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| **Yorkshire and Humber Change Programme Partnership (CPP) Highlight Report** |
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| **Date of Report:** | 30th September 2024 |
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| **Reporting period:** | 01/08/2024 – 30/09/2024 |
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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** |
| * **There was no CPP core group meeting in August due to the summer break, so this report covers the two months until the end of September.**
* A Young Person SEND event took place on 28th September with attendance from young people across the CPP areas. Whilst attendance was lower than had been hoped, there was still excellent engagement and feedback from young people and their experiences of the SEND system. Learning and actions will be taken forward.
* REACh continues to support the Y and H CPP area with rapid reviews, specific feedback loops and check and challenges. Regular update meetings with each LA are also supported. OAP/Inclusive settings remains a key focus with a focused session and practice sharing forum held in September. REACh have also provided an updated support offer for Year 2 which has been shared with LA leads.
* A further funding panel was held on 27th September to assess the business cases received and ensure transparency around decision making. Following notification of successful bids, a process is in place to monitor progress against these. A further panel has been put in for December for the next tranche of funding.
* The Bradford ELSEC model went live in September 24.
* CPP and ELSEC updates continued to be shared with various groups across the WY ICB including CYP Board, Complex Needs and SEND group and MHLDA groups. Detailed update provided at recent Board.
* WY ICB strategic objectives for CYP include shared learning of CPP and ELSEC projects and WY ICB CYP annual report includes updates from CPP and ELSEC programmes.
* ELSEC connections continue to be made for shared learning. Recent connection between Bradford and Calderdale made.
* Updates on CPP/ELSEC provided to the regional NHSE CYP Board including emphasising important connectivity to other areas of transformation.
* Shared learning on ELSEC recruitment approaches across health and care system via link with national teams channel.
* Supporting discussions for community of practice for ELSEC via NHSE – ELSEC pathfinder network meetings.
* ATL lists small scale testing across our CPP and being expanded through phase transfer requests.
* Further progress on multi-agency panels with recruitment to support panels, consideration of a MAP for EHC resourcing.
* EHCP template in use across all CPP areas and roll out has expanded, we are seeing an increase in number of plans across the CPP.
* Continued work with PINS and autism in school. Schools are taking part in areas and a full menu of support is being offered in some areas. Enthusiasm is high but there are training and support requests to ensure the project can meet its aims. ICB updates to core group supported and to ICB complex needs and SEND group.
* Sessions being undertaken around AP visioning with IMPOWER.
* Monthly DfE returns have been completed.
* Attendance at CPP meetings, webinars and briefings remains strong across the CPP.
* Updated communications published on Local Offer (parents and professionals) and Traded Services Website (for settings).
* Regular updates are provided to PCF’s by individual Local Areas. This was also done via the ‘Lets talk about SEND’ event in Wakefield, feedback from this has been shared with the DfE.
* Updates from our Change Programme included on Yorkshire and Humber Regional SEND monthly newsletter for September.
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| **Details of Meetings/Workshops/Task and Finish Groups in this Period** |
| **Yorkshire and Humber CPP Core Steering Group** Steering Group convened virtually on 30.09.24 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
* Focus on inclusive settings/OAP
* Events
* What’s coming up next
* Finance updates and next steps
* CPP Communications

**Previous Steering Group meeting dates in 2024*** 23 January 2024
* 26 February 2024
* 29 April 2024
* 20 May 2024
* 24 June 2024
* 29 July 2024

**Weekly meeting with Wakefield lead contacts, DfE & REACh as required, this period:*** 2 August 2024
* 9 August 2024
* 16 August 2024
* 23 August 2024
* 30 August 2024
* 6 September 2024
* 20 September 2024
* 27 September 2024

**Children & Young People in-person September Event** * 28 September 2024

**Focus Group on Inclusive Settings*** 5 September 2024

**REACh Practice Sharing Forum*** Ordinarily Available Provision/Inclusive Settings 26.09.24
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| **Programme Planned Activities for Next Month** |
| * Focused monthly in-person session for all Y&H CPP leads with DfE and REACh on 1st October.
* North East and Yorkshire Learning Disabilities & Autism Programme PINS Project webinar Thursday 17th October.
* Continuation of use of EHCP template and advice templates across CPP to continue testing.
* ICB to share quality assurance toolkit and framework for health input into EHCP’s with CPP group when available.
* Further work to strengthen multi-agency panels and follow on processes.
* Testing of the 3 -tier AP model and AP Taskforce will be progressed. Leeds holding an AP strategy workshop.
* Pulling together ATL work so that more families can pilot this and planning in the phase transfer work.
* 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 the remainder of the programme.
* Online reporting for October will be completed.
* Bradford continues ELSEC work and feeding updates into CPP meetings as required as well as reporting to DfE. Will also continue with regular newsflashes to ensure timely messaging and running the network meetings. The new model will be fully embedded. ICB will share learning from Bradford ‘connecting data’ project when available.
* NHSE pilot to improve quality assurance of SEND services to be launched in September 2024 to Feb 2025
* Work has commenced on all successful business cases following the funding panel in June and there are clear progress checks in place via monthly individual LA reporting with mid-point evaluation being established. This will also extend to those projects agreed following the September panel. Updates on progress will be reported.
* Continued support and overview from ICB on PINS project. ICBs working with eligible schools to undertake self-assessments against core areas.
* WY ICB data analyst continuing to support review of inclusion dashboard metrics.
* Further work around pulling together mediation information, working towards ensuring early identification of issues.
* Continue to view communities of practice feedback.
* Further work on the LAIP to continue. Updating it via ongoing work around SEF, engagement events and baseline data.
* Collating wider parent/carers views around the change programme.
* Ongoing feedback from staff being collated following schools’ engagement work on proposed templates and tools.
* Follow on work and actions from the young people’s event.
* Planning for a Change Programme event in November for colleagues in Wakefield, Bradford, Calderdale and Leeds.
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| **Key Learning**  |
| * Strategic partnerships have been strengthened in local areas across the CPP.
* Communication remains key, certainly given the amount of work to be undertaken and the number of different ‘asks’ there is a risk of people not being able to act on requests by the deadlines given. REACh provided an updated Year 2 support update which is supporting this.
* Regular meeting with DfE and REACh helps to keep work on track and provides expertise and insight.
* 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. Bradford has approved new QA reporting on engagement.
* Leeds have been using staff feedback to inform implementation of the panel process.
* Wider data hub models shared with partners to aid collaborative learning.
* Dispute resolution role makes a difference to the co-ordination of mediations and supporting timely responses.
* Inclusive settings are a key element that requires sufficient focus.
* Y&H SEND Youth Alliance – sharing of existing SEND groups, peer to peer research approaches, ‘big conversation’ insights. Further on-going work is required with young people on the Change Programme.
* Exploring ‘verbo’ speech and language tool for education settings with ELSEC colleagues.
* Community of practice for ELSEC via NHSE helps disseminate key learning.
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| **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.
* Some local areas are carrying vacancies which are putting pressure on resourcing aspects of the programme and it is a challenge to recruit some posts.
* The impact of local challenges along with wider challenges in the SEND system and changes to key posts can and does hinder progress and impacts on timescales.
* There are risks around available funding to introduce and sustain an APST across local areas.
* Some areas seeing rising levels of permanent exclusions, but measures are in place to manage this.
* Ongoing discussions across WY ICB to support matrix working arrangements and capacity to progress initiatives that support innovation and improvement.
* Awaiting further clarity over the direction of the programme, post the Spending Review in October.
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