| <b>Programme:</b>                     | SEND Transformation Programme |   |  |         |   |
| <b>Priority / Enabler:</b>            | Priority 1 – The Local Offer  |   |  |         |   |
| <b>Author:</b>                        | Clare Besley                  |   | <b>Date of Report:</b>                 | July-22 |   |
| <b>RAG status for current period:</b> | Green                         | ↔ | <b>RAG status for previous period:</b> | Green   | ↔ |

#### Overview of significant developments since last report

##### Programme Board Priority 1

##### Promoting the Local Offer

Our web analytics are high again for May and June with a combined total of 4,541 unique visitors to the website, achieving over 2k for both months again.

We continue to promote service updates and improvements via our social media channels are reached a combined total of 9.5k for the above period.

##### Website updates



Following the platform updates, so far changes and improvements have been made to the following pages/sections:

Assessment & EHC Plans, Education, Leisure Activities and Short Breaks. A site-wide [feedback form](#) has also been developed following the launch. The AU summer holiday programme has been published - <https://www.access-unlimited.co.uk/home/programme/> . What makes an ideal meeting and ideal children's worker posters added to the site -

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/advice.page?id=Fd-ONIQX11M>

Ideal worker flyer and animation have been published alongside what makes an ideal meeting and what makes good support for young people with autism

[https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/suffolk/enterprise/files/2021-10-05\\_ideal\\_children\\_s\\_worker\\_poster.pdf](https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/suffolk/enterprise/files/2021-10-05_ideal_children_s_worker_poster.pdf)

[https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/suffolk/enterprise/files/what\\_makes\\_a\\_n\\_ideal\\_meeting.pdf](https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/suffolk/enterprise/files/what_makes_a_n_ideal_meeting.pdf)

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/advice.page?id=Fd-ONIQX11M>

### **Platform updates**

The new wireframe launched on 6/7/22 and includes a new visual style and layout, ensures we are compliant with accessibility requirements and features an improved search function.

We are currently running a full UAT to ensure all the new features are working correctly and have outstanding issues remaining which are with the developer to be fixed.

### **Young Person's Network and SEND friendly communities**

#### Sensory Processing / Autism – YP Perspectives

a powerpoint from Doucecroft School students has been produced called 'How You Can Help Me'

Here's the Youtube link: <https://youtu.be/o8pRdtAo9js> . Once the voiceover is completed, it will be shared across teams/partners

Work is underway across P1 to plan for Suffolk Inclusion week in Nov, promoting a more inclusive Suffolk . Video clips of inclusive practice are being sourced from yp, parents, carers, schools, early years providers, community groups and post 16 settings.

### **Workforce Development**

- Training group reestablished to review training brochure and content. A Survey has been developed to gauge use of ebrochure - will be sent to

CYP, Education, ACS, Training Providers, Possibly Districts, VCS. The SOS Team are helping look at language of brochure to ensure ease of read and clarity. Links are being made with Youth Justice and Standards and Excellence to see if their training matrices can include SEND/Local Offer. Additionally, plans are underway for future roll out of Keys to Inclusion training.

### Overview of significant developments for next reporting period

New landing pages for education, health and preparing for adulthood, including a new to SEND page.

### Risks and Issues Appraisal and Remedial actions required

- Delays on developing further animations whilst services and processes are improved
- Shortage of staff to support comms cascade following some changes in staff roles/responsibilities
- ICS footprints within Suffolk mean that it is more challenging to communicate clear information to families about whats on offer throughout Suffolk, and that there are differences in the offer depending on what part of Suffolk families live within.

### Financial update

N/A

### Feedback from Board (incl new actions for the Log)

## MONTHLY SEND REFORM REPORTING – Board Level Scrutiny

|                            |                               |                        |          |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| <b>Programme:</b>          | SEND Transformation Programme |                        |          |
| <b>Priority / Enabler:</b> | Priority 2 – The SEND Journey |                        |          |
| <b>Author:</b>             | Izzy Connell                  | <b>Date of Report:</b> | July -22 |

|                                       |              |   |  |              |   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|--------------|---|
| <b>RAG status for current period:</b> | <b>Amber</b> | ↔ | <b>RAG status for previous period:</b> | <b>Amber</b> | ↔ |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|--------------|---|

#### Overview of significant developments since last report

It should be borne in mind that due to the 'scale and size' of Priority 2 and in order to make meaningful, tangible progress, it has been essential to ensure a focus on specific and priority elements of the milestone plan. This report therefore focusses more specifically on Milestones 1) and 2), although other milestones are also updated where actions have been taken and progress reported. The Priority 2 group has established the on-going focus areas / milestones and each of these will be drafted into separate action plans. These plans will make it clearer in terms of *what* we are wanting to achieve next; *how* we do this; the *timescales* and *who* is responsible. Priority 2 requires significant input, commitment and expertise from across the wider system and beyond the Inclusion Service. Therefore, ensuring more specificity and breaking the milestones down into achievable and measurable targets has been essential and is an on-going process.

#### **Milestone 1: Make the SEND journey for children and young people, clear and understandable across education, health and care, from early identification of needs**

- Three working groups continue to lead on: **1) statutory processes; 2) mental health and wellbeing pathways and 3) the universal offer from health.**
- A 'landing page' for each area is being developed – with FAQs being considered as a way to enable CYP and their families to access the right information from the right service.
- Partners in health, mental health and social care have information across a number of websites, for example Just One Norfolk, NHS sites and the Suffolk County Council website. The landing page will direct to these other sources of information.
- An on-going challenge is that the IT work is currently being directed through just one colleague within the Local Offer team. However, the newly appointed Inclusion Support Line Officers will add some much needed capacity. The Inclusion Line officers took up their roles on 11 July 2022.
- It has been acknowledged that capacity to respond as quickly as possible to calls and emails from families and schools is a challenge. However, ways of managing this capacity are constantly reviewed. Recruitment to Family Services teams has been progressed. In addition, links have been established between Priority 1 and 2, with a view to look at a Communication Strategy for SCC, to include the work already happening, for example within the CYP Engagement Hub.

**Updates for each sub-group:**Sub-group 1) : Statutory processes

- The group has linked in with a number of colleagues, including those in social care, SPCF, SENDIASS and the CYP Engagement Hub. FAQs have been considered as part of the mapping process. These now need to be finalised and shared with the Local Offer team, so that the landing page can be completed.
- The Engagement Hub has raised the possibility of having a 'plan on a page' information / guidance for those young people post 19. This could be in the form of guidance which could be 'stuck on the fridge'. The sub-group will take the idea forward, this linking too with the Moving into Adulthood priority group.
- There are plans to try and introduce / re-introduce meetings with education settings and families following a refusal to assess. It is agreed that a follow up conversation would be helpful to understand and facilitate next steps for a CYP. The Whole School Inclusion service are keen to support this work. However, from September this service consists only of 3.6fte teachers. The service will also be following up on phase transfer visits to secondary schools for CYP with an EHCP; in addition, they will be carrying out Inclusion Support Meetings to support schools with the implementation of provision within an EHCP; they receive referrals directly from schools for support; they will be visiting every school where there is a new SENCo, to offer a package of support and they will be progressing the work around the Inclusion Quality Mark. Therefore, a trial to begin with may be necessary whilst capacity is assessed and priorities established.
- Conversations regarding the co-production of EHCPs are being progressed as quickly as possible. A member of the sub-group is linking in with health and another with Social Care. Co-production meetings have so far been arranged largely around CYP with a new EHCP. A next step is to ensure a greater focus on the child's / young person's voice, ensuring this is central to the 'ownership' of the EHCP. Questions raised, for example, include "Does the CYP have the opportunity to share how they would wish to be supported?"; "Do they know what is in the plan?"; "Is the plan accessible to the CYP?". This could perhaps be taken forward at an 'implementation meeting'.
- It was agreed that sometimes EHCPs focus on provision which should be considered as 'reasonable adjustments'. A link therefore with the education setting's SEND report will aid co-production and ensure EHCPs are as specific as possible. This also links with the work needed around the communication of the Graduated Response and the "What's Ordinarily Available' project with mainstream schools.
- Another area of focus is the *monitoring* of EHCPs – how, who, when. This also links with the work around earlier intervention. Crucial is the resource to enable this work to progress further.

- It is also agreed within the sub-group and across the wider Priority 2 group that the focus on Annual Reviews remains very much on the list of current priorities – looking at timeliness and representation at the reviews across the system.

#### Sub-group 2) : Mental Health and Wellbeing

- The group has worked together outside the Priority meetings, with representation from relevant colleagues, including SPCF.
- Updates have been made to the Local Offer and the Suffolk County Council website (Wellbeing in Education pages). Again, the landing pages now need to be completed, so that the search facility on the Local Offer leads to relevant information for CYP and their families.
- It is agreed that not all information should be digital. Rather postcards, QR codes, stickers etc should be available.
- An interactive 'map' of Suffolk is being produced – showing where in the county mental health services operate / where they are available, including the Primary Mental Health Workers (PMHWs) in schools and the Psychology in Schools Team. A multi-agency group is involved in this and we are grateful to colleagues in Norfolk and Waveney for their support of the Priority group – across all sub-groups.

#### Sub-group 3) : Health

- The group has linked in with Priority 1 in addition (around communication).
- Work has taken place to look at the information currently available which is most regularly sought by stakeholders. For example, which searches are the most popular. This has helped to identify which areas in particular should be the priority focus.
- It has been agreed that from the landing page, where FAQs, or 'buttons' will focus on broader queries, there will navigation to individual service pages, for example, Speech and Language Therapy. Following this there will be navigation to advice pages and contacts, as well as referral information.

#### **Milestone 2: Embed the Graduated Response (GR) across education, health, and care to provide timely early intervention and whole school inclusive practices.**

- Much work is being progressed around early intervention in schools. The SENCo Support Line will continue into the next academic year, with the new Inclusion Support Line ensuring there is support available at all times of the day during term time. The Inclusion Line will pass queries to the SENCo Support Line at the end of the day (3.30pm to 4.30pm) where it is deemed the nature of the query requires a teacher or education professional to support.
- The Inclusion Support Meetings (ISMs) offered throughout the week by the Specialist Education Services (SES) are now available to Post 16 settings -

especially important to support transition for young people leaving Year 11 and going into college etc. In addition, ISMs will also be available from September for schools wishing to seek support and advice around the implementation of Section F provision in an EHCP. These ISMs will be offered by the Whole School Inclusion Service so that further support can be offered to a particular setting on a bespoke basis and where the ISM identifies more support is needed.

- Stage 3 referrals will now come as a direct result of Stage 2 support – to ensure schools refer in as early as possible and not wait until a crisis point. This will avoid waiting times for Stage 3 referrals as signposting to the right support can begin earlier. The resource for Stage 3 continues to be stretched with large numbers of referrals coming in every week, many for CYP not attending school.
- A challenge across SES is the support and the timeliness of support available to those CYP where expertise beyond education is required. Teachers are not psychologists or mental health practitioners. Often however, it is this expertise that is required and schools therefore feel isolated and disempowered in being able to manage needs, due to lengthy waiting times for some services, particularly around mental health.
- The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings at Stage 3 continue to represent joint working across the system. However additional time from Social Care colleagues would always be welcome. In addition, a greater join up with Family Services is needed to ensure the Stage 3 approach is progressive and that next steps are more quickly identified – this is especially the case where the MDT identifies a CYP has SEND which may mean statutory assessment should be a next step, or more specialist provision being made available. Working together in this way would avoid any unnecessary delay.
- The GR is increasing referenced and understood across education settings. New SENCoS are offered training and the GR is part of discussion at all SENCo forums as well as all visits to schools as part of the SES offer. Paperwork (referral forms, visit reports etc) reflect the GR and at all times evidence of Assess, Plan, Do, Review (APDR) is expected.
- On-going GR training continues to be offered to external partners, including more recently Early Help. More is needed however to communicate the GR to families and to other stakeholders, so that it is widely recognised and understood and so that expectations of what schools can and should provide are more evident. A GR working group is therefore being established to move this forward.
- The above point links too to the project currently underway with a number of mainstream schools – “What is Ordinarily Available?”. This project, which will take at least 1 to 2 years will result in provision guidance for Suffolk schools. It will support the system to understand the universal and targeted offer available in all mainstream classrooms across all SEND areas of need.
- The next steps over the coming months are to look at ways of working to ensure a presence in every school. SES are looking to provide visits to every school, with discussions at whole school level as a starting point for



support. In addition, we are looking at locality mapping to ensure communities of schools receive bespoke, 'team around the school' support. This will work best when it can be represented across health and social care services in addition.

**Milestone 3: Ensure that assessments and reviews involve the right people and are completed on time.**

- The trial for the aligning of the continuing care reviews continues and has been extended, a further update of this will be provided in Summer 22.
- The DPIA continues to grow to support our statutory need to share information with colleagues across the health system.
- The Annual Review portal action has now ceased, as we move to Liquid Logic. This project will now be led by the I-Hub and will feed directly into the SEND Programme Board.
- Letters have been re-introduced to schools to alert them to timescales and deadlines for Annual Reviews.
- The monitoring of all Annual Reviews remains a focus area.

**Milestone 4: Ensure that assessment and review reports, including Education, Health and Care Plans are person-centred, specific and understandable**

- The Action Plan within the QA process has been updated with Health, Social Care, Educational Psychologists and Family Services
- A new Annual Review QA process proposal is being taken to QA panel at the end of May 2022 to address the difficulties within the AR process – this will form further actions and areas to focus upon within LA services areas as well as education settings. The voice of the family/CYP will be prominent within this focused work.

**Milestone 5: Ensure that children and young people receive the support they require to make progress towards their identified outcomes and ambitions (linking to Milestone 2 – please also see above).**

- On-going discussions occurring regarding the capacity of SES to support the monitoring of outcomes for CYP with EHCPs, whilst also focusing on early intervention. Further support and challenge is needed to ensure schools can deliver the provision outlined in Section F.
- SES have undertaken phase transfer visits to all mainstream secondary settings this summer term 2022 – with a focus on talking to school leaders about the CYP transitioning from Key Stage 2 with an EHCP. This has allowed a view of the quality of transition, as well as identified those CYP for whom additional support from SES will be targeted in the autumn term 2022. The new Whole School Inclusion Service will do follow up visits in the second half of the autumn term 2022, focussing on those schools



where need is greatest and where transition practices require further support.

- The new Whole School Inclusion Service continues to develop and progress the Inclusion Quality Mark work. By the end of the academic year 10 schools will have achieved this nationally accredited mark.
- SES is facilitating work with schools and settings to develop Suffolk guidance around “What is ordinarily available?” in mainstream schools. Whole School SEND are working alongside SES. This ties in with the current thinking within the SEND Green Paper (April 2022).

**Milestone 6: Strengthen the SEND operational practice by developing key roles within social care and health working closely with SEND and Education leaders**

- Improved joint working around complex cases.
- Regular weekly meetings with Heads of Service and biweekly partnership meetings established.
- Weekly SEND tabled agenda item for Social Care Senior Leadership Team.
- Improved data to identify CYP with EHCP and open to social care shared weekly.
- 15 social workers completed multi agency panel training to begin to attend specialist education panel.
- Collaborative auditing process of social care advice for EHCP needs requests underway.
- Nov 21 - 9 social care practitioners attended ‘Social Care and SEND Train the Trainer’. This will form the foundation of the SEND Champions
- 15 Social Workers attended SEND panel training and will join the 9 social care practitioners as champions.

**Milestone 7: Review and learn from SEND feedback including surveys, complaints, compliments and comments, mediation, Tribunal appeals and Ombudsman outcomes to improve practice across the whole SEND system.**

- Dashboard has been shared with colleagues for feedback, work has stalled slightly due to capacity.
- A new ‘Resolutions’ team has been recruited to, adding much needed capacity to this area and ensuring more strategic planning informed by learning from feedback.

**Milestone 8: Transform the SEND Decision Making Panel and ensure capacity and capability within Inclusion Services to effectively operate it (Lead Ros Somerville)**

- See SEND Decision Making Panels redesign plan [SEND Decision-Making Plan V2.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)  
(Independent Review Rec 2,6,7,8)

**Overview of significant developments for next reporting period**

- Further review of the milestone planning so that progress against specific areas and targets is more easily tracked and reported
- On-going development of Milestones 1) and 2).

**Risks and Issues Appraisal and Remedial actions required**

- Continuation to attempt all actions within the priority is meaning that minimal / no progress is made. Due to the complexity and scale of the above milestones, it has been decided to review lines of accountability, as well as focus on key areas. Milestone 1 is essential to information being available to CYP with SEND and their families and therefore has been a focus over the last 4 months. This in mind, the milestone plan is being reviewed and revised - what / who / when.
- Staff capacity is a continue issue, additional staff are being brought in, however with training the benefit of this will not be realised instantly.
- Concerns regarding the Process for Quality Assurance have been shared, discussions to be widened to consider improvements to the governance of this.

**Financial update**

N/A

**Feedback from Board (incl new actions for the Log)**

N/A

**MONTHLY SEND REFORM REPORTING – Board Level Scrutiny**

|                                       |   |   |  |        |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--------|---|
| <b>Programme:</b>                     | SEND Transformation Programme           |   |  |        |   |
| <b>Priority / Enabler:</b>            | Priority 3 – Commissioning and Services |   |  |        |   |
| <b>Author:</b>                        | Wendy Allen                             |   | <b>Date of Report:</b>                 | Jul-22 |   |
| <b>RAG status for current period:</b> | Amber                                   | ↔ | <b>RAG status for previous period:</b> | Amber  | ↔ |

**Overview of significant developments since last report**
**SEND Sufficiency**

SEND Sufficiency group has been established and work is underway. The latest data from the SEN2 return has now been made available. The group have planned to have a first draft available by September 2022.

**SEND Capital Programme**

Full review reported was share at cabinet in June 2022, to provide a update on phase 1 and to request funding for phase 2 as well as additional money to cover the overspend in Phase 1. Funding was agreed, and phase 2 will fund the completion of Castle East and enable them to grow to additional 120 places, develop a KS2 Cognition & Interaction in the North of Suffolk, and also KS3/4 in the West & South for Cognition and Learning. Cabinet identified that phase 2 will still not create sufficient spaces, therefore once the sufficiency plan report is completed, the working group will start to look at phase 3 requirements and return to cabinet.

Full review report is due to cabinet in June 2022, a presentation is due to be made at SEND Programme Board for May 2022.

**Mental Health Services**

£2.1m in funding has been ring fenced for Mental Health services for the next 2 years. Following a review to consider how this funding should be spent, it has been agreed as follows:

1. Childrens Homes to support for Mental Health of young people in care (£200k)
2. Increase in staffing for core CAMHS, work is underway by NSFT working with Jaime Hawkins to look at gaps identified in core CAMHS service- expected investment £1.4M.
3. £500k to voluntary sector to look at lower-level intervention to reduce pressure on CAMHS. Also renewing contract for digital support, tis is currently provided by Kooth who is seen as the market leader. An express of interest for this contract and family support contract (which is similar to families together), feedback from Social Care & Emotional Wellbeing hub and those that had experience service provided good feedback.

With regards to crisis support for young people in acute setting waiting for tier 4 beds, looking at wrap around support, 4 providers have come forward, this is due to close in 2 weeks' time (after 21/07/22), we are likely to have 7 or 8 organisations going forward, these will be on zero hour contract, and as and when YP need emergency support we can commission as contract is in place, This is for East & West Suffolk.

Referrals to Emotional Wellbeing Hub have reduced and are seeing YP quickly, referrals that have gone through the hub that are not in NDD, number of YP waiting **for treatment** in secondary care teams is increasing. Work is being completed to look how increased investment could impact on recovery of these waiting times for assessment and treatment post Hub. Also looking at understanding how these young people waiting to be seen are safely managed, as well understanding how staffing in teams may be having an impact on recovery/accessing services.

Crisis support multi agency protocol in place 1 June to review will take place to check effectiveness. Colchester, Ipswich & Bury – This is reflective to ICB boundary not SCC.

**Neuro-developmental pathway (Support for Children, Young People (CYP) with Neurodevelopmental Conditions and their Families).**

Pathway launched end of April-22 gathering feedback from different support services and all have been good at sending updates through. Direct feedback on benefits from parents have been shared.

The oversight meeting at the end of July has been extended to allow discussion from all organisations involved on what is working well. How has it been for them? Any system issues to resolve as a collective.

Families state support much quicker, feedback from services, still issues with waiting list. The coordination process from EWH is looking to employ 7 temp staff to look at these. In general, it is working but some issues are still to be resolve, however we are aware of the issues and solutions are being found.

Final communication event is with GPs on 13 July to go through the pathway. A follow up event will occur in September with SENCOs to refresh.

### **Care, Education & Treatment Review**

Improvement plan for the Care, Education Treatment Reviews has been submitted to NHSE, but we have yet to receive feedback. Implementation slowed by vacancy for CYP Assurance lead post, but recruitment is pending. The Dynamic Support Register (DSR) for CYP is active, identifying those at risk of admission to Tier 4 with an LD and/or A and where a CETR might be required or having had one in the last year. Definitive DSR guidance is due to be published in quarter 1 22 (Apr-Jun) and along with an update of the CETR policy. This is linked with the keyworker initiative which is due to be delivered in September 2022.

Expecting refresh on CETR policy at the end of September and awaiting definitive guidance for Dynamic Support Register standards

Recruiting to CYP Assurance Post which is key to CETR improvement

Planning training with NHSE on CETR's all partners.

### **Short breaks**

Current tender and provisional award for short breaks for CYP under 18 with disabilities and challenging behaviours, will include in home respite for those that is deemed appropriate and managed through short break panel. New contract is expected to be in place April 2023.

Kathryn Searle & Annie Webster from NSFT have attended in order to involve health provider colleagues in the thinking of how we can best meet young people's needs and bring forward CYP who might access Short Breaks who have are health needs met in Health services

Kathryn Searle & Transformation in CCG are looking at how we can provide short breaks from April 23, currently scoping out need, and will be coproducing with parent/carers and looking at potential process around how we might procure and decide what we need.

Further work is also underway to ensure needs of Continuing Care Children needs are met through Short Breaks, work with transformation & Nic Smith Howell staff.

- To report on draft additional task for Responding to Sensory Needs under Action 4 – NSH to review

#### **Risks and Issues Appraisal and Remedial actions required**

- Risk remains regarding SEND Capital programme and increasing costs for materials and availability of contractors
- Risk around staffing, as provisions are struggling to recruit QTS, Teaching Assistants and High Level Teaching Assistants
- Risk around staffing across health as there are not enough professional qualified staff to support at child level.
- Risk remains that health provision may not be in place due the challenges in the system

#### **Financial update**

#### **Feedback from Board (incl new actions for the Log)**