

Appendices to Minutes 1 March 2024

Additional questions raised at SEND Shadow Improvement Board Friday 1 March 2024

	Question	Response
1	<p>Louise Warren</p> <p>Has the LAP agreed the data that is needed and required to understand the delivery against statutory compliance and high quality of care and mapped against the data that is available - The board will then be able to identify gaps in data and address these absolutely agree re the quality assurance and how this triangulates</p>	<p>Yes, this work is underway. As part of the Priority Action Plan the SEND Local Area Partnership (LAP) has been reviewing the data held. Through coproduction sessions the partnership has considered ways to measure impact and experience and how to present this information. This has been cross referenced through support with the DfE Advisor, which has been helpful. The data set includes statutory timescales and service targets.</p>
2	<p>Sue Willgoss</p> <p>How many EHCP's were finalised with type of school (no actual school named), or a school that was not parental preference, to meet the 15 Feb deadline for phase transfer?</p>	<p>Suffolk County Council seek to secure appropriate school places as soon as possible, where this has not been possible by the 15 February the type of school is named, and the work continues, consulting settings and seeking placement.</p> <p>There was a total of 411 children and young people (CYP) with an EHCP within the phase transfer cohort for CYP moving from nursery to primary and primary to secondary. Of the 411, 84 had a 'type' of school named for September 2024. Of the 411 only 4 had not been finalised by the end of March 2024. The Council continue to seek an appropriate place for those with setting as type named. There are currently 59 with type. SCC have been committed to ensure that phased transfers improve year on year and to ensure families have their statutory right to go to appeal, this is why EHCP are finalised with a type of school to ensure that parents/carers have this right. SCC are grateful for the support from the parent/carer forum where they have supported in coproducing communication to parents. It is acknowledged this is a difficult time for CYP and their families as they prepare to transition.</p> <p>When a school cannot be named this is due to there not being a current space available, this is attributed by some school places still being created, and the recognised need that children need to prepare to transition from different settings.</p> <p>With regards to which schools were not parental preference, the service does not hold this information for reporting purposes.</p>
	Helen Chester (Guest)	<p>In totality there are enough school places. There continues to be a higher demand for specialist placements then there is supply within Suffolk. The Council has a capital programme that is on track to</p>

	are there sufficient school places available for this cohort?	deliver approximately 1,000 places by 2026, and 741 of these are already open. The Council continue to support mainstream schools to develop their practice to meet the needs of children with SEND.
3	<p>Sue Willgoss</p> <p>Can we extend the time of this meeting to fully allow questions and challenge? I feel that is essential to allow challenge, change, and improvement. At least until families start to feel the impact of any improvements.</p>	As agreed, all comments in the chat from the meeting on 1 March, have been responded to. Further work is underway to review future meeting dates and timings to enable sufficient time for valuable discussions, questions and challenges.
4	<p>Sue Willgoss</p> <p>Too many children and young people who have a named Alternative Provision (AP) but not actually accessing it due to staff shortages. How do you monitor the AP and attendance?</p>	The Council monitor attendance at the AP schools where we have received a referral from a mainstream school and when it is a SCC commissioned place. The mainstream school, where the child is on roll, must also monitor their pupil's attendance at the AP and work jointly with the provider to ensure progress is being made on the AP pathway. This joint working ensures reintegration is likely to be more successful. Some schools are commissioning their own AP. The school must agree the placement with the family and establish how they will monitor attendance, as well as progress. If the CYP has an EHCP then all provision will have been discussed with the Family Services coordinator and reviewed as part of the annual review process. SCC are increasing capacity in this area.
5	<p>Helen Chester</p> <p>What do we know about cyp in unregulated AP?</p>	We know there are a number of provisions that have been agreed as part of the EHCP provision, for example, under EOTAS arrangements. However, there are a number of schools who commission their own AP in unregulated provision. The school is responsible for the CYP's attendance and progress. A new role has been developed to work in ATS to support attendance and progress checks, for CYP that are in bespoke/AP, as placed by SCC. The wider attendance service work with and may be involved with CYP that are placed at AP by the school. All provision used by SCC is quality assured and has a contract management review.
6	We have been told there will be a new complaints dashboard for approx. 6 months with no data.	There is a new dashboard that has been built to track and monitor complaints, there has been some technical problems resulting in the data not reading to the dashboard correctly. As a result, the dashboard is being re-built and improved to ensure it can accurately report the data. This is now being supported by the Intelligence Hub, and a new timeline is being put in place. The Quality Assurance team will be arranging multiagency quarterly meetings to complete a thematic review on themes of

		complaints and to compare against what is happening within the SEND Strategy against these areas to make improvements. The specification setting meeting will be arranged in April with SPCF being invited to attend.
7	<p>Louise Warren</p> <p>Do we have a timescale for the completion of the strategy and are key milestones included within the priority action plan?</p>	<p>The Suffolk SEND Partnership Strategy will be completed and signed off in June 24.</p> <p>Prior to this During March and April there continues to be live consultations to gather feedback, alongside a series of coproduction sessions to review the feedback, and to draft the strategy ready for the governance sign off.</p> <p>The final SEND Strategy will include the priority action plan.</p>