

Nottinghamshire SEND Partnership Improvement Board: 31 January 2024 stakeholder update.

The SEND Partnership Improvement Board has been established to oversee SEND improvement activity across the whole system in Nottinghamshire, with a focus on the priorities and areas for improvements identified in the [Ofsted and CQC inspection report](#). The Board meets monthly and is chaired independently by Dame Christine Lenehan, formerly Director Council for Disabled Children.

The aim of the Nottinghamshire SEND Improvement Board is to robustly track, monitor and oversee the Nottinghamshire SEND Improvement Programme so that the aims are achieved at pace and provide challenge and support to increase the likelihood of the aims being achieved.

The purpose of these stakeholder briefings is to update you on progress of the SEND Improvement Programme so you can share the work that is taking place via your networks. You can see previous [stakeholder briefings](#) from Improvement Board meetings from June 2023 onwards.

The most recent Board meeting took place on 31 January which focused on the recent Department for Education stocktake and the partnership progress update.

Headlines from stocktake

The Department for Education (DfE) reported back on the stocktake they carried out to assess the SEND improvement programme. They recognised the quality of information, the commitment from senior leaders and the level of progress made so far.

The detail of the stocktake will need to be reported to the Minister for Education first and a meeting will then take place to officially inform the improvement programme leaders about the key findings. This will be discussed at a future Board meeting as soon as those meetings have taken place.

Partnership Progress Update

The feedback from the DfE stocktake will be used to refine the progress reporting of SEND improvement work.

It will also be important to report on impact outcomes that reflect the lived experience of children and young people and their families, rather than just progress.

The Board were presented with a full dataset showing progress on areas such as Education and Health Care Plans completed on time, neurological assessment waiting times, waiting times for community paediatric services and number of mediations / tribunals. The next step for the data will be to build some interactive dashboards for use across the improvement programme.

The Board agreed that they need to explore how they measure additional school level data, such as school attendance and exclusion figures, to see if the work of the improvement programme is making a difference to the lives of children and young people.

One year on from inspection – partnership plans

The Board discussed how they would communicate the progress made by the improvement programme one year on from the inspection report being published (16 May 2023). Senior leaders reflected on how much more closely the organisations are working together. Work has begun to engage with parents, carers, children and young people but there is still a lot more to do.

Sessions will take place with families throughout March to talk about what has happened one year on from the report being published. [Find out more about the events and how to book.](#)

There was a discussion about how the improvement programme could report back to stakeholders on progress. There was agreement that outcomes data from the RISE events should be included. It was also recognised that the voices of parents, carers, children and young people should be reflected as part of this work.

An updated communications plan which builds in the different milestones will be brought to a future Board meeting.

Improvement Board attendees

- Dame Christine Lenehan, Independent Chair, Council for Disabled Children
- Deborah Glassbrook, Deputy Chair, Department for Education (DfE)
- Councillor Sam Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and SEND

- Rebecca Hogan - SEND Professional Adviser, Department for Education
- Paul Heery - Chief Executive Officer, White Hills Park Trust
- Colin Pettigrew - Corporate Director, Children and Families & Joint SRO of the SEND Improvement Programme, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Rosa Waddingham, Chief Nurse, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)
- Amy Eagle, Care Group Director for Community Health Services at Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust
- Peter McConnochie, Service Director for Education, Learning and Inclusion, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Ian Dixon, East Midlands Regional Lead for SEND, Department for Education (DfE)
- Lucy Dadge, Director of Integration, ICB
- Natasha Mathers - SEND Improvement Programme Manager, ICB and Nottinghamshire County Council
- Matt Rooney, Principal at St Giles School
- Sarah Dalgress - SEND Improvement Programme Business Support Administrator, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Julie Cuthbert - Head of Communications, ICB
- Tina Ward, Children & Young People Learning Disability & Autism and SEND Senior Manager (East Midlands), NHS England
- Ainsley MacDonnell, Service Director, Nottinghamshire County Council
- Simon Frampton, Head of Quality, Performance and Insight, ICB
- John Bennett, Chair of Trustees, Nottinghamshire Parent Carer Forum.

If you or a colleague would like to be added to the distribution list for this stakeholder update, please email nnicb-nn.comms@nhs.net