

West Northamptonshire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternate Provision (AP) Partnership Improvement Board Summary - 25th September 2025

Item 1: Minutes and action log

- The minutes from the previous meeting was approved without changes. The action log was updated.
- The children's survey has received 100 responses so far and will remain open until half-term. The result will be reviewed and presented to the board in November.

Item 2: Update from WNVP

- **Parental feedback via Padlets** – Some issues have been resolved, including a few local offer and transport concerns, but challenges remain around updating the local offer, ASD/ADHD support, waiting times, accessibility, communication, and service coordination. Positive feedback was given for exclusion support, youth engagement, nurse practitioners, and educational psychologists. Health services are addressing communication issues and will provide an update at the next board meeting.
- **WNVP survey report** – The survey showed that 64.5% rated services as poor or very poor, with the lowest satisfaction among families of children with PDA, ADHD, ADD, and autism. While some positive feedback is emerging, significant improvements are still needed to enhance family experiences.
- **You Said, We Did proposal** – A proposal was made to implement a partnership-wide model for collecting, recording, and communicating feedback. Adoption has been confirmed by WNC and NCT, with ICB to be confirmed. Alignment with safeguarding work was highlighted to ensure consistency and avoid duplication.
- The board reviewed the themes in parent carer and CYP feedback and confirmed that they were supported by the data presented to board and were being addressed in the board's work and agenda

Item 3: Review of workstreams

- **Partnership and Leadership** – Governance has been strengthened with new leadership roles and a focus on self-assessment. Ownership of the SEND JSNA remains under review, with Public Health clarifying governance and roles. Progress on data sharing will enable integrated planning. Prioritisation framework is in development to identify those children and families with the greatest need, supported by integrated data and family hubs. Upcoming initiatives include launching family hubs, rebranding early help processes to Family Help Conversation to align with Family Help strategy and family hubs and spokes, and rolling out Liquid Logic system to improve multi-agency working.
- **Right Support, Right Place, Right Time** – The main focus is the Single Community CYP Service, a multi-year transformation project with key milestones through early 2026. Interim measures include Helios reducing ASD/ADHD waits, emotional coaching, and mapping support services. Risks include SALT recruitment delays and prescribing capacity challenges. Prioritisation framework and waiting time trajectories for CAMHS, SALT, and NDD are being developed, alongside efforts to improve communication and align services with feedback.
- **Timeliness and Quality of Assessment and EHCPs** – Outstanding EHCPs have reduced by 200 to 699, with 80% of assessments meeting timeliness standards and no current EP waiting list. Sustainability measures and weekly reporting via Liquid Logic are in place. QA processes have improved with a revised framework, draft plan audits, and updated templates. Recruitment of new caseworkers is underway. EHCP trajectories predict meeting the 20-week target by January 2026, though progress will be gradual. Additional actions include finalising the EOTIS policy, improving commissioning processes, and producing guidance for families and professionals. The board received the recent EOTIS report and recognised the common themes being raised. Again, the board confirmed that these themes were central to its work and agenda.
- **Transition and Preparation for Adulthood** – Transitions work has progressed with strong engagement through the young people's shadow board and completion of a local offer review. New PfA outcome measures will be reported next meeting. Post-16 providers meeting in October aims to expand supported internships and employment opportunities. New PfA resources have been developed, and strategies are aligning to strengthen

early support, reduce reliance on EHCPs, and improve parental confidence through early years notifications linked to family hubs.

Item 4: School representation

- The board welcomed new members and highlighted the need for improved communication to reduce misunderstandings at school level and strengthen collaboration.