

**Children and Young People's  
Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee**

**14 November 2022**



**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Update**

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**Report of John Pearce, Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a progress update on Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in County Durham specifically the trends in requests for Education, Health and Care needs assessments, Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) timeliness performance, identified needs of young people and where young people with SEND are educated in County Durham. In addition, an update on national policy consultation is provided.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee has previously received reports about SEND, the graduated offer and EHCPs and had an informal information session in March 2022. At that meeting the Chair requested that the committee receive regular updates to future meetings of the Scrutiny Committee.
- 3 In accordance with that request arrangements have been made for the Strategic Manager SEND and Inclusion Strategy and Assessment and Provision to attend the meeting periodically to provide members with an update on young people with SEND and EHCPs. This covers a range of information and updates on the latest position with national policy developments.

**Recommendations**

- 4 That Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
  - (a) Receive the report and presentation and provide comment.

- (b) Continue to receive further progress updates on young people with SEND and EHCPs

## Background

- 5 At its meeting on 7 July Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed their work programme of the ensuing year. Included within the work programme was an update on young people with SEND and EHCPs.
- 6 The presentation accompanying this report will focus on the following areas:
- SEND Support and EHCPs
  - EHCP Requests
  - EHCP Assessment Refusals
  - EHCPs Completed within 20 Weeks (exc. Exceptions)
  - Primary Need and Placement of our children and young people with an EHCP
    - Primary Need of Young People with EHCPs
    - Autism Analysis
    - Active EHCP Placements
  - National Policy Developments in SEND
    - SEND Green Paper
    - Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Proposed SEND Inspection Framework

## Conclusion

- 7 Through having regular updates, members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be more aware of the County Durham's SEND population and where young people receive their education. In addition, members will be better informed of the current Education, Health and Care plan requests received by Durham County Council and how they are being progressed as well as the national policy proposals that are in process.

## Background papers

- None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable

### **Finance**

Not applicable

### **Consultation**

Responses to national consultations have been made

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable

### **Climate Change**

Not applicable

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable

### **Staffing**

Not applicable

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable

### **Risk**

Not applicable

### **Procurement**

Not applicable