



Responding to the BURY SEND SURVEY 2022

EDUCATION HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

Thank you to everyone who responded to the annual SEND Survey in 2022. We have listened to you and are working on the areas you have highlighted to be developed and improved. Some of those changes will take some time to complete and some are things that we can move on quickly.

We have reviewed all the findings from the survey and wanted to update you on where we are up to on the improvement journey for SEND services in Bury using a 'you said, we are doing and we did' approach.

You said

We are doing

&

We did

In 2022 / 23 we ran 2 school based emotional health and wellbeing pilots - Wellbeing through Sport and myHappymind.



As a whole team approach to reduce the current waiting list, CAMHS dedicated two weeks in December and another in January to address those who have waited the longest for an assessment. Two of these weeks were dedicated to neurodevelopmental pathway assessments. An additional 94 assessments were offered. This helped reduce the initial assessment waiting time. The other was core CAMHS which has seen a reduction in waiting times

You said:

There is a lack of and quality of services:

- **No mental health provision**
- **Unacceptable CAMHS waiting times and poor service**

In the last 12 months we have been working with parents to develop the new Neurodevelopmental pathway and now have a joint board to help progress this work with some new developments being piloted in 2023.

We secured an additional £300,000 investment in earlier intervention and prevention Mental Health services. Waiting times are now reported to the SEND strategic Partnership board as well as the Children and Young People's Partnership board to ensure ongoing accountability, oversight and challenge. We have also launched our Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) which provides 2 new dedicated mental health teams working in 30 % of our schools and colleges. As we have transitioned to 1 Integrated Care Board, we are working at a Greater Manchester level to secure additional investment in Bury CAMHS.

One of the key pieces of work we have progressed over last year is a review of the speech and language therapy offer in Bury, many parents have fed back into this programme of work, and through this work we secured additional funding in December to increase the capacity by into the team to develop a targeted offer. This is excellent news but we do understand the impact will not be felt for at least another 6 months due to the recruitment process for staff.

You said:

**Speech and language is awful
- A need for earlier access to speech therapist**



We have developed a resource toolkit which will help address, identify, and support speech and language therapy needs as an earlier intervention.

Over the last year we have carried out a review of the sensory pathway and have moved on to phase 2 of the pilot. Now aligned to the graduated approach, the provision no longer needs a diagnosis to access provision. Over the last 3 months of operating this new model, the service has seen more parents and children than ever with over 111 accessing provision.

You said:

**Little support and funding for sensory needs-
Full assessments not made available, are missed or requests to reassess not responded to.**



The Service now provides parental workshops and workforce development sessions so that the wider system understands sensory processing difficulties and how to support children.



The pandemic has had a huge increase in the presentation of neurodevelopmental needs. We have started to review this pathway and over the last year we have been able to increase the pre and post diagnostic support through First Point Family Support Services who are now delivering Riding the Rapids and PACT, both of which are evidence-based interventions.

You said:

Long waits for post diagnostic support or felt no help offered

First Point Family Support Services have increased their open access support via a coffee and catch-up session which is freely available. We are aware of the increased waiting times for Holistic therapies and are trying to work with the provider on addressing this.

In 2023 we are reviewing all the current short break support contracts and there will be a process of consultation and retendering which will also support with the range of post diagnostic support. The next phase of the consultation will begin in February 2023.

Over the last year we worked with parents to secure a Epilepsy Specialist Nurse for Bury. The great news that this year we saw the confirmed funding for Bury's own Epilepsy Nurse and we are currently moving to the recruitment phase, which will include parents. We have also successfully retained a sleep nurse.



While Bury's CAMHS do not offer a PDA standalone assessment, in the interim they do offer a full assessment looking very closely for ASD/ social anxiety/ social communication difficulties and the formulation could include demand avoidance secondary to anxiety/ ASD, if demand avoidance was a significant problem.

You said:

Gap in provision as Bury CCG do not recognise PDA as other areas do

No CAMHS provision in GM recognise PDA as a separate entity.

We recognise that some families may be disappointed by this so we are asking that clinicians engage in discussions to consider what options are available.

We are committed to developing a Bury based EPS and we are continuing to advertise for Bury EPS positions. Due to an innovative joint commission across Bury and Salford, we will be welcoming new EPs to the Bury and Salford Partnership in September 2023, under the EPS Academy offer; a programme designed to attract and support EPs early in their careers.

You said:

Limited access to Educational Psychologists

Bury has had some difficulty in maintaining its own Educational Psychology Service (EPS) and to ensure that a service could be provided we entered into an agreement with Salford EPS to cover this work in Bury, as they had previous experience of supporting other local authorities in this way.

Through the current Bury and Salford EPS partnership we do have in place:

- Oversight of statutory work
- Critical incident support
- Development of the Graduated Approach Toolkit across the 0-25 age range
- Emotionally Based School Non-attendance (EBSNA) pathway and support
- Attendance at SENCO Networks meetings
- Support for the Virtual School
- An Early Years training programme
- Roll out of the Emotionally Friendly Settings initiative

You said:

Prior to getting an EHCP, there is nothing to support families with mental health deteriorating

We have now got a Mental Health Support Team running in 19 schools

(Launched in September 2022) This will extend to the remaining 13 schools in January 2023

The roll out to myHappymind has continued, with delivery currently in 31 schools, with plans to expand across at least another 17 schools early 2023.

We have the Getting Help line which support all ages as well as a range of other help lines .

- [Getting Advice \(theburydirectory.co.uk\)](https://theburydirectory.co.uk/getting-advice)
- [Getting Help \(theburydirectory.co.uk\)](https://theburydirectory.co.uk/getting-help)
- [Getting More Help \(theburydirectory.co.uk\)](https://theburydirectory.co.uk/getting-more-help)
- [Getting Risk Support \(theburydirectory.co.uk\)](https://theburydirectory.co.uk/getting-risk-support)



Resources here, please scan.

We are developing a range of resources and materials to support children, young people, and their families. These will be launched early in 2023. Parent and Carer's Padlet

<https://padlet.com/ThriveinBury/ParentandCarers>



You said:

Communication between caseworkers and parents is poor

We know that parent/carers have complained about the difficulties they have had in being able to talk to their allocated case worker. We have listened and have made several changes to address this which includes having a dedicated officer covering the phone line and email box each day to improve response time. We have increased the number of staff within the team to reduce the caseloads for staff to support ongoing case work. We are also reducing the use of agency staff so that we can offer greater consistency of case allocation in order to provide better communication.

We hold monthly parent engagement meetings in partnership with BURY2GETHER to support effective communication and engagement. We also provide monthly face to face case discussion meetings between parents and the Strategic Lead Michael Kemp to support the line of communications



You said:

Should be more hours for 1 to 1 support in plans especially with transition between schools and more support for speech and language

In December additional funding for additional capacity was agreed to support the Speech and Language offer across Bury.

We absolutely agree that transition is so important, and we are looking at how through single paperwork and better communication moves with the child to support transition. We are looking at how services can work during holiday periods to support transition work. How Pupil passports can be better used etc

In May 2022 Bury adopted the Banding arrangement around the EHCP funding allocation. This brought Bury in line with expectation with the Code of Practice that provision should be based on assessed need and needed to be flexible. This means that schools look at the best use of the funding to meet that child's needs in terms of support, therapy, activities etc. While for some children and young people they need that 1:1 support some don't like support in that way, so the banding allows for those differences to be catered for. It also allows schools to choose if they have used more hours at certain times in the year to others – for example around transition / settling in etc. Using the funding for the best outcome for the child.



You said:

**Completion of reviews; updating of EHCP
and providing support needs to happen
rather than families being left on their own**

**Preparing for
Adulthood**

We know that our performance around EHCP annual review and update of EHC Plan has been outside of the timescales as set out in the Code of Practice. We have sought to increase the capacity of the EHCP team so that they can start to address this issue. Currently we have timetabled in all the phase transfer reviews to be completed within timescales this year and we are fully on target with that work. We have 2 additional agency workers currently working on updating plans to support the team's performance.

SENDIASS are scheduled to run annual review training in schools, colleges and settings.

From this year we will be formally reporting on our performance / compliance via the SEND Partnership Board as well as via the SEND 2 returns to the Department of Education. To ensure we are reporting our compliance rate.

[Bury SENDIASS | Barnardo's \(barnardosendiass.org.uk\)](http://barnardosendiass.org.uk)

We are linking in with Schools around the annual review process, to streamline it, to maximise our capacity and increase our timeliness. We are also now able to have EHC Case Officers attending some reviews in person as well.

We understand the importance of updating plans as well as having meaningful annual reviews and given that we have over 2,000 a year to review we have to find solutions to improve and sustain the strong performance on this so we are looking at how other specialist staff can support this work.

SEND Practice Learning Event

6th February 2023-17th February 2023

We see that multi agency working has been central of offering a good offer for those with SEND. We hold firm to the ambition to reduce the need for parent / carers repeat their child's stories. To support this culture we have set up weekly touch base meetings for the leaders in SEND including BURY2GETHER.

We held a SEND Practice Learning event in February to increase shared learning and joint working.

We are updating the Collaborative / Coproduction strategy to set out clear expectations and standards for all which will support multiagency working / person centred approach.



You said:

Multi-agency working is poor

SEND Information Day

Thursday 6th October 2022 10.00am-2.00pm
The Elizabethan Suite
The Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0SW

"Together we can make a difference"

We have a monthly Senior Multi Agency Leadership meeting to bring the leaders together to support us working as a single joint service

We are running all training on a multiagency basis

This year saw the setting up of the joint Dynamic Risk register for children and young people with ASC and or Learning Difficulty at risk of hospitalisation or residential care which ensure multi agency working around those child / young people and access to the new Key worker offer



Bury
Council



We are committed to having lived experiences as part of our approach to all training so if there is anyone happy to contribute to this training, we would welcome that.

You said:

Limited awareness of selective mutism

Our support around this currently is provided by our Education Psychology service – but given we recognise that we need to ensure our workforce are informed, we are developing what are known as 7 min briefings for all staff as well as commissioning training for 2023 on this. There is very much work to be completed in the next quarter.

You said:

Transport barrier to accessing section F

We have committed to the review of our current transport policy spring 2023



You said:

No SEND Psychology service



We don't have a single designated SEND psychologist. All this work is covered by our CAMHS – neurodevelopmental team / clinical psychologists



Our Educational Psychology Services do not assess for dyslexia. The assessments are over time and the EP team support schools with identification and offer advice and support.



You said:

No dyslexic support or identification and no provision



Our current Additional Needs Team within the Inclusion service also support schools around dyslexia. With the remodelling of this service, they will be able to offer more support around Dyslexia in schools.

We have developed the Graduated Response – this is a web based tool to support settings, schools, parents and carers to know what support should be routinely offered.

[Bury SEND Graduated Approach Toolkit | The Bury Directory](#)



You said:

No earlier intervention and support

In Bury we have a SEND Health visitor and First Point Family are commissioned to offer a range of support including pre and post diagnosis.



You said:

No provision for high functioning autistic pupils in mainstream

We have made a successful application for an additional special high school to be built for children with ASC and social communication needs but do not have a learning disability which is due to open in 2024. Likewise, we are underway with the development of a primary free school to meet those needs so that we will have a strong offer within Bury. Alongside this we are also developing a number of resource provisions.

