

# SEND Improvement – Update

## Education & Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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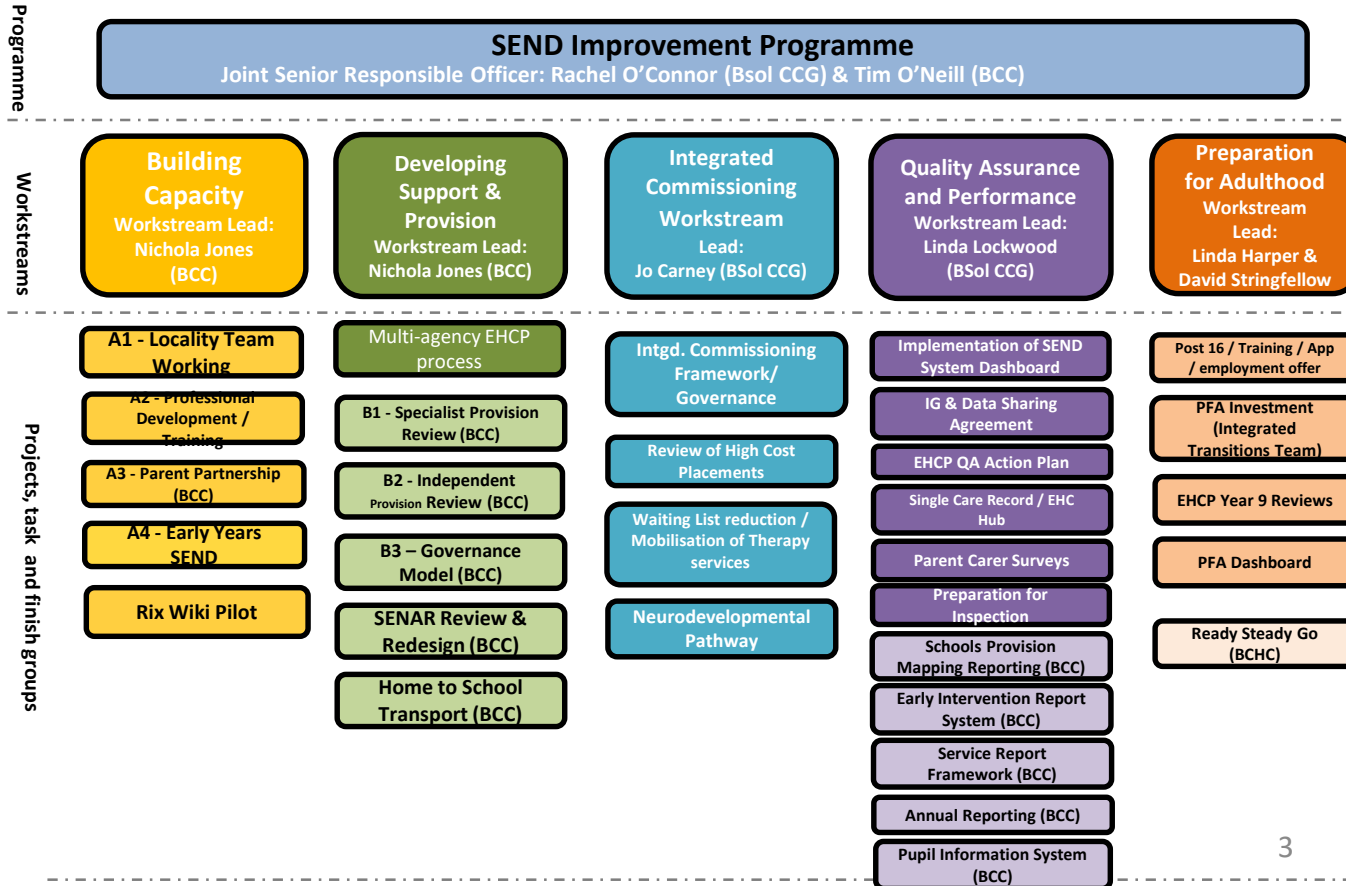
# SEND Improvement - update

- Recent WSOA Monitoring meeting with DfE & NHS England in January 20 - well received
- Maturing relationship with the Parent Carer Forum and co-production action plan
- Parent Carer Survey January – increased responses (392) and green shoots of improvement
- Development of a new SEND locality model, including new pilot services
- Review of SEND Improvement programme governance and planning for Year 2 was agreed SEND Board in October 2019.




























# Birmingham SEND Local Area Improvement Programme

## Programme Outline December 2019



# Written Statement of Action – Progress RAG

Action RAG status	Jan 19	April 19	2 <sup>nd</sup> June 19	20 <sup>th</sup> June 19	10 <sup>th</sup> July 19	22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct 19	7 <sup>th</sup> Jan 20
N/A (usually not started by date)	133	69	 49	 48	 36	 27	 22
Red / Overdue	0	10	 129	 102	 81	 60	 51
Amber / Risk	66	125	 13	 8	 6	 4	 2
Green / On track	84	50	 22	 27	 28	 36	 44
Blue / Completed	37	54	 97	 125	 148	 165	 172
Total	320	308	307	310	299	292*	291*

\*Note: Total actions have decreased due to ongoing work to remove duplication from the WSOA Action Plan. Where this has happened, an action has marked as 'archived'



# Building Capacity – Key progress this quarter

- Locality Panel arrangements went live November 19, including new SEN Support plan and process for applying for enhanced (one to one) funding without an EHCP
- Re-alignment of BCC SEND teams to localities, and recruitment of Health resource (Speech & Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy) for pilot is progressing
- New Local Offer website in final stages of development – to go live March 2020
- Professional Development Directory completed January 2020
- Parent Link Pilot Service is now live
- SEND Youth Forum has been recruited and third meeting taking place in March
- Early Years SEND Project now underway – including Early Identification & Intervention workstream with Professor Angela Fawcett
- Rix Wiki – recruitment is still currently low in families. Information Governance and capacity issues are being urgently addressed.



# Developing Support & Provision – Key progress this quarter

- Education Sufficiency review – Specialist provision including Resource Bases and Special Schools completed
- Review of Independent Schools placements and commissioning framework underway
- Governance model – Service Level Agreements now in place for Specialist Resource Base provision; criteria for assessing special school and resource based placements is in final stages of development
- Planned recovery programme in place to undertake backlog of assessments, appeals and tribunals. Additional capacity and new team has been recruited



# Integrated Commissioning – Key progress this quarter

- SEND Financial Baseline 2019/20 completed and being refreshed for 2020/201
- Options for Integrated Commissioning
- Additional investment from BCC as part of SEND Locality Model, new Early Intervention assessment tool (Wellcomm) and additional Speech & Language and Occupational Therapy capacity for locality pilot.
- On track against waiting list trajectories for Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) and Occupational Therapy (OT). New OT helpline being well received.
- Speech & Language Therapy waiting times will be down to 30 weeks in March 2020. For Occupational Therapy it will be 45 weeks by March, and 30 weeks by October 2020.
- Wider transformation session planned for March 2020 to consider support for children & young people who are still experiencing very high waiting times.
- Neurodevelopment pathway – working towards go live April 2020



## Quality Assurance & Performance – Key progress this quarter

- Continuing refinement of the SEND Dashboard – additional health and transport data now included
- EHCP Audit group continuing to meet on monthly basis, and Quality Assurance Action Plan recommendations being delivered
- Additional monitoring from BCC and Health now in place to ensure all new EHCPs meet required quality
- Parent Carer Survey – 3<sup>rd</sup> survey, increased responses (392), green shoots of improvement
- Preparation for re-inspection underway, expected summer 2020
- Information Governance Agreement – sign off February 2020





# Preparation for Adulthood – key progress this quarter

- Preparation for Adulthood Investment – Integrated Transitions team is being recruited and expected to go live in March
- Post 16 / Training / Employment offer for SEND – undergoing re-planning
- Year 9 reviews – Action plan for reviews of 600 CYP has been agreed, recruitment of new team has commenced
- Year 9 review guidance toolkit and FAQs developed and rolled out



# Top Risks (1)

Title and Description	Owner	Opening Score			Mitigating Actions	Current Score			Comments / Progress	Residual Risk		
		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG
<b>Long Waiting Times</b> - some key services have waiting times over 100 weeks, or longer. This is causing high levels of dissatisfaction	JC / TMcl	4	4	16	1. Urgent business cases for key therapy services are agreed with significant new investment. 2. Service improvement work is also being prioritised by BCHC. 3. Waiting list support and information has been developed for those families that are waiting for support. 4. Further link to be made around Early Intervention and Neurodevelopment pathway, and diagnosis numbers 5. BCHC to form task and finish group to consider options for the 70% whom are slow to speak and clinical teams felt should have the 6 step programme before being added to waiting list for early help, empowerment of self action with families. 6. BCHC has established a children's clinical harms review panel where requests are agreed for children to have their appointment prioritised if appropriate.	4	4	16	1. CCG agreement that business cases will prioritise waiting lists, and long waits. 2. Neurodevelopmental pathway has also been identified as a priority for CCG investment. 3. A 'Balanced System' approach is being developed to support the wider workforce in meeting speech, language and communication needs appropriately at universal, targeted and specialist levels, 4. Waiting times are now reducing from September 2019, Monthly monitoring underway, waiting times remain high currently with some services at 120wks – focussed on key priorities to reduce these via locality structures 5. SEND Improvement Board completed review of 'spotlight on therapies' item 10.02.2020 – board escalation for options to be reviewed for reduction of those in main cohort for other service models to support children being seen quicker for initial assessment	3	4	12
<b>High Thresholds</b> - some key services have high thresholds so that parents and CYP do not get any help unless they meet the threshold.	JC	5	3	15	1. Business cases for key therapy services are agreed. 2. SEND Board has established the principal that EHC assessments need to be completed despite high thresholds and waiting lists	5	3	15	1. CCG is taking forward urgent improvement work for therapy services. 2. Social Care has developed a process to ensure that all ECH assessment requests are completed. 3. New protocols for health and social care involvement in EHCP's are still embedding, as of Nov2019, tracked monthly by the audit work.	3	3	9
<b>Waiting List Trajectory</b> There is a risk that the waiting list reduction trajectory target is not met, and the impact will be continued high levels of dissatisfaction	JC / TMcl	4	4	16	1. Identification of cohorts and strategy for reducing the waiting list 2. Ensure appropriate resources in place to meet reduction needed	3	4	12	1. On track against waiting list trajectories for Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) and Occupational Therapy (OT). 2. New OT helpline being well received. 3. Speech & Language Therapy waiting times will be down to 30 weeks in March 2020. For Occupational Therapy it will be 45 weeks by March, and 30 weeks by October 2020.	3	2	6

# Top Risks (2)

Title and Description	Owner	Opening Score			Mitigating Actions	Current Score			Comments / Progress	Residual Risk		
		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG
<b>Insufficient Capacity, Resources</b> There is a risk that there is insufficient capacity across all organisations to maintain the rate of improvement and outcomes for children/young people.	ROC/TON	4	4	16	1. Detailed modelling work has commenced with health providers including workforce analysis 2. Improvement team will support transformational activities 3. Investment and the best use of resources is key to a number of reviews, and commissioning activity. 4. A new senior 'Delivery Board' with Directors, Assistant Directors from the three main agencies is meeting fortnightly to strengthen coordination and decision making. 5. Use of DfE funding will pilot key developments	4	3	12	1. An integrated commissioning workstream has been developed as part of the new governance structure to underpin all developments. 2. Improvement team recruitment has been completed in November. 3. The £1.4M innovate to save programme is now being implemented across key WSOA actions, and workstreams. 4. High level investment discussions taking place across the partnership. 5. away day discussion on where extra resources were needed on EHCP review, quality review sign off of plans and inspection preparation capacity. See EHCP risk and actions.	3	3	9
<b>Parent / Carer Awareness</b> There is a risk that not all parents / carers will be sufficiently aware of the service developments that are intended to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND	NJ	4	4	16	1. The WSOA has been published in a clear and understandable format in order to ensure that information is accessible and understood about the plan and the partnership. 2. Comms and engagement plan developed to ensure regular communications with parents and carers including regular monthly newsletters. 3. BCP improvement team has mapped all the parent and career networks in the city and they will be followed up by the new Parent Partnership service.	3	4	12	1. WSOA and parental survey published, and third survey completed December 2019, about 400 respondents 2. Communications and stakeholder plan has been drafted, monthly newsletter is welcomed across the city. Consultation events took place November and December 2019 to consult on the new Locality model for SEND 3. Parent Carer Network Mapping completed by BCP November 2019	4	2	8



# Top Risks (3)

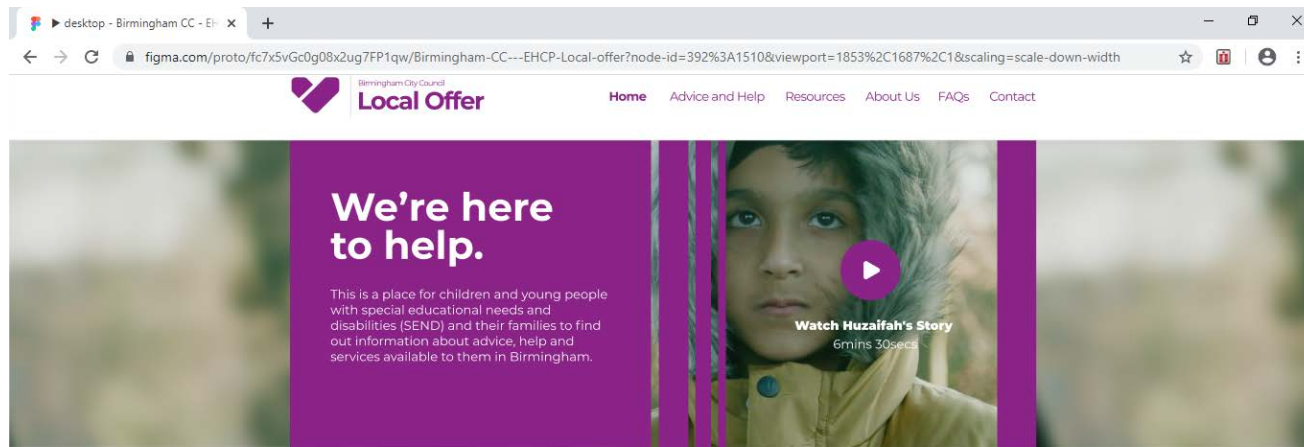
Title and Description	Owner	Opening Score			Mitigating Actions	Current Score			Comments / Progress	Residual Risk		
		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG		L	I	RAG
<b>Quality of EHCP's</b> Further work needed to assure the Board that quality of EHCP's across agencies is improving.	LL	4	4	16	Gain assurance from all members of the Board that key messages on completing assessment requests on time and in full is understood by all operational staff. Health & Social Care partners are focussed on improving assessment reports to support EHC planning.	3	4	12	1. EHCP Quality Assurance Action Plan for 2019/2020 has been developed and is being implemented, including monthly audit days. 2. SENAR agreement to develop EHCP quality gateway before Draft plans are issued, officer lead in post 10/02/2020. 3. EHCP recovery plan now being implemented to reduce review backlog and improve overall quality of plans. That will be cross referenced with the current EHCP Quality Improvement Plan.	3	2	6
<b>Co-Production</b> There is a risk that parents and carers do not feel sufficiently engaged in the co-production and delivery of the WSOA	NJ	3	5	15	1. Work plan to be developed with the Parent Carer Forum initially to start out small and develop the co-production working principles and ensure sound foundation for moving forward. 2. Regular monthly business meetings have been agreed. 3. The new parent partnership service will support co-production across the improvement programme.	3	4	12	1. Nichola Jones is meeting with the PCF regularly. 2. PCF attending SEND Improvement Board meetings and PFA board meetings on a regular basis. Key communications from Board are being disseminated through PCF committee 3. Parent Link officers have been recruited to commence in job role from January 2020.	2	4	8

# Early Years SEND - key themes

- Early Years SEND Locality Teams
- Childminders SEND Locality teams
- SEND Workforce Development programme
- Parent Link Service for Early Years
- An early identification and intervention framework for SEND
- Strengthening the Early Years Transition process
- Clearly defined specialist assessment and provision for Early Years in each locality



# New Local Offer Website



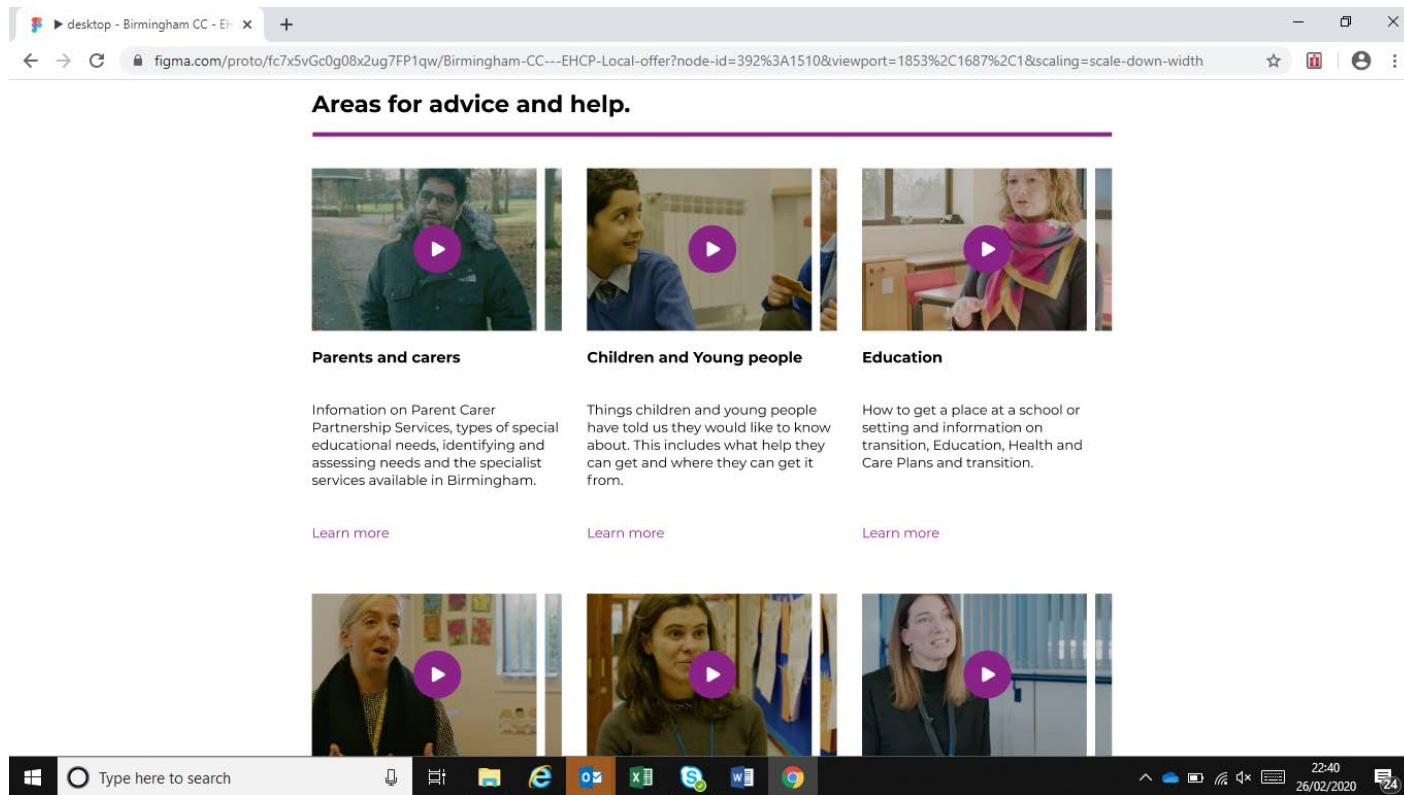
## Our Mission.

**It is Birmingham's aim to ensure that children and young people with special educational needs can get the help they need as early and easily as possible.**

There are many different types of services that children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities may need, including support services who work with nurseries, schools and colleges, specialist health services, leisure activities and the services that are needed to help young people move towards independence in adulthood.



# New Local Offer Website - 2



# Key focus for next month

- Continue to pilot locality model and consultation meetings with schools and families across consortia
- Local offer 'go live'
- Co-production workshop with officers and PCF
- Inspection preparation
- Series of consultation events for Early Years settings
- Pilot early identification tool
- Finalise reports on review of specialist and independent provision
- Phase 1 joint commissioning – alignment phase go live
- Continue to meet waiting list trajectory
- Proposal for SLT main cohort back log agreed.
- Implementing improvements to EHCP quality, reducing backlog of annual reviews/ year 9 reviews
- Implementation of new PFA / Integrated Transitions Team

