

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Children's Executive Board Safeguarding Sub Committee	16/01/2018 06/02/2018
<b>Subject:</b> Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Update Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Theresa Shortland, Head of Service – Education and Early Years	

### Summary

Members of the Community and Children's Services Grand Committee were previously updated in 2017 about the work with children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) in the City of London. That report set out what the vision and strategy was for SEND. It was agreed that Members would subsequently be regularly updated via reports to the Safeguarding Sub Committee, on the progress in respect of this work. This report provides a further update on this work.

### Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

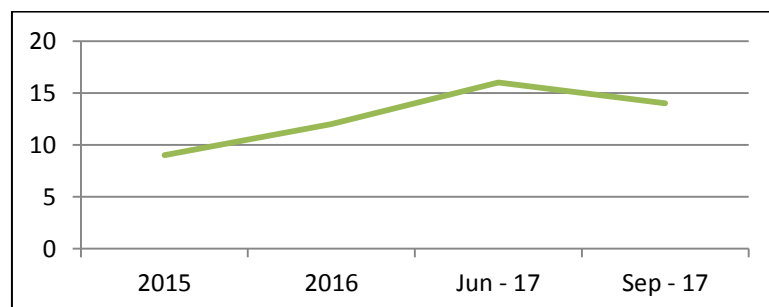
# Main Report

## Background

1. The duties on local areas regarding provision for children and young people with SEND are contained in the Children and Families Act 2014. The Ofsted/Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection Framework sets out the legal basis and the principles of inspection. The Minister of State for Children and Families has tasked Ofsted and the CQC with inspecting local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling these duties.

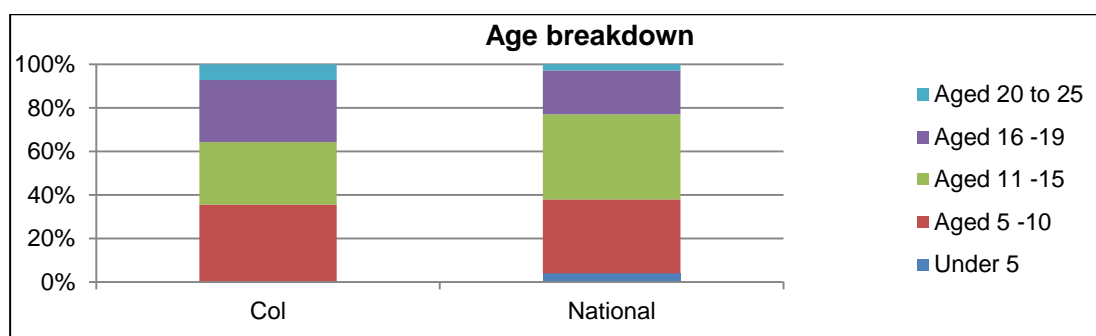
## Current Position

2. Since 2014, when the reforms contained in the Children and Families Act 2014 were introduced, the City has seen the number of children with an Education, Health, Care (EHC) plan or Statement of Educational Need increase from eight in September 2014 to fourteen by September 2017. This number has doubled and the highest number of children and young people with statutory plans at any one time has been 19. The main reason for the increase in the number is new arrivals to the City.



Graph 1: Total number on EHC plans/ Statements of Educational Need

3. In the City, the majority of children with EHC plans are boys (92%). This is higher than the national average (73%). Five out of 14 (36%) children with EHC plans are of White ethnicity. Nearly all of the children with EHC plans are of school age, with nearly 30% aged between 11 and 15, which is below the national average of 39%. The City does not have any children under statutory school age with EHC plans (see graph 2 for breakdown). All City of London children with an EHC plan attend schools that are judged “Good” or “Outstanding” by Ofsted. Three children with EHC plans attend Sir John Cass’s Foundation Primary School, the only local authority maintained school in the City.



Graph 2: % of Children with EHC plans/Statements of Educational Need by age

## Health

4. Children and young people on SEND support or with EHC plans may also access provision provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) for the City and Hackney. The City of London also receives notifications of children who may have SEND as referrals from health services. Since April 2017, there have been two referrals.

5. Data from NHS City and Hackney Community Health Services shows 22 children registered and receiving a service in November 2016. This figure includes children with EHC plans or SEND support. Out of the 22 open cases, five are receiving more than one service. See Table 1 for a breakdown of services City children are accessing.

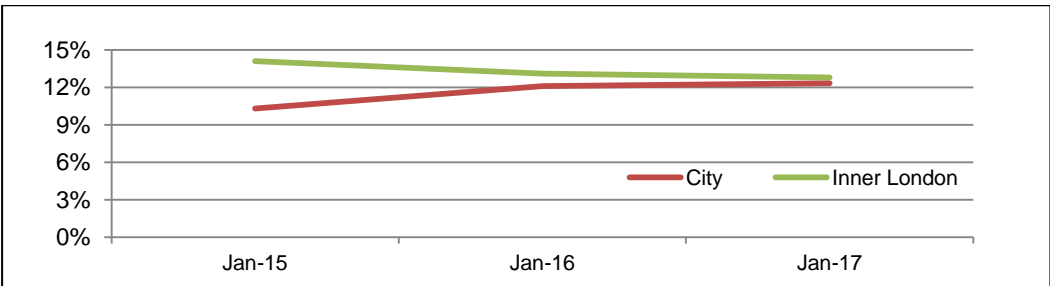
Cases open to City and Hackney CCG		Number of cases*
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)	Specialist CAMHS	3
	First Steps Early Intervention	3
	Community Psychology Service	3
Speech and language therapy		3
Child development paediatricians		9
Occupational therapy		3
Physio		3
Vision clinic		0
Other		0
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>

**Table 1: Cases open to City and Hackney CCG November 2016**

\* Note: Some children are accessing more than one service

## SEND Support

6. The number of children receiving SEND support has gone up in the last three years from 9.2% in 2014 to 12.3% in 2017. This is slightly lower than the Inner London average (12.8%) but is higher than the national average of 11.6%.



**Graph 3: Percentage of children with SEND support**

## **Self-evaluation**

7. We have established a clear strategic direction in the SEND Strategy 2017–20 with a strategic plan and action plans to drive forward the priorities within the six work streams. There is clear governance in place to ensure that we are developing our local area vision for children and young people with SEND in the City of London.
8. There is a good understanding of what we do well, and plans are underway to develop service impact and reach further. The Self-evaluation Summary (see Appendix 1) sets out our progress towards meeting the priorities for 2017/18.

## **Areas of progress**

9. The areas where we are making good progress are:

- raising the profile of the SEND Reforms agenda with key internal and external target audiences (including City of London Corporation staff and elected members) and highlighting what we are doing to support this
- increasing the participation of children, young people and families in co-production at a strategic level so that their voices are integral and have an impact on the specification, quality and delivery of services
- improving communication between health professionals and the local authority as soon as emerging needs are identified, including improved sharing of information from early health screening programmes
- developing closer relationships, including data-sharing protocols, with the early years settings, schools and colleges outside the borough and in the independent sector where children and young people with SEND who are resident in the City are educated so that we can evaluate outcomes for these pupils and more closely match services to their needs and aspirations
- increasing the participation of children and young people with EHC plans in strategic planning and service development
- ensuring that the integrated commissioning arrangements reflect and meet the needs of City of London children and young people with SEND and, in particular, strengthening the relationship with Tower Hamlets CCG to ensure clear pathways for City of London children and young people with SEND who are registered with Tower Hamlets GPs
- developing increased social care and Early Help joint working through the multi-agency referral process in order to create more effective pathways for children and young people with SEND
- promoting the redesigned Local Offer to key target audiences through a range of communication channels
- developing a systematic, comprehensive Children's Centre offer that is based on, and targets, need.

Areas for further development are to:

- broaden the parents' forum to include parent carers of children on SEND support in City of London schools
- develop effective systems to improve the engagement and participation of young people with SEND

- provide performance analysis and reporting and a quality assurance framework that better enables our strategic planning, oversight and scrutiny
- put broad scope plans into place for post-16 and post-19 progressions and exit pathways so that, when children and young people are transitioning into adulthood, their access to training and employment is facilitated
- develop links with available resources for employment and training support
- ensure action pathways are in place to work towards increased employability and raised employment levels.

### **The local offer**

11. The local offer was launched in October 2017 after a period of working with local parents to design a user-friendly website. The touch and feel of the new local offer is much improved and has been well used in the initial few months. The local offer aims to increase access to services for parents and carers of children with SEND. In one location it sets out information about available services and provision for children and young people with SEND in their area.
12. Officers have continued to meet with the parents' forum. The City of London parents' forum has invited the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) to work with them to further establish the group.
13. In December 2017 the parents' forum organised an event at Artizan Library and Community Centre on Sunday 17 December 2017. This event gave children and parents an opportunity to take part in a project with an art student who is working with the Museum of the Order of St John in Farringdon to produce an exciting new art project with the SEND community. The families that attended will continue to work on the project.

### **Multi-agency partnership working**

14. The City has excellent relationships and partnerships with City and Hackney CCG to underpin joint working and commissioning. A core specification has been developed, ensuring that all services commissioned/recommissioned are able to demonstrate inclusive practice. There are well-developed plans for achieving integrated commissioning and aligned budgets.
15. Joint working takes place when children and young people with SEND are also known to Social Care teams. If anyone with an Education, Health and Care plan accesses short break services, this is linked to the appropriate outcome in the plan. The short breaks offer is not yet fully embedded in the City local area, the views of children, young people and parents will influence future provision so that more activities are made available locally.

## **Conclusion**

16. There has been good progress in the development and quality of work with children and young people with SEND in the City of London. Plans are in place to continue to focus on improvement and preparation for the Area Inspection.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Self-evaluation Summary

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