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| **Yorkshire and Humber Change Programme Partnership (CPP) Highlight Report** | |
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| **Date of Report:** | 30th June 2024 |
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| **Reporting period:** | 01/06/2024 – 30/06/2024 |
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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.  During the lead up to the general election the operational testing via the Change Programme will continue, however some future plans and sharing learning will be deferred until after the election. |
| **Progress Updates Since the Last Highlight Report** |
| * To support the overall work of the Y&H CPP and enable more focused discussions an in-person session was held with leads and WY ICB and was led by REACh and DfE, this session had a focus on Alternative Provision (AP). * The CPP are ensuring learning from other programmes is considered such as PINS and Autism Education Trust training. The PINS project broadens the scope of the Autism in Schools model to support a wider cohort of neurodiverse children in primary schools. The programme aims to provide support at the whole school level, with more practical work between education, health, and parent carers through partnerships with local parent carer forums. * REACh has continued to support the Y and H CPP area with rapid reviews and check and challenges undertaken this month. Update meetings with each LA are also supported. * A Business Case template was agreed to ensure robust governance remains in place for the distribution of funding against testing reforms in each of the local areas. A panel was established to assess the business cases that were submitted at the end of June. * DfE have embedded their monthly Local Area Reform testing report to more formally track progress back to the department alongside a CPP monthly expenditure return. * All CPP areas are continuing to use new EHCP template for new and in some areas amended plans, collecting feedback and reporting back to DfE policy leads. Further embedding of the use of the advice templates has continued. REACh are analysing responses provided through the feedback loop. * Spotlight on ELSEC - a detailed update was provided at the June CPP steering group. A full overview of the model was provided and discussed. A screening tool was shared and it was proposed that newsflash updates on the pathfinder would be routinely provided. * The work on Mediation has continued in all areas. * Individual LA’s have continued to develop their AP plans. * Advisory tailored list work has progressed in 3 LA’s. * Local Area Inclusion Plans previously submitted continue to be used across the LAs. * Due to being in Pre-Election period some activities were postponed for example work around national standards. |
| **Details of Meetings/Workshops/Task and Finish Groups in this Period** |
| **Yorkshire and Humber CPP Core Steering Group**  Steering Group convened virtually on 24.06.24 and now has an established membership representative of areas in scope for the programme. The agenda consisted of:   * Welcome and Introductions * Progress update as a CPP and against the reform areas * ELSEC progress update * Finance and Funding * What’s coming up next * CPP Communications   **Previous Steering Group meeting dates in 2024**   * 23 January 2024 * 26 February 2024 * 29 April 2024 * 20 May 2024   **Weekly meeting with Wakefield lead contacts, DfE & REACh as required, this period:**   * 07 June 2024 * 14 June 2024 * 21 June 2024 * 28 June 2024   **CPP information sessions delivered by DfE Policy Teams and/or REACh this month**   * Strengthening multi-agency panels 11.06.24 * Managing Complex Change 19.06.24 * Ordinarily Available Provision expectations and parameters 20.06.24 * Leeds AP visioning session with REACh 26.06.24 * Advisory Tailored Lists in person feedback loop 28.06.24   **Children & Young People in-person summer session planning**   * 24 June 2024   **ELSEC Pathfinders Network Meetings**   * 12 June 2024 |
| **Programme Planned Activities for Next Month** |
| * Continuation of use of EHCP template and advice templates across CPP to enable testing. * Further work to strengthen multi-agency panels and follow on processes. * Testing of the 3 -tier AP model will be progressed. * More work to test Advisory Tailored Lists. * 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. * Feedback loop on Ordinarily Available Provision – closing date 5th July * REACh information sessions   + Building SEN case officer confidence 16th July   + Alternative provision specialist taskforces 17th July * Monthly progress reports from each area detailing progress against the reform testing for CPP, and monthly online reports (progress and funding) for DfE submitted. * Bradford to continue ELSEC work and feed updates into CPP meetings as required as well as reporting to DfE. Will also be setting up regular newsflashes to ensure timely messaging and establishing network meetings. * Following a successful funding panel and learning from this, amendments to be made to paperwork ahead of next business case submission window. * Work will commence on successful business cases. * Sharing learning from Bradford ‘Connecting Data’ project when available. * Creating links with the Yorkshire and Humber Youth Unit to ensure the voice of young people shapes the CPP programme and further planning for a young person’s session to be held over the Summer. This will also be informed by ICB work with Youth Work Unit who are providing their expertise and knowledge. * Mediation baselining exercise to be completed and richer data collection around mediation to commence. * In person session planned for 23rd July with all leads from CPP local areas, a focus will be on Ordinarily Available Provision. * Post election period will see more REACh webinars coming back on stream. |
| **Key Learning** |
| * Partnerships have been strengthened in local areas across the CPP with consistency of key contacts from each local area. * 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. REACh providing a key asks document which is supporting this. * The need for a co-production mindset and earlier involvement of partners in the work being undertaken. * 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. The benefits of this are being felt. Going to host some informal sessions for parents and carers in Change Programme areas. * Feedback re EHCP template generally positive. |
| **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. * Some aspects of expected delivery which are not fully funded for example AP ST remains a concern. * Wider sharing with non CPP areas would be beneficial. * Clarity needed around programme progression post-election. |

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