ANNEX B

Support, monitoring and next steps

Local area partnership: Nottinghamshire County Council

This annex sets out how we will work with you to review progress, identify risks and provide support and challenge. You should read it alongside your outcome letter and the feedback in Annex A. Our shared priority is to ensure that your work leads to sustained improvements in the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND and their families.

1. How your progress will be assessed

You will be regularly assessed through the Local Area SEND Performance and Delivery Framework. The framework brings together evidence about outcomes for children and young people with SEND, your partnership's readiness and capacity, and your capability to deliver your Local SEND Reform Plan.

Your assessment will draw on quantitative and qualitative evidence as well as professional judgement. It will consider the quality of local SEND provision and the progress you are making against your approved or revised plan. It will also consider the strength of your leadership, relationships, systems and corporate capacity.

Your overall performance and delivery assessment will inform the level of monitoring, engagement, support and, where necessary, intervention that applies to your partnership. The approach will remain proportionate to the evidence available and may change if your performance, risks or delivery confidence changes.

The Local Area SEND Performance and Delivery Framework will be published in due course, alongside each local area's overall performance and delivery RAG.

2. What you will need to do

- Maintain clear collective ownership and senior accountability across education, health and care local SEND partnership to deliver the commitments and milestones in your Local SEND Reform Plan, addressing the feedback in Annex A;

- Identify and escalate emerging risks promptly, with clear action to mitigate them;
- Submit quarterly data returns in line with the guidance issued in August 2026; and
- Use the quarterly data reports, visualised analysis and benchmarking provided by the Department for Education to support your local delivery, monitoring and evaluation.

3. Your monitoring, engagement and support arrangements

Your approved plan provides a sound foundation for delivery and recognises the progress your partnership has made. You will now need to build on this progress by strengthening the capability, governance, partnership working and delivery disciplines needed to secure sustained improvement.

You should address the feedback in Annex A through your delivery arrangements, with clear senior accountability and proportionate performance monitoring. Your quarterly reviews will consider progress against your commitments, the steps you are taking to strengthen partnership maturity and early evidence of improved experiences and outcomes for children, young people and families.

You will receive support from your DfE regional team and assigned SEND and Financial Advisers and will be expected to take part in quarterly review meetings to discuss progress against your plan, emerging risks and challenges, and any further support or improvement activity needed. Where appropriate, these meetings will be consolidated with existing improvement engagement.

You will be able to draw on the universal support available to local areas, including Regional Improvement and Innovation Alliances, Council for Disabled Children webinars and e-learning, What Works in SEND research and Local Government Association universal leadership training. Your regional team will help you identify the support most relevant to your priorities.

Your regional team will schedule a meeting with you in October to discuss this letter, feedback on your plan and expectations for implementation monitoring. Your lead DfE contact, Anke De Munster (anke.demunster@education.gov.uk), will confirm the arrangements with you, including adviser and relevant health participation.

4. What happens next

When	Who	What you can expect
September/October 2026	Your Department for Education regional team	You will receive confirmation of your first feedback and planning meeting and the officials and advisers who will support your partnership.
Quarterly - from October 2026	Your partnership	You will submit the required data return in line with the August 2026 guidance.
Quarterly - from January 2027	Department for Education	You will receive a data report with visualised analysis and benchmarking to support local delivery, monitoring and evaluation.
Quarterly - from January 2027	Your partnership and government officials	You will review delivery against your plan, evidence progress, consider risks and agree any further support, challenge or action.