A blue sign with white text

Description automatically generated

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Yorkshire and Humber Change Programme Partnership (CPP) Highlight Report** | |
|  |  |
| **Date of Report:** | 26th February 2024 |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **Reporting period:** | 23/01/2024 – 26/02/2024 |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **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** |
| * CPP testing of the updated DfE data dashboard and will continue feeding back to inform wider roll out later in year. * Each member of CPP is now providing monthly progress reports against the key aspects of the programme and the reform testing that is in scope to ensure timely monitoring of progress and allow easy identification of any strengths or potential issues. * Weekly programme meetings with Wakefield (the Lead Local Authority), the DfE and REACh. * DfE stocktake undertaken with lead LA to allow DfE to understand how things are working across the Change Programme, this included looking at how collaboration is working and the quality of the support in place and any additional requirement for support. * Local Area updated SEND & AP Partnership board Terms of Reference are in the process of being approved and have been shared with the DfE. * Work continues across local Areas to finalise their Local Area Inclusion Plans (LAIPs) and most have now been shared with DfE. Alongside this the CPP have provided feedback to REACh and DfE on the template and areas that could be strengthened going forward. This was done as part of the continuous feedback loop. * Testing of the standardised EHCP template is progressing well across all local areas. Communications and workforce training remains key to this process and again there is robust feedback to DfE on how the new template is working in practice. * Outcomes of the mediation ‘deep dive’ are being shared by those who have completed this aspect. * Monthly highlight reports are published to enable clear updates on the overall progress of the programme, these are included in the Yorkshire and Humbers SEND Newsletter. * Updates on the Change Programme are provided on Local Offers in the 4 areas. * Communications role is established with lead LA and links have been made with DfE and REACh to enable clarity over messaging about the programme. * West Yorkshire ICB are establishing a part time role to support the work of the CPP and this will be in place from April 2024. * Further information has been shared around Early Years and Post 16 transitions and DfE are keen to gather feedback with good practice examples to inform the development of guidance in this area. * ELSEC development work taking place in Bradford and recruitment under way to take the pathfinder forward. |
| **Details of Meetings/Workshops/Task and Finish Groups in this Period** |
| * **Progress Stocktake meeting with DfE**   16 February 2024 – with Wakefield’s DCS, senior leaders, DfE and REACh.   * **Steering Group**   Steering Group convened virtually on 26.02.24 and now has an established membership representative of areas in scope for programme. The agenda consisted of:   * Welcome and Introductions * Introduction from DfE appointed national evaluator * **Progress update as a CPP and against the reform areas** * **What’s coming up next?** * Focus on AP wider links * Governance * Standing Items (ELSEC / Finance / Young People voice) * CPP Communications   Previous Steering Group dates   * + 08.09.23   + 06.10.23   + 03.11.23   + 04.12.23   + 23.01.24   + 26.02.24 * **Weekly meeting with Wakefield lead contacts, DfE & REACh taking place every Friday, this period:** * 26 January 2024 * 01 February 2024 * 09 February 2024 * 16 February 2024 * 23 February 2024 * **Update provided to Yorkshire and Humber Lead Members on the Change Programme** * 13 February 2024 * **CPP information sessions delivered by DfE Policy Teams**   + Strengthen Mediation & multi-agency panels reform – 30.01.24 and 01.02.24 |
| **Programme Planned Activities for Next Month** |
| * Progress on amending EHCP panels in line with the ask to be made across our CPP. * Feedback regarding the LAIP template collated and shared with REACh alongside their own survey being circulated to leads in each local area. * Continuation of use of EHCP template across CPP to enable testing through to March 2024. Progress tracking taking place in each of the areas, initial feedback collected. * Continued ongoing local CPP comms 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. * Share learning and process re the ‘deep dive’ for mediation. * National evaluator follow up meetings. * CPP information sessions for Bands & Tariffs will be run 29.02.24 and 07.03.24 * Next steps re Advisory Tailored lists to be established. * Monthly progress reports to be submitted by each area detailing progress against the reform testing. * Bradford to continue development of ELSEC pathfinder. * Bands and Tariffs work to commence in more detail following information sessions. * REACh the delivery partner to convene 1-2-1 check ins with all leads across CPP. * REACh to develop a simple table detailing upcoming tasks and requests so as to enable better tracking of the ‘asks’. |
| **Key Learning** |
| * 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. * Roadmap helpful to share as an update to SEND board’s and ensuring work remains on track. * Some joint work has taken place across the CPP regarding amends to templates that feed into EHCP’s via Education Psychology. * Providing some initial support to kick start the development of the LAIP was useful. It will be a significant task to review and update yearly and will require some protected resource. * Feedback on LAIP template has identified where improvements can be made. * The need for a co-production mindset and earlier involvement of partners in the work. * Shared learning on ELSEC recruitment approaches across health and care system via link with national teams channel. * Community of practice for ELSEC via NHSE. |
| **Risks, Barriers and Challenges** |
| There is an on-going challenge to balance priorities and commitment across the CPP, mitigations are in place to ensure capacity and 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.  Concerns regarding some aspects of expected delivery which are not funded.  Areas which are currently identified as the most challenging are the requirements around AP and Tailored Lists. |

For further information please contact: [changeprogramme@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:changeprogramme@wakefield.gov.uk)A close-up of logos

Description automatically generated