



SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Tuesday, 12 December 2023

10.00 am

**Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton
Way, Yeovil BA20 2HT**

SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA

To: The members of the Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families

We are now able to enclose the following information in respect of agenda item 7:-

Education, Health and Care Assessment and Plan 2022-2023 - Progress update

Responses provided to questions (Pages 3 – 4).

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Addendum to Minutes – 12 December 2023

Education, Health and Care Assessment and Plan 2022 – 2023

At the meeting in [December](#), during the progress update on the above, Cllr Nicholson asked questions about the information on SEND in Somerset schools in particular – please see [PowerPoint presentation](#) The Chair invited Cllr Nicholson to email the questions so that a written response could be provided. It was also agreed that the responses would be published as an addendum to the minutes from the December meeting.

Dr Hart, Service Director, Inclusion apologises for the delay and that he had hoped to arrange a meeting with Cllr Nicholson to discuss the matter, but this hasn't happened. To avoid any further delay please now see below the written response: -

Questions from Cllr Nicholson:-

How many children Somerset schools who have an EHCP, have an EHCP which does not describe the arrangements verbally agreed between all parties? In each instance how long has this been the case? In each instance, when is it intended that there will be an EHCP in place that describes the agreed arrangements?

Response from Dr Hart, Service Director, Inclusion:-

- Our priority is to be able to enable children to access the right support in a timely manner. Where schools or settings require additional funding to put this in place, we can arrange this through agreement of a costed plan. Variations to how support for children is commissioned may not be detailed in individual EHC plans but should be detailed between the team and the setting. These are not captured and counted but all funding arrangements are detailed and agreed via a panel. As we do not count of the number of variations to arrangements so cannot provide a number.
- A costed plan does not require a formal review of the EHCP which can take 12 weeks or more to implement, so it enables changes in provision to happen more quickly. It also means that changes can be trialled before making any long-term changes to the plan.
- All EHCPs should be reviewed annually, and schools are responsible for initiating the review and providing evidence about any changes in need and provision. If a

plan needs to be amended to reflect a long-term change in provision, the annual review process is the way to do this.

If Cllr Nicholson wishes to discuss any specific cases, we can explore these separately.

Dr Rob Hart
Service Director, Inclusion

18 March 2024