



**Hampshire's Readiness to meet  
Recommendations from Phase 2 Report:  
Child Safeguarding Review Panel –  
Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and  
Complex Health Needs in Residential Settings**

# Introduction

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Phase 2 of National Panel Report in to CYP with disabilities & complex needs in residential settings

Phase 1 reports were completed and were presented to the Corporate Parenting Board in March 2023

Phase 2 Report included:

- 9 recommendations
- 8 supplementary recommendations

Current position statement of Hampshire partners

\*Many recommendations relate to national activity and we await further information / development

# Recommendation 1

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All children with disabilities and complex health needs should have access to independently commissioned, non-instructed advocacy from advocates with specialist training to actively safeguard children and respond to their communication and other needs.

- Hampshire Children's Services have commissioning arrangements in place
- Sufficient to meet current demand
- Able to expand if demand increases
- Note Advocacy can be offered but does not have to be taken up

# Recommendation 2

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- Where an admission to a residential placement for 38 weeks or more is being considered, children, young people and their parents should have access to advice and support through their jointly commissioned and suitably resourced local Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service, with allocation of a 'navigator' to work with the family where this is identified as being necessary.
  - SENDIASS contract in place
  - Caseworkers instead of navigators
  - Contract being reviewed in light of 38-week criteria – not a standalone trigger yet
  - There remains a question about whether all family's need/want this

# Recommendation 3

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Local authorities and ICBs should be required in statutory guidance developed by the Department for Education and NHS England to jointly commission safe, sufficient, and appropriate provision for children with disabilities and complex health needs aligned with local inclusion plans and planning for care through Regional Care Cooperatives.

- No guidance has emerged yet
- Joint Commissioning arrangements in place (JCB)
- Current work is further integrating these arrangements

# Recommendation 4

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The DfE, DHSC and NHS England should co-ordinate a support programme for commissioners in local authorities and ICBs, focusing on improvements in forecasting, procurement, and market shaping.

- No programme emerged yet
- Hampshire partners in a good place
- Forecast data modelling in place
- Market shaping activity underway
- Sufficiency strategies in place or close to sign off

# Recommendation 5

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Local and sub-regional initiatives to improve the quality and range of provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs should be priorities for inclusion in the government's pathfinder programmes in children's social care and SEND.

- Joint commissioning arrangements in place
- Awaiting further guidance and Pathfinder information
- Will consider compliance with future guidance as it emerges

# Recommendation 6

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The government should commission the development of an integrated strategy for the children's workforce in residential settings, to include leadership development, workforce standards and training.

- No guidance emerged yet
- Hampshire Children's Services doing lots of work in this area under MPP and BAU – though no in-house settings for this cohort



# Recommendation 7

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National leadership and investment by providers are urgently required to address the longstanding challenges in recruiting, retaining, and developing a skilled workforce in residential settings.

- As above
- No guidance emerged yet
- Hampshire Children's Services doing lots of work in this area under MPP and BAU – though no in-house settings for this cohort

# Recommendation 8

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Systems for the early identification of safeguarding risks in residential settings should be strengthened through an enhanced role for host local authorities and ICBs in the oversight of residential settings in their area.

- Local Systems and Processes in place
- QOCM – Quality Oversight and Contract Monitoring meeting
- Current review underway
- Clarity of roles and remits required – emerging area

# Recommendation 9

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The DfE and DHSC should (a) review and revise the regulatory framework for residential settings to reduce complexity and improve the impact of the current arrangements for monitoring, quality assurance and oversight; (b) take immediate steps to establish arrangements for joint inspection by Ofsted and CQC of residential settings for children with disabilities and complex health needs

- Hampshire partners will take a view on the proposals when they have been developed and published.

# Supplementary recommendation 2

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The specification for the Regional Care Cooperative pathfinders should include measures to improve commissioning for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

- Exploring local engagement with Pathfinder
- Further guidance to be developed
- Will consider further when produced

# Supplementary recommendation 1

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To ensure that practitioners understand the requirements for legally compliant practice in relation to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards local authorities, health services and residential settings should review their current systems, procedures, and practice to determine their readiness for meeting the requirements under this framework

- LA has arrangements in place
- Planned to be discussed at JCB
- LPS (Liberty Protection Safeguards) delayed

# Supplementary recommendation 3

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The Families First for Children pathfinders should include programmes focused specifically on the development of integrated provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

- Hampshire not a pathfinder
- Already locally planning for Family Help
- Will consider guidance and progress of pathfinders as it emerges

# Supplementary recommendation 4

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All children with disabilities and complex health needs who are on a pathway for admission to residential placement longer than 38 weeks per year should be part of a Care, Education and Treatment Review process. No decision should be made without multi-agency agreement and commitment.

- Multi-agency decision making already in place for most children
- CETR processes currently under review to integrate better with social care regulatory requirements – assessment, planning and review

# Supplementary recommendation 5

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To assist the understanding of all staff, statutory guidance about the inherent risks from 'closed cultures' should be included in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.

- More guidance welcome
- QOCM and associated processes in place
- Learning from phase 1 audit already implemented
- Social work visiting guidance already revised



# Supplementary recommendation 6

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Practice leadership should form the basis for a national programme of leadership development for leaders and senior managers in residential settings for children and young people.

- As above
- Will look forward to the development of a national programme

# Supplementary recommendation 7

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A SEND practice guide for practitioners working with children with disabilities and complex health needs should be one of the first three SEND practice guides produced under the SEND/AP Improvement Plan.

- Included in SEND Plan
- Further guidance also anticipated

# Supplementary recommendation 8

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The process for developing national SEND standards should be aligned with the work already underway relating to standards in children's social care so that they are completed in a timely way for residential special schools as well as children's homes.

- Guidance not yet published for consultation
- Will consider when it arrives and provide local response

# Conclusion

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- Hampshire in a good place
- Some work to do
- Lots more guidance / information to come