

SEND Improvement Board

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| Report Subject | Performance Report February 2021 |
| Meeting Date | 23 April 2021 |
| Name | Vikki Whild, Interim Head of Children’s Performance Jane Trevett, Lead Information Management Officer |
| Introduction | This report summarises the February Performance Report for the SEND system. |
| Progress to Date | <p>Key progress to date, evidenced by performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of EHCPs continues to rise, now 2,695 up 9.6% on the same period last year. 42 new EHCPs were issued in the month and 44 new requests for assessment were received in the same period, up from 35 in the previous month. There were marginally more EHCPs issued than new requests in the period. • In the academic year to date, 8 mediation cases have been held, none of which have gone on to tribunal. This suggests that mediation remains highly successful at reaching a resolution. • Continuing low numbers of appeals registered. 3 appeals were registered with the tribunal in February, and no tribunal outcomes were reached in the period. 7 tribunal cases are ongoing currently; those cases that do progress to tribunal are increasingly becoming more complex. • An increase in the percentage of 2-2.5 year olds offered ASQ-3 as part of the Healthy Child Programme or integrated review was noted this month, continuing recovery after the outbreak of Covid. This is now 90.0% compared to a national average of 90.3%. |
| Challenges | <p>Key challenges highlighted by the performance report are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timeliness of EHCP assessments increased to 21.4% in February, the highest performance since May 2020. The decision regarding whether to assess at the 6 week mark has significantly improved to 70%, which |

is projected to improve overall timeliness for the completion of assessments. Multi-disciplinary training has been delivered by the Council for Disabled Children to the SEND team and colleagues from health and social care. A Care Advice Coordinator is now in post, to ensure social care advice is secured in accordance with timescales and is of a good quality. Weekly meetings to track statutory advice are now being implemented.

- The completion of Annual Review meetings by schools remains high (85.9%) in February. The number of Annual Reviews then completed by the LA increased to 158 in February, however, there are 326 children with an outstanding annual review. A working group has been identified to review Annual Review paperwork, which commences April 2021, and a systems thinking approach is underway within the SEND team to streamline the process. Additional resource to undertake overdue reviews has been identified, but the recruitment of staff for short, fixed term positions may be challenging.
- SALT data received for Quarter 3 shows an increasing rate of referrals into the service pan Dorset, with an increase in assessments completed as part of the ASD pathway. Ongoing system level work programmes in relation to SCLN pathway and All age autism review are in place to better understand need and deliver improvement.
- The percentage of children in care with an EHCP who have an overdue health assessment remains too low at 70.7%. This is being followed up at a child level. There is a delay in completing and receiving out of area health assessments, and health assessments generally are not added to the child's record in a timely way. A multi-agency meeting in March agreed a streamlined process to add assessments to a child's record and introduce a quality assurance process for health assessments.
- 10.8% of 16-18s with an EHCP were NEET in February, up from 4.8% in the same period last year. 26 young people with an EHCP are in an apprenticeship, traineeship or internship (up 2 from the previous month) and 3.5% of 18-25s with a learning disability are in paid employment (no change from previous month). The creation and recruitment to a transition navigator post within BCP Council will enable

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| | <p>improved advice and information to young people who are at risk of NEET. The SEND Team is currently focussing on young people with EHCPs in year 11 to support them into post 16 opportunities. A strategic Preparing for Adulthood group is being established to progress a more comprehensive, seamless and coordinated approach to support young people into adulthood.</p> |
| <p>Next Steps</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move frequency of full Performance Surgeries attended by partners to quarterly, with data collection and commentary remaining monthly with review by Head of Service SEND, Head of Children's Performance and SEND Improvement Programme Manager. • In line with March SIB action, bring together quality and performance data in June, which is efficient while providing assurance to the Board. • Reintroduce CAMHS performance data to the report, which has not been received since June 2020. |