

# Report of the Director of Children's Services to the meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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## Subject:

SEND Services - Progress Against the Written Statement of Action (WSOA) and core SEND activities.

## Summary statement:

This paper provides an update on the progress towards the WSOA that followed the March 2022 SEND Area Inspection and core activities relating to support children with additional needs.

## EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The WSOA is intended to ensure that all the education and health services better understand our communities. Through co-production, we will actively engage with our communities to help people participate in decision-making processes. The Local Area is committed to improve the services we provide and to enable more people to take part in the District's activities.

The actions in the WSOA aim to design, commission and deliver services that are accessible, inclusive and responsive to the needs of people and communities. The communication strategy provides information about services in a range of accessible formats so that people know what services are available to support them and how to access them.

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Marium Haque  
Strategic Director of Children's Services

Report Contact: Niall Devlin  
Assistant Director of SEND & Inclusion  
Phone: (01274) 431356  
E-mail: [niall.devlin@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:niall.devlin@bradford.gov.uk)

## Portfolio:

**Children & Families**

**Overview & Scrutiny Area:**

**Children Services**



## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 In March 2022, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Bradford. The inspection judged the effectiveness of the district in implementing the disability and special education needs reforms, as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014.
- 1.2 On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022, the inspection report for Bradford district was published. In accordance with the Children Act 2004 (Joint Area Reviews) Regulations 2015; His Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) determined that a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) was required because of five areas of significant weakness in the local area's practice. On the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2022, Ofsted agreed that the proposed Written Statement of Action was sufficient. The first monitoring visit was on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2023.
- 1.3 Since the last update to Overview and Scrutiny, there have been three monitoring visits by the Department for Education Lead advisor and representatives from NHS England. These visits took place in January, May and October 2023.
- 1.4 The progress being made on the Written Statement of Action is published on the Local Offer. The latest report from October 2023 visit was published in November 2023. [Bradford Local Offer | Bradford local area SEND Inspection - WSOA](#)

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following Local Area SEND Inspection, the WSOA explains how we plan to improve the following areas of significant weakness;
  - Poor communication between stakeholders across education, health and care.
  - The variable quality of Education Health and Care plans, including plans which do not fully describe the provision that children and young people with SEND need.
  - The inconsistent delivery of the 0 to 19 health visiting, school nursing and specialist nursing services.
  - Children and young people wait too long for assessments, treatment and diagnosis. There is insufficient support for children and young people with SEND who are waiting for provision, services, diagnosis or equipment.
  - Education, health and care services do not work together well. The arrangements for joint commissioning are underdeveloped.
- 2.2 The report will provide a high-level overview of progress within each of the 5 areas for improvement and also adds in benchmark data from other councils of similar size in supporting children with SEND.

## 2.3 **Written Statement 1 -Poor communication between stakeholders across education, health and care.**

### 2.3.1 **Progress on key actions**

Over the last 12 months, the completion of a number of key elements contained within Written Statement of Action one were finalised and launched. These have been agreed as completed by the Local Area partnership and colleagues from the Department for Education and NHS England. Activities completed in 2023 include;

- There is a wider involvement of partners in key decision-making roles, such as the chairing of workstreams relating to SEND. All of the core partnership and improvement boards are now chaired, or vice chaired by a partner agency or parent carer.
- The Local Area has coproduced and signed off a Stakeholder and engagement plan across the Bradford district. The Local Area also has agreed a new charter with parents setting out timeframes for contact with SEND Services, clarifying our core service standards. [PowerPoint Presentation \(bradford.gov.uk\)](#)
- A new Strategic Plan Sufficiency of Specialist Places for Children and young People in Bradford is being published in early 2024 setting out special school places across Bradford.
- The new SEND young people's engagement forum for children and young people, bradstarz launched in 2023. This new forum has been coproduced with young people to support them in the coproduction of SEND services in Bradford. [Bradford Local Offer | Bradford District SEND Youth Voice \(Brad Starz\)](#)
- The new Local Offer website that was co-produced with parent/ carers and professionals soft launched in November 2023. Our new Local Offer acts as our core library of information and resources for children, families and professionals. [Bradford Local Offer](#)

### 2.3.2 **Key Next Steps**

- Publication of the SEND Local Area Improvement Plan in the late Spring 2024.
- Embedding of the Parents Charter and reporting on progress against the KPI's set out in the Charter.
- Embedding the new SEND Youth Forum across Bradford.
- Continuing to update the new Local Offer in 2024.

**2.4 Written Statement 2 -The variable quality of EHC plans, including plans which do not fully describe the provision that children and young people with SEND need.**

**2.4.1 Progress on key actions**

To support the improvements needed to improve the quality of plans, a new staffing structure was designed to support greater emphasis on the quality of Education, Health and Care plans in Bradford. The completion of consultations with core partners was completed in late 2022 on its suitability. Staff directly impacted by the restructure, were assimilated to new roles in early 2023.

Initial recruitment to roles took place in Spring 2023. Further rounds of recruitment have been required and in some case work roles are still being recruited too in early 2024. Nationally, there are key shortages in staffing for SEND Services due to the professional skill set required and levels of experience needed to undertake some roles.

The new Annual Review portal that was developed with schools and colleges launched in October 2023. This is supporting partners with a streamlined way of providing Annual Review documents and reports to the SEND Teams to update Education, Health and Care Plans.

The Quality Assurance framework to support improvements to Education Health and Care plans, was launched alongside the recruitment of the SEND Auditing team last summer.

Overall, the majority of the infrastructural changes that are required have been completed in the last year and include;

- Six of the eight Annual reviewing officer posts are in post. A further round of recruitment in December 2023 has secured the remaining two staff to the structure. These staff are due to join later in the Spring before easter this year.
- All five of the Complex and Vulnerable Posts have now been recruited to and two of the post holders are now in post. The remaining post holders are due to start over two periods in February and May 2024.
- Additional case work officer posts have been advertised due to staff turnover. Further recruitment took place in December 2023 and these new staff will join in the Spring of 2024.
- The Designated Social Care Officer (DCSO) has been appointed to and is currently clearing pre-employment checks. The three Social Care Assessor roles are due to be recruited in the Spring of 2024.
- A new 0-25 integrated Assessment Manager role was recruited and started in December 2023. A new Head of Integrated Assessment and Psychology is being recruited to in the Spring of 2024 alongside a new Deputy Manager for

SEND Integrated Assessment.

- Both SEND Auditor posts were recruited in the Summer of 2023 and joined in the Autumn of 2023 and are utilising the new Quality Assurance framework using a programmed forward plan of auditing.
- The SEND Tribunals Officer and Complaints coordinator joined the Council in Summer 2023.
- The launch of new Annual Review portal to support Schools and colleges took place in Autumn 2023.
- The new Quality Assurance Framework launched in the Autumn of 2023 and is being utilised by partners as well as the Council across the Bradford Local Area.

#### 2.4.2 Evidence of impact / demand pressures

The recruitment and ongoing support to the new structure is critical in ensuring that the overall quality of EHC Plans improves in Bradford, in line with substantial demand being placed on the service.

In 2023, Bradford saw the highest rate of requests for an Education, Health and Care Plan on record, in line with our neighbours and other Local Authorities across England. In 2023, **2,218** requests were made by schools, parents and young people for an Education, Health and Care Plan. This is a substantial increase from **1,078** in 2021 and **1,463** in 2022.

Bradford continues to prioritise ensuring that Education, Health and Care plans are issued to children and families within 20 weeks. Last year compared to other Core Cities and all 151 Local Areas, Bradford Issued **79%** of all plans within 20 weeks compared to **49%** of all Core Cities and Local areas nationally.

As of January 2024, Bradford supports **6,454** children with an Education Health and Care Plan. This number has risen over the last three years from **3,441** in 2019. In line with England averages, the numbers of children with a plan is rising year on year. Currently, **4%** of children in Bradford have an Education Health and Care plan slightly below the England average of **4.4%**.

Regular auditing of our plans is a core focus area for the Bradford Local Area in 2024. The new Designated Social Care Officer role in Bradford will be key in ensuring the quality of Social Care advice in Education, Health and Care plans improves for children with SEND.

We are aiming to have **70%** of our Education Health and Care Plans deemed to meet the required quality mark in 2024. Auditing scores for plans in the last quarter of 2023 show improvement in some areas with a range of scores for EHC plans being graded between **55%** and **80%** currently.

We have placed an emphasis on supporting the increased rise in the numbers of

Annual Reviews being undertaken in Bradford.

**100%** of our phased transfers were completed in 2023 for children in transitional years and for those young people moving to a college placement. The new portal will help to ensure annual review processes are as efficient as possible and will support a rise in the completion of Annual Reviews being completed on time.

### 2.4.3 Key next steps

- Onboarding of remaining Annual Reviewing Officer roles.
- Onboarding of SEN Caseworker roles.
- Launch of the new Designated Social Care Officer role and assessor's role working with new Social Care Trust leaders.
- Embedding of the Quality Assurance Framework across Local Area to improve quality of Education, Health and Care Plans.
- Maintaining an above England compliance rate for the issuing of Education, Health and Care Plans within 20 weeks.

## 2.5 Written Statement 3 - The inconsistent delivery of the 0 to 19 health visiting, school nursing and specialist nursing services.

### 2.5.1 Progress on key actions

The Local Area has committed to having the right foundations in place, to ensure we can support the wider health and care system to identify our children's needs with SEND earlier and in a more consistent manner.

Large scale changes within these services over the last 12 months, are delivering improvements in the delivery of 0-19 health services for children. Key areas completed in the last 12 months include;

- Bradford District Childrens Foundation Trust (BDCFT) has implemented plans using additional investment from the Local Authority to establish new teams and ways of working within the Health Visiting service. These plans are streamlining services and improving the proportion of women receiving routine antenatal contacts, alongside children receiving the routine 2- and 2-and-a-half-year-old checks.
- The Health Visiting & School Nursing Service have developed pathways to ensure that families are receiving a consistent service and are signposted or referred appropriately to specialist services.
- Bradford District Childrens Foundation Trust and Bradford Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust have strengthened their delivery of audiology and vision screening, respectively, at school entry, so that hearing and vision impairments are identified and addressed earlier in children across our schools.
- Service providers have enhanced the current training offer to schools, parents

and carers, and other professionals/ services to ensure that health needs of children and young people are met consistently. The Sussex Tool is being used to support these efforts and pilots in mainstream schools has been completed. The revised training offer has now been published by both School Nursing services and also Bradford Teaching Hospitals Trust

- Start for Life SEND training was completed with a wide range of Family Hub staff in June & July 2023.

### 2.5.3 Evidence of impact

- **67.2%** of women received an antenatal contact from the new service in Quarter 1 reporting up from **34%** at the time of the SEND inspection and above the target set for the year of **55%**.
- **91.5%** of children receiving a 2-2.5-year check were assessed using Ages and Stages Questionnaire against a target of **92%**. Performance has improved from the inspection where performance was **54.7%**.
- **90.6%** of eligible children received their audiology screening against a target of **90%** last year. Performance of this area has improved since the inspection where **66.4%** of children received this support following the Pandemic.
- **99.4%** of schools had taken up the offer of visual screening by the end of the academic year 2022/23, against a target of 100%. This has built throughout the academic year: in March 2023, screening had taken place in **54%** of schools.

### 2.5.4 Key next steps

- Continue to support the take up of antenatal reviews across Bradford.
- Continue work on 2 to 2½ year health visitor reviews towards the performance target.
- Continue to support audiology and vision screening in schools.
- Continue to support training and support in Family Hubs for the early identification of SEND.

## 2.6 **Written Statement 4 - Children and young people wait too long for assessments, treatment and diagnosis. There is insufficient support for children and young people with SEND who are waiting for provision, services, diagnosis or equipment.**

### 2.6.1 **Progress on support for children with Autism and ADHD**

Work across Bradford to support families waiting for assessments has been taking place, to support children and families with Autism and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in line with the additional funding put in place.

Significant work has already been undertaken to improve assessment pathways; this includes developing a new GP led model for Initial Health Assessments and additional investment in review health assessments.



- Current service pathways are mapped, and all key stakeholders are aware of current service offer.
- Pathway efficiencies trialled in under 7yr old pathways for children.
- Electronic Digital Support Tool pilot in 14 schools being extended in Jan 2024 and includes 'digital advice bank' to support meeting needs earlier.
- Social prescribing for children & young people with Autism and Learning Disabilities are in place in some Primary Care areas across Bradford with expansions being discussed.
- Increase in offer to families waiting via BEAT has now been expanded to three groups with one group in Urdu.
- The Barnardo's care navigator is now in place on diagnostic pathways to increase support while waiting.

### **2.6.2 Progress in relation to Child Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)**

A review of the service offers across all key stakeholders to understand the current service pathway and provision for children and young people who require support, has now been completed. Other key areas of progress include;

- The referral process has now distributed across school nursing, social care and education.
- The new directory of children & young people's mental wellbeing services provides a comprehensive resource on local services and how to access them.
- The guide for referrers leaflet has been produced with inclusion criteria for Specialist CAMHS and signposting information for wider services.
- New duty team recruited to and functioning in CAMHS.
- New systems in place with Early Help signposting for those both redirected and awaiting CAMHS interventions.

### **2.6.3 Progress in around Speech & Language (SLT) services**

A review of the service offer understanding the current service pathways for children & young people who require support with their speech language and communication needs has been completed. Other areas of progress in speech and language have included;

- Speech and Language referral criteria and new websites launched for both NHS Trusts across Bradford.
- Bradford District Childrens Foundation Trust speech and language therapy referral criteria was launched across Bradford.
- Talking Bradford which outlines Speech, Language & Communication Support was launched in the Autumn of 2023.

### **2.6.4 Progress on Wheelchair and Specialist Equipment**

This work area has seen the review of pathways, including commissioning and funding arrangements in relation to the provision of wheelchairs and specialist equipment.

- The pathway from identifying that a child or young person has a need for specialist equipment, through the assessment process to the ordering and delivery of the equipment has been mapped.
- Improved access to specialist equipment is ongoing and on track to meet key performance indicators.

#### 2.6.5 Progress on the Dynamic Support Register

- The Dynamic Support Register has now gone live and is embedded in operational practices.
- Fortnightly panels taking place with tri-party and multidisciplinary representation now in place.
- Governance reporting, data oversight and monitoring metrics and reporting are now being provided to Health Leadership Groups.

#### 2.6.6 Annual Health Checks for Children and Young People aged 14-25

A review of the Annual Health Review pathway across all key stakeholders to understand the current process and pathway for children and young people who are eligible for an Annual Review has been completed.

- Current service pathway is mapped and all key stakeholders are aware of the current service pathway for Annual Health Checks.
- Easy read leaflets for children and young people and families have been developed and are on the Local Offer pages.

#### 2.6.7 Initial Health Assessments / Review Health Assessments (IHA/RHA's)

A review of the Initial Health Assessments & Review Health Assessments pathway across all key stakeholders to understand the current process and pathway for children and young people was completed to support the take up of IHA's in Bradford. Activities completed in this area include;

- The current service pathway is mapped and all key stakeholders are aware of current service pathway for an IHA for a child who is looked after.
- A Children Looked After (CLA) Delivery Group continues to meet on a monthly basis to support IHA's in children.
- Standard Operating Procedures for consent are in place for both the Local Authority and also the health team's responsibilities.
- The Strategic Oversight group is planning to lead and support a quality improvement approach for key pathway processes.

#### 2.6.8 Evidence of impact

Core performance measures are embedded in the latest Written statement of action and can be found on pages 70-72.

- **Autism / ADHD** - The Average length of wait in weeks between referral and

first appointment at the end of the reporting month in the last report is **31 weeks** compared to a target of **29 weeks**.

- **Autism / ADHD** - Longest wait in weeks between referral and first appointment in the last report was **90 weeks** compared to the target of **60 weeks**.
- **CAMHS** - By September 2023 **90%** of children and young people will wait no longer than 18 weeks between referral and commencement of treatment in CAMHS/ The performance in the last report was **85%** compared to the target of **90%**.
- **Speech and Language** - By June 2024, **90%** of children and young people will begin assessment by Speech Language Therapy services following referral for assessment. The performance in the last report was **54%** compared to the interim step target of **65%**.
- **Specialist Equipment**- By September 2024, **80%** of children and young people receive specialist equipment following referral for assessment. The performance in the last report was **75%** compared to the interim step target of **80%**.
- **Wheelchairs**- By June 2023 **80%** of children and young people receive a wheelchair following referral for assessment. The performance in the last report was **80%** meeting the target of **80%**.
- **Annual Health Checks** - For the year 2023/24, **80%** of children and young people aged 14-18 who are on the Learning Disabilities Register will receive an Annual Health Check. The performance in the last report was **66%** of children getting an Annual Health Check meeting the interim target of **70%**.
- **Initial Health Assessment** - By September 2024, **90%** of children and young people will receive an Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days after coming into care. The performance in the last report was **4%** of children getting an IHA compared to the interim step target this year of **70%**.

#### 2.6.9 Key next steps

- Ongoing embedding of pathways and referral routes to improve access to services in line with directions under the Written Statement of Action.
- Improve access to services for families helping to reduce waiting times as set out in the Written Statement of Action.
- Embedding of access to Early Help services, information and advice for health services such as Speech and Language services.

## **2.7 Written Statement 5 -Education, health and care services do not work together well. The arrangements for joint commissioning are underdeveloped.**

### **2.7.1 Progress on key actions**

Detailed work around Joint Commissioning and working better together has been undertaken throughout 2023. The majority of the core actions in the plan have been completed and work to take this forward into delivery will be a priority in 2024.

- The Strategic Partnering Agreement (SPA) document has been reviewed and updated to reflect our ambition for working together in Bradford.
- The SEND Joint commissioning Governance Structure confirmed and recruitment to children's commissioner roles was undertaken in 2023.
- The approved Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Document published on the Local Offer website In May 2023 has been created to help support and shape future commissioning intentions.
- The Council's Childrens Commissioning Team have liaised with services across children to identify the current committed spend for SEND related activity.
- New commissions for SEND services have been drafted. The new SENDIASS service with an increased scope to support families has now launched in January 2024.

### **2.7.2 Key next steps**

- To embed the new Strategic Partnership Agreements across Bradford in 2024.
- To support the development of a System Joint Commissioning Strategy which will align with the SEND specific Joint Commissioning Strategy in 2020/23. The system Joint Commissioning Strategy will outline our principles for joint commissioning and our approach to decommissioning.
- A Programme of SEND commissioning engagement and consultation will be developed through the work of the SEND Joint Commissioning Workstream.
- To Identify budgets aligned to SEND service provision to develop transparency and assurance in terms of spend across all areas in early 2024.
- To map SEND service provision and related budgets. This will be undertaken through the work of the SEND Joint Commissioning Workstream in 2024.
- To map jointly commissioned provision and aligned services. This will be used to undertake needs analysis to inform future commissioning intentions.
- A review of joint funding with health (S75) agreements to be undertaken through the SEND Joint Commissioning workstream to ensure agreements reflect our intention regarding the management of system resources for SEND service.

## **3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### **3.1 None.**

#### **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

4.1 None

#### **5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

5.1 None

#### **6. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

6.1 The Local Authority's duties and functions in respect of children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are contained in Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014; the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014 and the statutory Code of Practice on Special Educational Needs and Disability 2015. The requirements are too detailed to set out in this report but if a Local Authority does not comply with its statutory duties and functions in respect of children with SEND, it is at risk of being challenged in the Courts and Tribunals or by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman.

Following a review of SEND services, under Regulation 3 of the Children Act 2004 (Joint Area Reviews) Regulations 2015, the Chief Inspector of Schools (Ofsted) must (having regard in particular to the nature of the review) determine whether it is appropriate for a written statement of proposed action (WSOA) to be made.

Under Regulation 4 of the Children Act 2004 (Joint Area Reviews) Regulations 2015, a written statement of proposed action (WSOA) must be sent to the Chief Inspector of Schools; any other person or body who conducted the review (to which the WSOA relates (in this case the Care Quality Commission) and the Secretary of State within 70 working days of receiving the joint area SEND inspection report.

The WSOA must state who it is proposed should take action and include a statement of the period within which the action is to be taken.

If a Local Area is making insufficient progress in addressing any of the areas of significant weakness identified by the Chief Inspector of Schools, the DfE will decide on the appropriate next steps. This may include the Secretary of State using their powers of intervention.

#### **7.1 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **7.3 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

Not applicable.

#### **7.6 TRADE UNION**

Not applicable.

#### **7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

#### **7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

The WSOA is intended to make significant differences in how children, young people with SEND and their families interact with services and having their needs met. This include:

- Families and professionals have a published group of service level agreements so they know what and when they can expect updates on their case. This will clarify the timeframes for families and professionals about queries, applications and updates on matters relating to next steps which are clear.
- Schools are sighted on sufficiency plans, so they understand what places are being built and when and to test through a survey to see if they are happy with the engagement and with the forward plan for places.
- Children and young people have an opportunity to co-produce the services of the future and to be given more opportunities to be involved in the democratic and co-productive elements more widely of services that support them.
- The new Local Offer will not contain out of date information and acts as personalised resource to help parents, carers, professionals and young people find what they need easily about services.
- Families and schools receive up to date plans that clearly articulate any material changes to an Education Health and Care plan that set out the support and provisions that are reflective of a child's needs and demonstrate their lived experiences.
- Families receive plain English descriptions of the support they are going to receive from social care and health that is practical in nature and focuses on supporting any health conditions and social care needs a child may have. This helps to support families to understand how and where they can access services that support their child's health and social care needs.

- Preparation for Adulthood outcomes will be included as early as possible to support a child and young person meet their potential. That support and services are wrapped around these objectives in the plan to help a young person transition into the most suitable education, employment or training opportunities.
- Education Health and Care plans will have greater value and meaning to both parents and professionals due to a child's plan accurately reflecting their journey and what support they need moving forward. This will help inform the size and shape of services that are needed to meet sufficiency needs of children individually and as a whole.
- More families will consistently get an antenatal visit pre-birth to provide information, advice and guidance to prospective parents. Families with additional needs will also be identified early and supported and/ or referred to other appropriate services.
- Health visitors post-birth will continue to support parents and more 2 and half year-old checks will be completed on time, providing improved opportunities for the early identification of needs so that parents are supported sooner where needed. Families will have a better experience (feeling involved and cared for) when liaising with school nursing, specialist school nursing and other specialist services as consistent pathways will enable smooth transitions and closer working between different services.
- Children across the Bradford district will receive the hearing and vision screening checks when they are in the reception class. This will help to identify children who may have a hearing or visual impairment earlier in their childhood, providing greater opportunity to support these groups of children meet their potential.
- The specialist nursing services will provide training to a wide range of schools, services and parent/carers.
- Families who go to the newly re-launched family hubs are supported by a range of professionals and early help staff. All practitioners will have the skills to assess and support families appropriately and signpost where appropriate. They identify a range of potential additional needs in children and refer these to the most appropriate pathways in the Early Years stage before the children are of school age. Families' needs are identified early, and appropriate support will be offered. Family will report they have good support.
- Children and young people will have timely assessment for suspected autism/ADHD, which will help children and young people understand themselves better and will also help their parent carers, families and other key people such as school and health care staff understand them better too.
- Children and young people will have timely assessment for children and young people's mental health needs, which is important so that children and young

people, their parent carers, families and other key people are aware of the emotional and mental health needs and difficulties that a child and young person may be experiencing.

- Children and young people will have timely assessment for children and young people's speech and language therapy, which is important so that children and young people, their parent carers, families and other key people such as schools are aware of the speech language and communication needs and difficulties that a child and young person may be experiencing.
- Children and Young People will receive the postural and mobility equipment that is needed in a timely way to maintain or optimise their physical functioning and enable participation in age-appropriate activities including family life, social events and education. Parent carers will have improved quality of life as appropriate supportive equipment in place. An efficient pathway for equipment provision releases therapist time to support families in use of equipment and the associated health and well-being gains.
- Annual Health Checks for Children and Young People aged 14-25 years who had a Learning Disability are important to help the young person to stay well. Having an Annual Health Check with the GP practice also helps the young person build relationships with staff at the practice and ensures that they start to know the people and the environment. If they are then unwell & need to visit the GP, the experience is less traumatic. It also helps people get the medications they need. Annual visits, also helps the GP practice identify family carers and ensure they are offered health checks and relevant vaccinations so that they themselves remain well and healthy.
- Children in Care will have timely Initial and Review Health Assessments, which is important to ensure that the health needs of children/young people in care are identified as soon as possible; this is so services can be offered to meet needs and enable children in care to achieve the best health and life outcomes.
- New arrangements will be in place to consider the whole needs of children and families. This puts children's commissions at the centre of our approaches to understand the needs of the population.
- Families who have specific needs will have those met ahead of them realising that these services are needed.
- Greater availability of services with reduced waiting times is provided in Bradford due to a mixture of aligned budgets, pooled budgets and agreements on commissioning and decommissioning needs for the District. These are clearly stated and signposting for services is shown on the Local Offer alongside the pathways to access these services.



**7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT**

Not applicable.

**8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1 None.

**9. OPTIONS**

Not applicable.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 Overview and Scrutiny to note the contents of this report.

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix 1 – Sefl Evaluation November/ December 2023.

**12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Not applicable.