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| **Yorkshire and Humber Change Programme Partnership (CPP) Highlight Report** | |
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| **Date of Report:** | 29th April 2024 |
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| **Reporting period:** | 27/02/2024 – 28/04/2024 |
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| **CPP Context & Background** |
| The DfE are committed to testing, refining and developing the most significant reforms to ensure they get the changes right via a Change Programme. Testing will take place in up to nine Change Programme Partnerships (CPP) each made up of three to four local authorities and their partners. The DfE shortlisted up to three local authorities per region and invited them to express an interest in leading the CPP in each region. Wakefield is the lead LA in the Yorkshire and Humber CPP working with Bradford, Calderdale and Leeds.  The national delivery partner, The Reaching Excellence and Ambition for all Children (REACh) consortium, led by PA Consulting in partnership with the Council for Disabled Children, Olive Academies and IMPOWER are supporting the DfE and our CPP with delivery of a two-year programme to implement, test and refine reforms introduced by the Improvement Plan.  Some of the key areas the CPP will be working on are: Development of a CPP Steering Group, completing a Strategic Delivery Plan, testing National and Local Inclusion Dashboards, setting up/amending SEND & AP Local Area Partnerships, developing Local Area Inclusion Plans (LAIP), using a benchmarking tool for strategic planning for SEND and AP, testing of a National EHCP template, multi-agency panels, AP Reform (3-Tier Model), National Standards, Bands and Tariffs, Advisory Tailored Lists and Early Language Support for Every Child (ELSEC).  The Department for Education have appointed ICF Consulting Services, an independent public policy and research consultancy, to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the SEND & AP Change Programme. |
| **Progress Updates Since the Last Highlight Report** |
| * Partnership wide Local Area Inclusion plans for all 3 local authorities were submitted to DfE setting out each local areas position and their delivery plan. * Continued roll out of the new EHCP template testing across the whole of the CPP. Feedback has been provided around the advice templates to the DfE. * Submitting the tailored list template included engaging with parents and carers. * All areas are progressing the work around multi-agency panels – Local Areas are at different stages with this work. * Reviewed most recent version of the Data Dashboard for accuracy and provided feedback on its effectiveness. Ongoing checking and matching data within SEND Dashboards and other data systems within the partnership. Information has been provided to the DfE around the work health are doing re data dashboards. * Working is taking place with schools in some areas to strengthen the graduated response/ordinary available provision. * Areas completed the exercise on banding and tariffs and submitted results to the DfE along with additional information of how these work in each area. * Bradford continuing to develop the Early Language & Support for Every Child (ELSEC) delivery model, recruitment has taken place to support this and regular meetings and monitoring in place in line with DfE requirements. * Each member of CPP is providing timely progress reports against the key aspects of the programme and the reform testing that is in scope to ensure effective monitoring of progress and allow easy identification of any strengths or potential issues. * Weekly programme meetings with Wakefield (the Lead Local Authority), the DfE and REACh. Additional monthly meetings now booked in to include all leads from each local area. * Local Area updated SEND & AP Partnership board Terms of References have been approved in local areas and shared with the DfE. * On-going work in some areas regarding mediation including ‘deep dives’ and action plans. * Monthly highlight reports are published to enable clear updates on the overall progress of the programme, these are included in the Yorkshire and Humbers SEND Newsletter and published on Local Offers. * Attendance by leads at the REACh webinars on specific themes as well as programme wide. These are continuing throughout the programme. * Updated communications are published on Local Offers webpages to improve information for families about the SEND AP Change programme. Some area PCF also include updates for example: [Wakefield Parent Carer Forum (wakefieldparentcarers.co.uk)](https://www.wakefieldparentcarers.co.uk/change-programme-partnership) * West Yorkshire ICB have established a part time role to support the work of the CPP and this will be in place from April 2024. * National Evaluator brought in by DfE to develop a framework and to undertake interviews, surveys and research around the programme over the duration. * REACh held 1-2-1 check ins with leads across Y&H CPP. |
| **Details of Meetings/Workshops/Task and Finish Groups in this Period** |
| * **Steering Group**   Steering Group convened virtually on 29.04.24 and now has an established membership representative of areas in scope for programme. The agenda consisted of:   * Welcome and Introductions * **Progress update as a CPP and against the reform areas** * **What’s coming up next?** * Focus on reporting * Further information * Standing Items (ELSEC / Finance / Young People voice) * CPP Communications   Previous Steering Group meeting dates in 2024   * + 23.01.24   + 26.02.24 * **Weekly meeting with Wakefield lead contacts, DfE & REACh as required, this period:** * 01 March 2024 * 08 March 2024 * 28 March 2024 * 05 April 2024 * 19 April 2024 * 26 April 2024 * **National Evaluator appointed and introduction** * 07.03.24 * **CPP information sessions delivered by DfE Policy Teams and REACh**   + Communicating with key stakeholders 29.02.24   + Bands & Tariffs 29.02.24 & 07.03.24   + Features of an effective partnership 16.04.24   + Visioning for an effective AP system 18.04.24   + Feedback loops established on each of the reforms running until July 2024 |
| **Programme Planned Activities for Next Month** |
| * Continuation of use of EHCP template across CPP to enable testing. Progress tracking taking place in each of the areas. On-going work to develop EHCP panels and arrangements. * Continued ongoing local CPP communications ensuring these are linked across the CPP to ensure consistent messaging and informed by information from our CPP and the DfE and REACh. * Steering groups set up to run monthly throughout 2024. * National evaluator undertaking research, interviews and surveys through May and June 2024. Next focus is on EHCP template. * REACh information sessions   + Power and purpose of practice led OAP framework 01.05.24   + Ways of working for a successful AP model 02.05.24   + Commissioning for quality in AP 15.05.24   + National Standards 16.05.24 * Advisory Tailored lists work testing commencing in May. * Monthly progress reports from each area detailing progress against the reform testing, and monthly online reports are now submitted to the DfE. * Bradford to continue ELSEC work and feed updates into CPP meetings as required as well as reporting to DfE. * Bands and Tariffs awaiting further ‘asks’ from the policy team. * REACh to maintain a simple table detailing upcoming tasks and requests so as to enable better tracking of all the ‘asks’. * Further work and engagement with parents and carers including producing a leaflet about the Change Programme to share with parents, carers and young people. * Review the LAIP following the general national feedback and update. * Commencing delivery of the mediation action plan. * Further work on the ‘AP’ ask. * Implementation of the PINS project with Yorkshire and Humber around neurodiversity and inclusion in mainstream schools. * Provide an update on the Change Programme at the SENCo Conference in May. * Submission of business cases for funding to undertake further testing. * Identify mainstream schools to discuss with policy team about their inclusive provision. |
| **Key Learning** |
| * Partnerships have been strengthened in local areas across the CPP following the clarity of who should be involved. * Generally, the new template has been well received by parents and professionals, the DfE are listening to feedback around further improvements. * Communication remains key, certainly given the amount of work to be undertaken and the number of different ‘asks’ there is risk to people not being able to act on requests by the deadlines given. * Roadmap and clear summarised list of upcoming ‘asks’ of CPP remains key to ensuring all local areas are able to plan for what is coming up. * The need for a co-production mindset and earlier involvement of partners in the work being undertaken. * Community of practice for ELSEC via NHSE. * Progress reporting is useful for providing internal updates within and across local areas working on the CPP. This information also keeps SEND boards informed. * Regular meetings in each area help ensure Parent Carer Forum are fully briefed. * Completion of a deep dive into mediation – with focus groups and surveys including parents and carers and professionals has been useful in identifying next steps to improve process. |
| **Risks, Barriers and Challenges** |
| There is an on-going challenge to balance priorities and commitment across the CPP, mitigations are in place to support through specific task and finish groups and having delegated ownership to drive progress.  Challenge to ensure the work is effectively co-produced given some of the timescales and differing priorities in each local area.  The impact of wider challenges in the SEND system is hindering CPP progress in some CPP areas.  Concerns regarding some aspects of expected delivery which are not funded for example AP ST.  Tailored Lists testing will commence in a measured way later this month. |

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