

Scrutiny Briefing Note

The Children and Young People's Panel have asked to monitor progress on the following issues. This briefing contains the latest position as of 12th March 2021.

Subject:

SEND Written Statement of Action update

The Local Authority had their joint SEND inspection in 2018, which resulted in requiring a Written Statement of Action for improvement. There have been subsequent monitoring visits from the Regional DfE and NHSE representatives. The last of these visits was 2nd February 2021.

The re-inspection was due in June 2020, but is now looking to be sometime after April 2021.

The focus of the re-inspection will be around the three areas of priority outlined within the Written Statement of Action:

1. Local area leaders have a limited understanding of the needs of children and young people who have SEN and/or disabilities and the education, health and care outcomes they achieve. This fundamentally weakens the local area's ability to jointly plan, commission and provide the right services, resources and support for this group of children and young people, and their families.
2. The local area's strategy for improving arrangements for identifying, assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people who have SEN and/or disabilities, and improving their outcomes, is ineffective.
3. Children, young people and families have too little involvement in meaningfully co-producing the education, health and care services they need.

Key areas of activity since November update:

- Recruited an interim project lead for the Access Pathway transformation.
- Re-launched the SEND Local Offer
- Increased the number of EHCPs now on the EHCP Hub – all special and secondary schools now on the hub. Primary in progress, then post 16 learners will have theirs uploaded.
- Delivered training sessions to health and social care professionals on what EHCPs are and what the responsibilities are of those professionals in the assessment and annual review process.
- Held a number of discussions with Multi-Academy Trusts and Headteachers about supporting the sufficiency strategy and building capacity around specialist provision.
- Launched a review of the BACs process at secondary to better understand the challenges schools face, the cohort of children coming through the process and how they can be better supported.



- Completed a review of short breaks and respite offer

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If you would like to find out more about scrutiny you can contact us:

by email democracy@nelincs.gov.uk

on our website www.nelc.gov.uk/council/councillors-democracy-elections-/scrutiny/



SEND update

25th March 2021



Local data:

Children and Young People with an EHCP

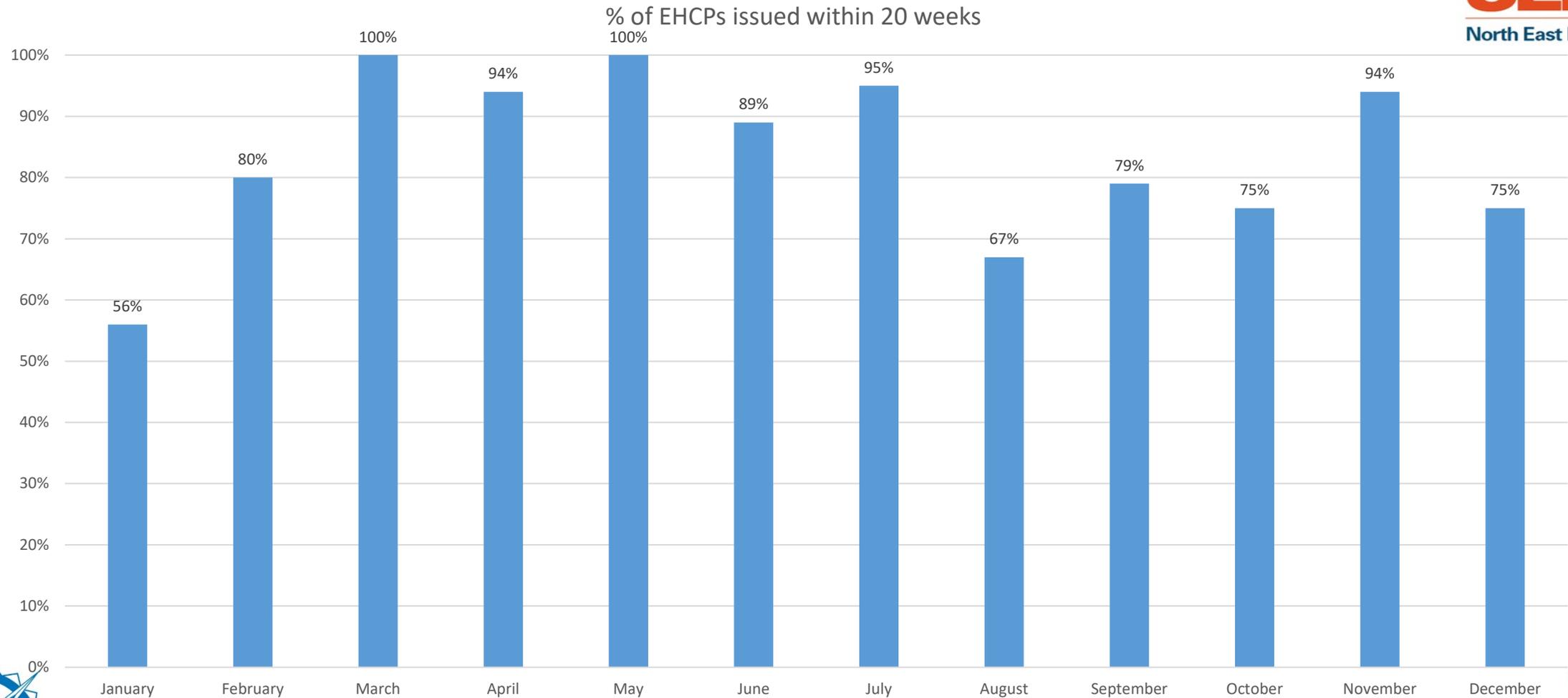
Year	Number of CYP with EHCPs	Difference on previous year
2015	536	-
2016	563	+27
2017	639	+76
2018	760	+121
2019	892	+132
2020	1040	+148
2021	1209	+169



The top five areas of need in NEL:

1. Social Emotional and mental health (SEMH)
2. Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)
3. Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)
4. Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
5. Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)

% of EHCPs issued within 20 week timescale



Update on the Written Statement of Action



Inspection July 2018 - 3 areas of Priority Action:

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2. The local area's strategy for improving arrangements for identifying, assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people who have SEN and/or disabilities, and improving their outcomes, is ineffective.
3. Children, young people and families have too little involvement in meaningfully co-producing the education, health and care services they need.

What have we done since the last Scrutiny update?



- Re-launched the SEND Local Offer
- Increased the number of EHCPs on the EHCP Hub – all special and secondary schools now on the hub. Primary in progress, then post 16 learners will have theirs uploaded.
- Recruited an interim project lead for the Access Pathway transformation.
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WSOA update



- Latest visit on 2nd February with Regional Leads - Wendy Barker and Elaine Baulcombe - along with Andre Imich
- Recognition for the journey that we have been on since 2018 and the progress that we are making.
- Accurately understood where we were against the WSOA and SEND transformation.
- Thanked us for our honesty and transparency.
- Re-inspection due after Easter

Feedback from EHCP Co-Ordinators on the new EHCP hub



Yes, so far so good!

It's so good to receive a call out of the blue and know that someone cares, thank you

I think it will definitely be better once we are using it full time. I am new to the Assessments on the hub but so far so good. It is quite instant.

I haven't used it much have an EHCAR which seemed ok, but not clear on the review side yet. I am optimistic that it will be better from what I have seen

I'm loving it. Soooo much quicker. 😊

When I used it I thought...can it really be that quick! is that it...it was!

Key actions and next steps:



Priority area (specific action)	Action	Timescale for completion
Priority 1	Recruit to two temporary posts to support SEND transformation work.	ASAP
Priority 1	Implement the recommendations from the sufficiency strategy for SEND provision, to have a clear short, medium and long term plan for developing SEND provision in North East Lincolnshire.	June 2021
Priority 2	Continue to deliver training to professionals in health and social care to promote good practise with EHCP contributions.	Ongoing monthly programme
Priority 2	Through the Speech Language and communication strategic group undertake a 'Have your Say' survey with parents, carers and young people.	End of June
Priority 3	Launch the engagement strategy with parents, carers, schools, and all professionals involved in developing SEND services in NEL.	End of April
Priority 3	Continue to work with parents/carers identifying opportunities for engagement on SEND transformation areas.	Ongoing – meet weekly on a Wednesday morning.