

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	Thursday, 16 September 2021
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>High Needs Block Summary</b>
<b>Type of report:</b> Delete as required	For Information
<b>Executive summary:</b> Including reason for submission	Highlights the projected financial pressure in the High Needs Block in 2021/22 and subsequent years, and the specific challenges facing the local authority and schools. The report provides information on SEND trends particularly around Education, Health and Care Plans and exclusions.
<b>Budget / Risk implications:</b>	
<b>Recommendations:</b>	That members of the Schools Forum note the contents of the report
<b>Voting requirements:</b>	None
<b>Appendices:</b> To be attached	APPENDIX 1: DfE Benchmarking Dataset
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<b>Presenting officer:</b> If not the originator	

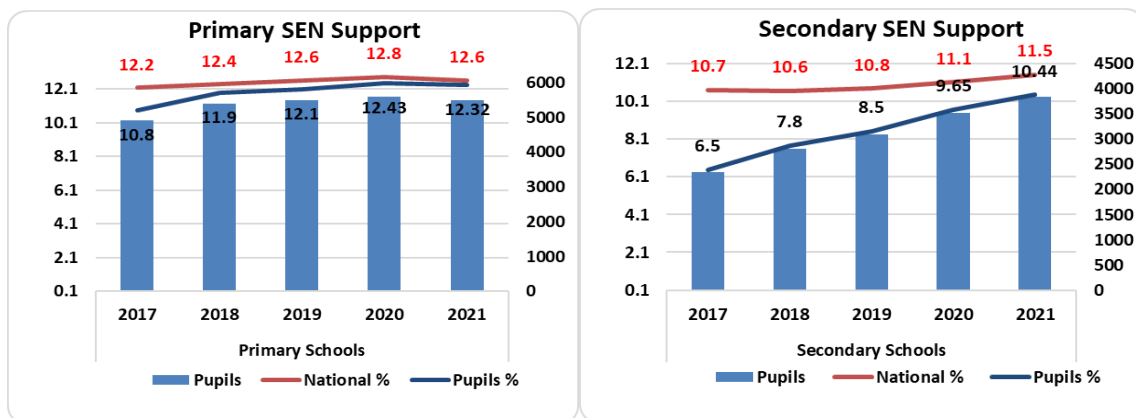
1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The paper provides information on trends with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) giving rise to the financial pressures. It summarises the current budget and outlines progress in implementing the Strategic Plan for SEND 0-25.

2.0 IDENTIFICATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND

**Children at SEN Support**

2.1 Between January 2017 and January 2021, North Yorkshire has seen a 1.5 percentage point (pp) increase in the number of Primary School pupils in receipt of SEN Support (up from 10.8% to 12.3%), against a national increase of just 0.4 pp (from 12.2% to 12.6%). Similarly, between January 2017 and January 2021, we have seen a 3.9 pp increase in the proportion of Secondary pupils in receipt of SEN Support in North Yorkshire (from 6.5% to 10.4%). Whilst across both phases, North Yorkshire rates remain below the national, over the past 4 years the 'gap' has closed considerably as North Yorkshire's rate continues to increase faster than the national rate.



2.2 As can be seen from the chart above, there continues to be a significant difference between the proportion of primary school pupils receiving SEN Support and the proportion of secondary school pupils receiving SEN Support. The table below shows the breakdown of primary and secondary schools based on the proportion of pupils on roll in receipt of SEN Support. As can be seen a vast majority of schools have between 5% and 15% of pupils receiving SEN Support.

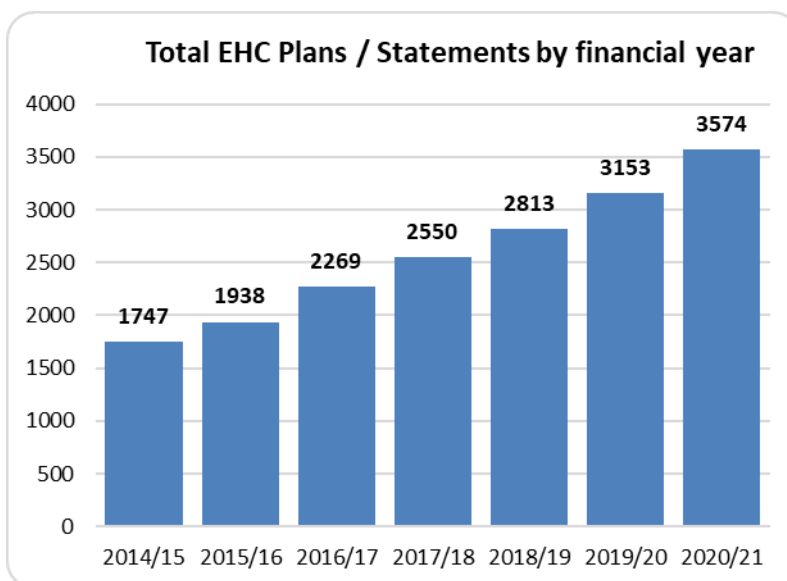
SEN support school analysis						
	North Yorkshire Overall	Number of schools less than 5%	Number of schools between 5- 9.9%	Number of schools between 10-14.9%	Number of schools between 15- 19.9%	Number of schools 20% and over
Primary	12.3%	21	102	78	60	42
Secondary	10.4%	7	11	14	8	3

### Children with EHC Plans/statements

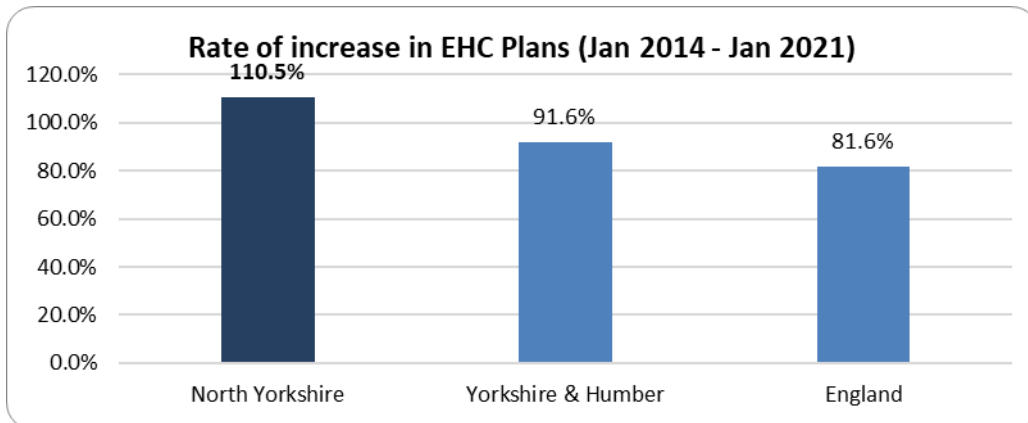
- 2.3 The number of requests for Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments increased by 76% between 2015 and 2019 (calendar years). The 2020 calendar year has seen a slight decrease to 678, down from 709 in the previous year. This figure also approaches the high of 717 in 2017.

Requests for EHC assessment (calendar)					
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
407	614	717	661	709	678

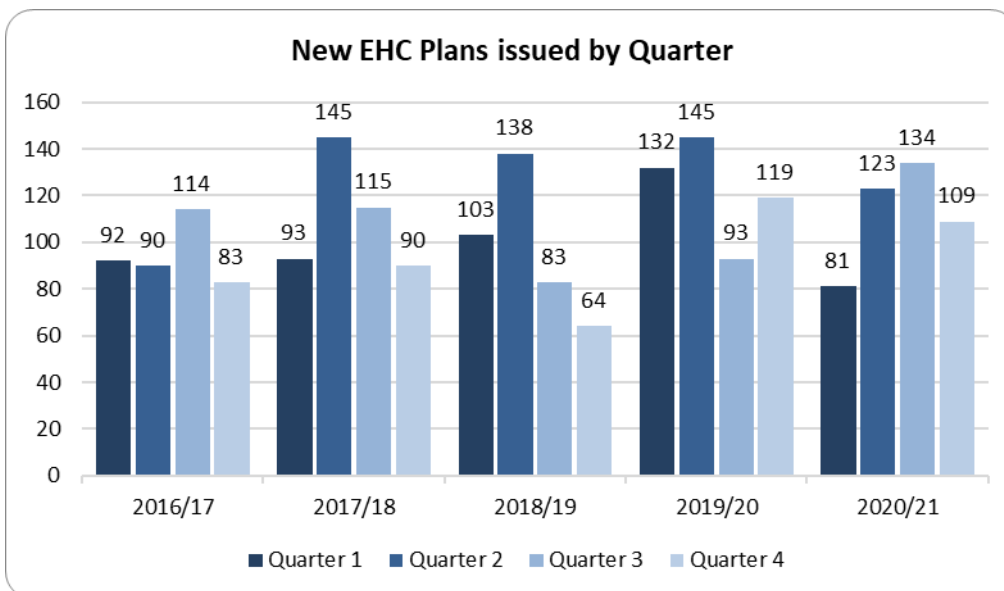
- 2.4 The percentage of initial requests for an EHC assessment refused an assessment in 2020 was 13%, down from 22.4% in 2019. This rate is now well below the national rate of 21.6%.
- 2.5 Furthermore, 11.0% of EHC assessments resulted in a decision not to issue an EHC plan. This is slightly down on the 12.5% last year, and remains above the national benchmark of 4.9%.
- 2.6 Over the past few years, similarly to the number of children in receipt of SEN support, we have seen a considerable and sustained increase in the number of children receiving support via an EHCP. By the end of the 2020/21 financial year, there were 3,574 children and young people in receipt of support via an EHC Plan. This is up by 13% on the end of last financial year, and represents a longer-term increase of 104% compared to the position at the end of the 2014/15 financial year.



2.7 Over the period between January 2014 and January 2021, the number of children receiving support under an EHC Plan (or Statement of SEND before their introduction in 2015), has increased by 111%. This is a notably higher increase than has been seen across the Yorkshire & Humber region (92%) and is significantly higher than the national increase (82%).



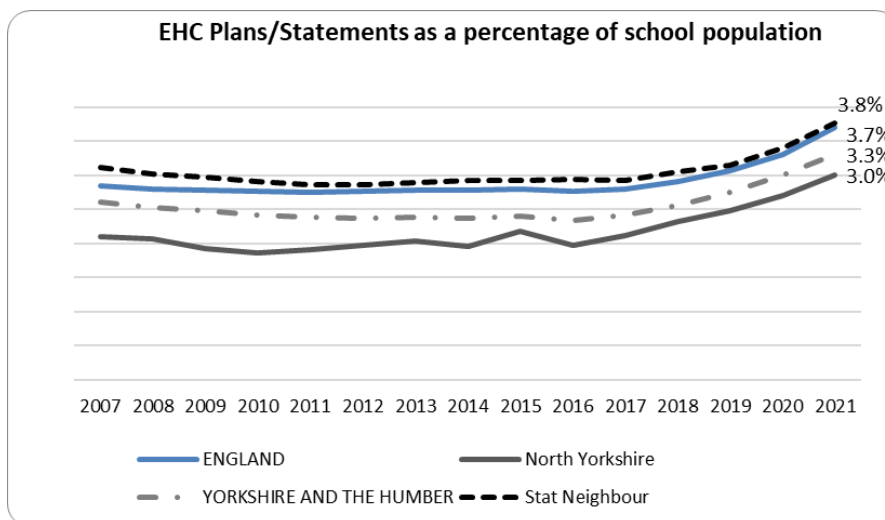
2.8 Since the start of 2016/17, the average number of new EHC Plans issued per Quarter has been 107. Over Quarters in 2020/21, however, we have seen the number of new EHC Plans issued each Quarter being above this average in all except for Q1 when 81 were issued.



2.9 Having witnessed a considerable increase in the number of ceased EHC Plans between 2015 to 2019 calendar years, the 2020 calendar year saw a drop to 96 EHC Plans ceased. This is a 27% decrease in the number of ceased plans compared to 2019 and has compounded the increasing total of North Yorkshire EHC plans considering new EHC plans issued increased by 5% in the same period to 468 in 2020, a record high.

Ceased EHC plans					
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
80	51	113	124	132	96

- 2.10 The rate of EHC Plans as a percentage of the school population has increased in line with a national increase since 2015 but has remained below all benchmarks.



- 2.11 The EHC Plan forecast - based on historic trends since the implementation of the SEND code of practice - is shown in the table below (forecast numbers for the beginning of January in each year). The forecast takes into account new plans issued and plans ceased.

This forecast has been adjusted upwards based on a drop in the number of discontinued EHC plans there has been in the past financial year and a higher than expected number of new EHC plans being issued in the 2020 calendar years. Despite Covid-19 disruption, EHC plans continued to be finalised and a record number, 468, were issued during the course of 2020. Furthermore, during the Covid-19 pandemic, in 2020, there was a postponement of EHC plans for 25 year olds being ceased, which elevated total numbers beyond those expected.

The forecast for January 2021 onwards in the table below includes an expected return to EHC plans being discontinued, in line with previous years. The forecast will be required to be re-evaluated if the number of EHC plans ending continues to decrease and the number of new EHC plans being approved continues beyond this period.

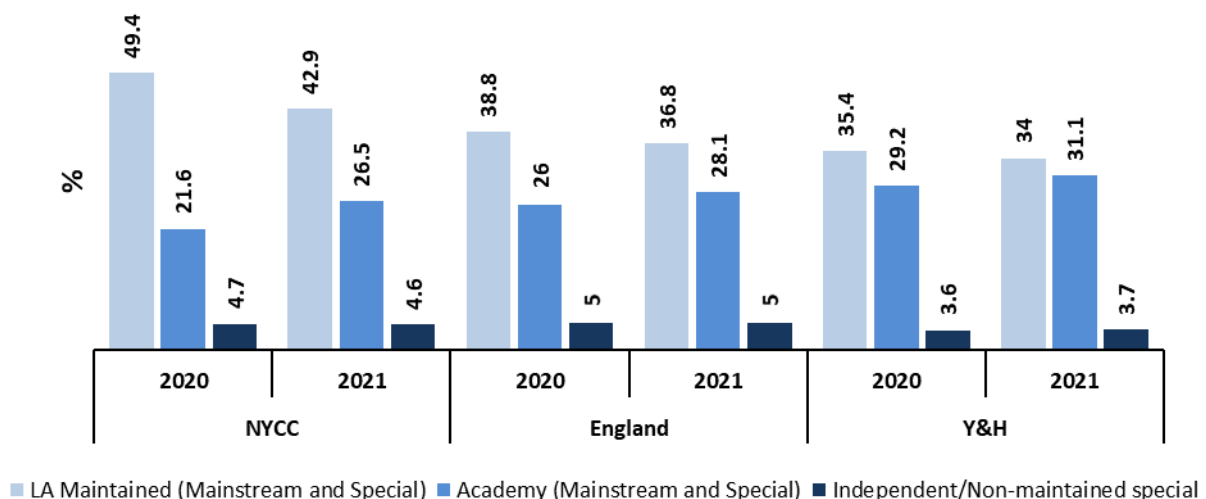
EHC Plan forecast (January - based on historic trend since implementation of the SEND code of practice)							
2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
3,100	3,450	3,658	3,863	3,983	4,119	4,268	4,389

Count of North Yorkshire funded Statements and EHC plans by age group

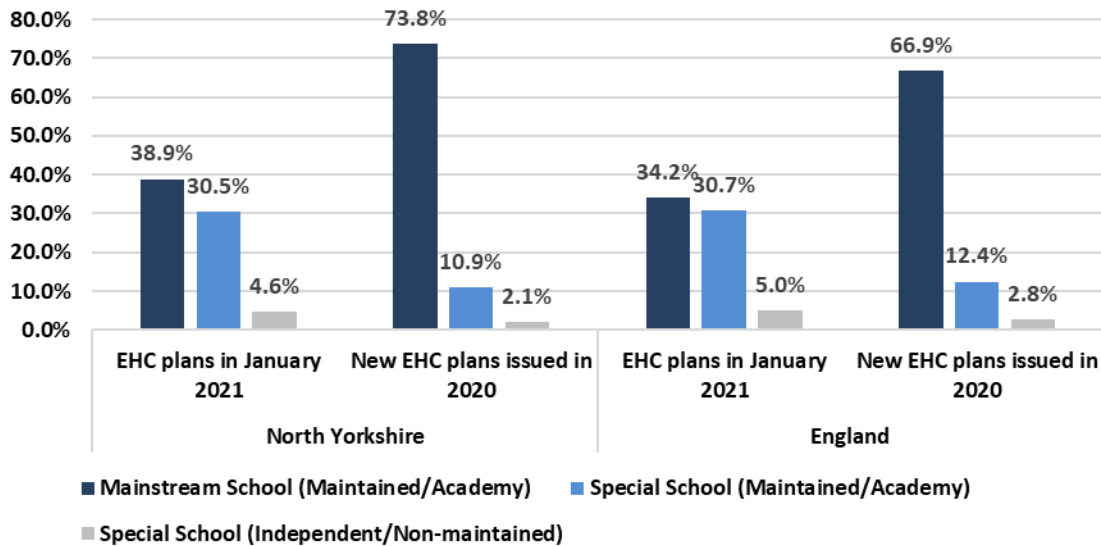
Beginning of Calendar Year:	Under 5	5 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 19	20 plus	Total
2015	37	562	768	359	2	1728
2016	42	593	789	450	28	1902
2017	50	679	859	526	90	2204
2018	58	846	892	575	126	2497
2019	66	922	967	635	163	2753
2020	91	990	1099	696	224	3100
2021	86	1089	1215	767	293	3450

### Placement of children with an EHC Plan

2.12 The rate of children with a North Yorkshire EHC plan being educated in mainstream schooling (39%) is higher than the national rate (34%), as of January 2021. Also, a higher proportion of children being issued with a new EHC plan in the 2020 calendar year are being educated in mainstream (73.8%) compared to national (66.9%).

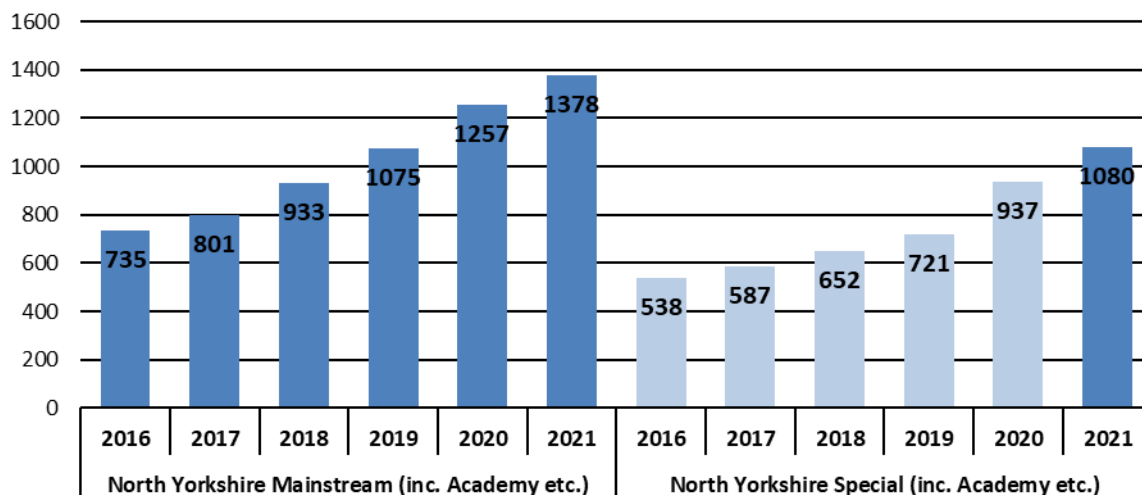


Placement of children with EHC Plans

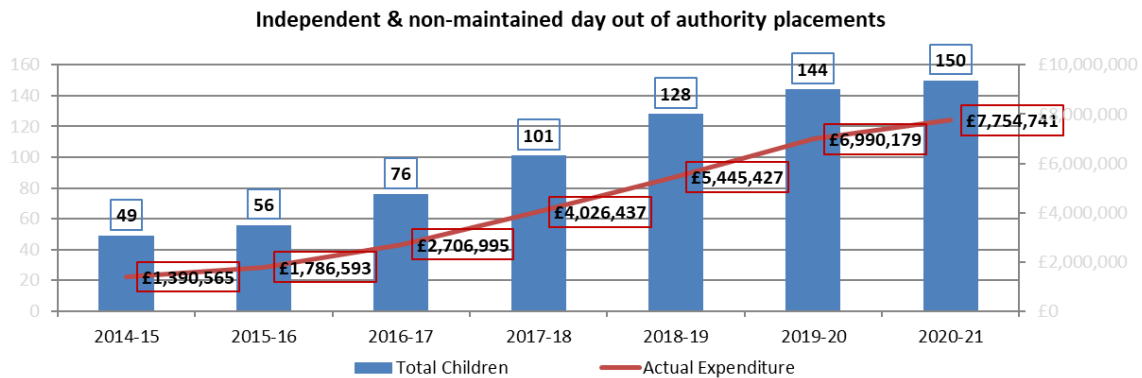


2.13 The number of pupils (Reception to Year 11) with an Education, Health and Care Plan in North Yorkshire mainstream schools (maintained and academy) has increased by 87% since 2016, from 735 in 2016 to 1,378 in 2021. Similarly, the number of pupils with an EHC Plan in North Yorkshire special schools (maintained and academy) has increased by 100%.

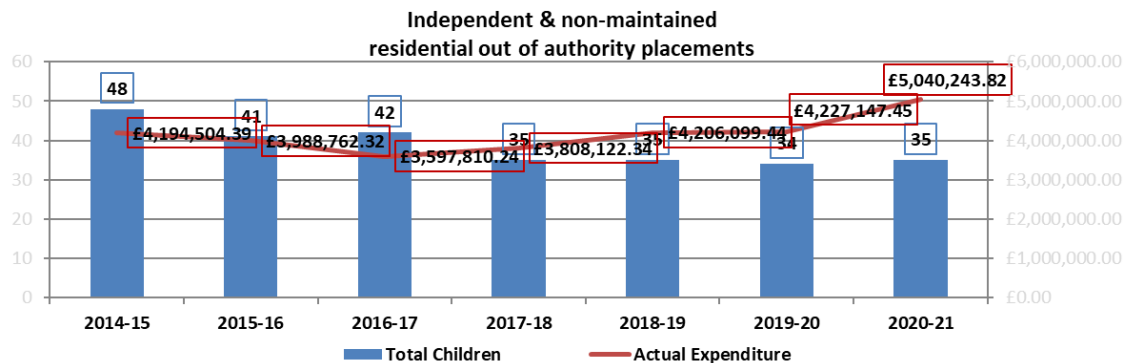
Pupils in mainstream and special provision in North Yorkshire



2.14 The total number of pupils in independent and non-maintained day out of authority placements (which includes independent and non-maintained providers in North Yorkshire) has shown a year on year increase since 2014-15. The expenditure has also increased year on year. In 2020-21, the total actual expenditure was £7,754,741, an increase in expenditure of 93% since 2017/18 and an increase of 458% since 2014/15.

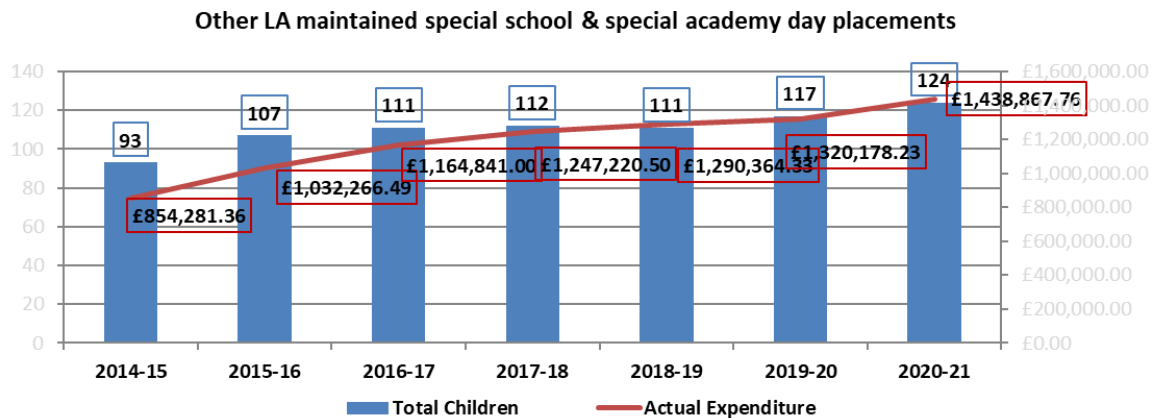


2.15 The total pupils in independent and non-maintained residential out of authority placements (which includes independent and non-maintained providers in North Yorkshire) has remained similar, over the past four years and is currently at 35. Expenditure reduced over the period 2014-15 to 2016-17, but increased between 2016-17 and 2020-21 despite similar numbers of pupils. In 2019-20, the actual annual expenditure was £5,040,243.82 for 35 pupils, a similar expenditure as in 2014-15 but when there were 48 pupils.



2.16 The total pupils in other Local Authority maintained special school and special academy day placements has shown a relatively small increase since 2014-15. The total annual expenditure has increased year-on-year, increasing by 68.4% since 2014-15, for a total increase in children of 33% in the same period.





### Department for Education Benchmarking

- 2.17 Benchmarking analysis has been drawn from the DfE high needs benchmarking dataset – available to review on the DfE website. The advantages in deploying this dataset are that all local authorities complete it and there should be a reasonable degree of consistency in its completion.
- 2.18 The dataset is available from 2016-17 and the data regarding provision and numbers of pupils is available for all years through to 2020-21. As the financial data was last collated from local authorities in 2019-20, the financial data time-series only covers four years. In addition, data has only been analysed for authorities that have been in existence for the entire time-series – so all comparator figures/ rankings are drawing upon datasets from 147 local authorities.
- 2.19 In terms of numbers of EHCPs Measure 1 indicates that North Yorkshire is currently ranked 134<sup>th</sup> amongst all authorities with 27.27 EHCPs per 100,000 young people aged 2-18 – the equivalent rank in 2016-17 was 137<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.20 The rate of increase in the number of EHCPs between 2016-17 and 2020-21 at 61.98% (Measure 3) has been above the national average. This partly reflects North Yorkshire’s relatively low baseline position; North Yorkshire has actually moved marginally further away from the national average rate (7.4 EHCPs per 100,000 adrift in 2020-21 as opposed to 7.0 EHCPs in 2016-17).
- 2.21 Measures 11, 12 and 13 indicate that levels of specialist provision places in North Yorkshire are broadly in line with the rate of increase achieved in other authorities. This is a significant achievement given the very low amount of SPCF grant allocation the authority has received. It provides some evidence that there has been success in delivering moderately sized schemes at economic rates.
- 2.22 Care needs to be taken in interpreting these figures in relation to urban authorities. Whereas the number of North Yorkshire pupils with EHCPs accessing specialist provision in other local authorities is relatively low (c. 100 pupils) and, similarly, the number of pupils from other local authorities in our special schools are relatively low, the picture can be very different in some urban areas.

- 2.23 Measures 21, 22 and 23 indicate that a greater proportion of pupils with EHCPs are educated in mainstream provision in North Yorkshire than in other authorities – and that our ranking on this measure has improved from 61<sup>st</sup> in 2016-17 to 39<sup>th</sup> in 2020-21. This measure is an indicator of inclusiveness on the part of the North Yorkshire schools community/ schools system – although a note of caution should be applied that this analysis assumes all authorities have equal pressures in terms of pupils appropriately transferring from mainstream provision to specialist provision.
- 2.24 Measures 34, 35 and 36 provide a stark message regarding the level of Non-maintained special school and independent school expenditure. Measure 34 indicates that our level of spend on these placements was £122.94 per head of population aged 2-18 in 2019-20 (which ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> amongst local authorities) whereas the equivalent spend figure in 2016-17 was £62.72 (which was significantly below the national average and saw North Yorkshire ranked 107<sup>th</sup> amongst all local authorities). This trend is confirmed by Measure 36 – which indicates that spend during this period increased by 96% compared to national average figure of 9%.
- 2.25 Measures 31, 32 and 33 indicate that whilst the numbers of pupils being supported in Non-maintained special schools and independent placements have increased significantly over the same period they have not increased at the same rate as the level of spend. Measure 33 indicates that the number of such placements increased by 56% over the period 2016-17 to 2019-20 compared to a national average increase of 31% over the same period. This divergence between growth in numbers and costs is more starkly evidenced in measures 37, 38 and 39, which analyse the unit cost position in relation to NMSS and Independent Placements. This illustrates that the unit cost of placements in North Yorkshire increased from £64,340 to £80,830 during the period 2016-17 to 2019-20, whilst the national average position reduced from £60,740 to £50,690.
- 2.26 Finally, there are measures regarding overall levels of spend in relation to the high needs budget. Measure 42 details that North Yorkshire's overall spend on High Needs budget activity is £503.70 per head of population compared to a national average of £563.42 per head of population and ranks 116<sup>th</sup> amongst all local authorities. This contrasts with our DSG funding allocations which in cash terms ranks 147<sup>th</sup> out of 149 local authorities in 2020-21.

3.0 IMPACT ON HIGH NEEDS BLOCK FUNDING

3.1 The High Needs Block in 2021-22 for North Yorkshire amounts to £57.01 million:

Budget Area	Budget as per March 2021 (£k)	Change since Original Budget (£k)	Revised Budget (£k)	%
High Needs Commissioning	53,068	111	53,180	89.4
Alternative Provision (PRUs, Hospital Provision)	1,637	43	1,681	2.8
Inclusion & AD Inclusion	1,346	(134)	1,212	2.0
Hubs & SEN Provision	2,384	85	2,469	4.1
Financial Support	54	0	54	0.1
DSG Overheads	420	0	420	0.7
Provision for Additional Demand	484	13	497	0.8
<b>Estimated Spending</b>	<b>59,393</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>59,512</b>	<b>100</b>
Estimated Funding	56,393	119	57,012	
Estimated In-year Deficit	2,500	0	2,500	

3.2 The High Needs Commissioning Budget amounts to £53,180k and can be further broken down to illustrate areas of deployment of funding.

Budget Line	£k	%
North Yorkshire Special Schools	20,789	39.1
North Yorkshire Mainstream School E3 Top-up Funding	7,803	14.7
Independent and Non-maintained Special Schools	8,930	16.8
Special Provision Institutions	2,609	4.9

Other Local Authority provision	2,252	4.2
Pooled Budget	1,942	3.7
FE Colleges	1,491	2.8
Personalised Learning Pathways	1,453	2.7
ILP's	792	1.5
Early Years	901	1.7
Targeted Mainstream Provision	1,310	2.5
PRU's	2,683	5.0
Other	225	0.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53,180</b>	<b>100</b>

- 3.3 The estimated financial pressure in 2021-22 is in the order of £2.5m. This will add to the accumulated High Needs Deficit built up from financial pressure in previous years, which already stands at £8.7m. Please note that changes in government regulations since January 2020 now prohibit the local authority from using its general resources to fund in-year High Needs shortfalls.
- 3.4 Demand predictions outlined in section 2 indicate that, other things being equal, the underlying financial pressure of £2.5m will grow by approximately £1.5m - £2.5m in each of the next few years.
- 3.5 The High Needs Block provisional allocation for 2022-23 amounts to £68.26m. The allocation will be subject to further revision using updated data on pupil numbers in special schools (Basic Entitlement Factor), the difference between the total number of high need places North Yorkshire commissions and provides (Import-export Adjustment), and the number of places funded directly by ESFA (High Needs Deductions). In addition, the allocation will incorporate funding that is currently received separately for teachers' pay and teacher's pension's employer contribution grants outside the HNB. A like-for-like comparison with 2020-21 shows an increase of c. £5m.
- 4.0 NYCC DSG DEFICIT MANAGEMENT PLAN
- 4.1 The NYCC DSG Deficit Management Plan is available on the NYCC website and can found at <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/our-key-strategies-plans-and-policies>. The Plan will be reviewed over coming weeks and the updated Plan will be presented to the November 2021 meeting of the Schools Forum.

## 5.0 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SEND UPDATE

5.1 The Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 0-25 2018-23 (the Strategic Plan) was approved by the Executive in early September 2018, and published in the same month. Since then work has taken place to implement the actions in the plan, in order to achieve our vision for all children and young people with SEND to:

- have the best educational opportunities so they achieve the best outcomes
- be able to attend a school or provision as close to their home as possible
- make progress with learning, have good social and emotional health and be prepared for a fulfilling adult life

5.2 The implementation of the Strategic Plan has been overseen by the SEND Programme Board, and a SEND Implementation group has met regularly to ensure the work progresses in a timely way, and to focus on specific actions. A comprehensive implementation plan is in place.

5.3 The actions in the plan are delivered by a number of teams across Inclusion. The SEND Provision and Resources team carry out oversight and monitoring.

### **The Continuum of Education provision**

5.4 The Strategic Plan for SEND Education provision is set out across a continuum that includes universal, targeted and specialist provision. Progress with key actions is briefly outlined below:

Key development in terms of **universal provision** for SEND:

**SEND Hubs-** Implemented Sept 2020. Ongoing post implementation review taking place throughout 2021/22 academic year.

**Development of a Quality Assured CPD Offer-**A digital training package across all areas of SEND and levels of CPD for schools and settings has been established. This has been done alongside a revised offer to parents with work ongoing to trial accreditation and downloadable courses.

**Relationship based approaches-** 18 schools are now participating in the Pivotal programme across the county and the Opportunities area funding has commissioned Nurture training in Scarborough for 24 schools. In addition, Sidewalk transition project is working with 56 vulnerable year 6 pupils transitioning to secondary and 92 secondary aged pupils providing mentoring support.

**Locality Boards-** Now operational in all localities. All have detailed action plans to address identified local priorities for Inclusion and School Improvement

5.5 Key developments in terms of **targeted provision** for SEND:

**Remodelling of the PRS and AP** provision has taken place. New funding arrangements and delivery models were implemented in Sept 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Targeted Mainstream Provisions** - despite some delay due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the first three provisions began operation in Jan 2021. Grove Road CP, East Whitby Academy and Holy Family. Early feedback has been very positive both from schools and from parents. A further five provisions will be established in the 21/22 academic year creating 60 new places.

**Education of Children with Medical Needs**-Establishment of the new MES service began in Sept 2020. The new model of provision has a greater focus on supporting young people back into school with jointly managed packages of support between the school and local Authority.

5.6 Key developments in terms of **specialist provision** for SEND:

**Mowbray School (Ripon)** opened in January 2020 and places increased to 44 from September 2020.

**Free School** development is continuing to progress. The LA have allocated up to £1m of capital resource to cover the cost of delivering road access and any abnormal costs of the site

**£250k investment in Springwater School** to increase capacity using the former Starbeck Children's Centre on track for delivery Sept 21

**A Capital Business Case** is being developed to invest further in Targeted and Specialist provision

**Local governance, accountability, decision making and support.**

5.7 Locality Boards have been set up in all localities. These are made up of local leaders from schools, colleges and the LA to work in partnership to identify and address local Inclusion and School Improvement priorities. In addition, two new posts have been appointed to by the LA to support the co-ordination and delivery of each board's action plan.

5.8 Locality Panel have also been in operation since September 2020. These panels are established, again in partnership with local schools, to collectively manage places within AP and the PRS, discharge in-year fair access duties and provide peer support and advice.

**Updating the Strategic Plan**

5.9 The Strategic Plan was updated in May 2020 to include a second phase. The updated plan can be found [here](#).

5.10 The updated plan, which is being delivered to the original timescales 2018-2023, includes additional actions relating to:

- Early years provision for children with SEND
- Completion of the commission of targeted mainstream provisions across the county
- Development of the special free school in the Selby area
- Exploring how special school provision for children and young people with Autism who need access to a mainstream curriculum can be developed
- Exploring how additional specialist provision for children and young people SEMH needs can be developed
- Development of a capital programme to support the development of the continuum of SEND education provision in North Yorkshire
- Development of a shared vision and strategy for SEND across the Council, partners and stakeholders
- Development of joint commissioning.

### **An overarching strategy**

- 5.11 As noted above one of the actions in the updated Strategic Plan relates to the development of a shared vision and strategy for SEND across the Council, partners and stakeholders. This work is underway and a full consultation will be initiated in October 2021.
- 5.12 The overarching strategy will go beyond the actions set out in the Strategic Plan for Education Provision 2018-23, which intentionally has a pure focus upon developing educational provision. The rationale for developing a broader strategy includes:
- It will support the delivery of statutory duties of all partners under the Children and Families Act 2014, subsequent regulations and the SEND Code of Practice.
  - Given the continuing and predicted rise in the number of children and young people with SEND, it is timely to develop an overarching strategy to ensure their needs are holistically supported in the most effective way.
  - Feedback from stakeholders including parents/carers is that it is essential that those working in education, health and social care work together to meet children and young people's holistic needs. Producing an overarching strategy, in partnership with parents, will be an opportunity to understand the issues and continue to make improvements.
  - The ADCS peer challenge in respect of SEND in February 2020 suggested that consideration be given to developing a system wide, system owned vision and outcomes based strategy, with an underpinning joint commissioning strategy.
- 5.13 Following a period of informal engagement in June/July 2021 it is anticipated that proposals to be consulted upon will include strategic objectives relating, but not limited, to:
- Social care support for disabled children
  - Joint commissioning
  - Continued development of SEND Education Provision
  - Community and Voluntary Sector support and engagement
  - Preparation for Adulthood including employment pathways

- Early identification of SEND
- Improving outcomes
- Co-Production and Communication

## 6.0 SPECIAL SCHOOLS

6.1 DfE have proposed a continuation of the Special School Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) of 0% for 2021-22. The LA will consider options available to balance special school sustainability issues with general affordability within the High Needs Block overall.

6.2 An inflationary uplift will be applied to E3 top-up funding for the 2022/23 financial year, and will be undertaken using the same mechanism as in previous years. This is viewed as a financial procedural process rather than a consultation issue.

### **Residential**

6.3 The local authority currently commissions, via the high needs budget, 37 residential places for North Yorkshire children at two special schools: Welburn Hall and Brompton Hall.

6.4 In addition, the high needs budget makes significant contributions in respect of placements in independent residential provision for pupils with high levels of complex needs. Other partners including Children and Families Service, Health and Adult Services and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) meet the balance of these costs.

6.5 Currently, the residential offer at Welburn Hall is available for Post-16; the offer at Brompton Hall is available at upper Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4 based on assessed need. During 2020/21, Welburn Hall have supported the authority by developing provision for a small number of pupils with more complex needs than the traditional Welburn cohort. This action has mitigated a significant risk that the pupils would otherwise have had to be supported through an independent sector residential placement at likely greater distance from home and at greater financial cost.

6.6 The local authority intends to review the commissioning and rationale for the placement of children in residential special school provision to ensure that the needs of young people accessing residential provision can be supported efficiently.

## 7.0 PRS

7.1 In September 2018 transformation of the Pupil Referral Service across North Yorkshire began in line with the actions set out within the Strategic Plan for SEND Provision 2018-23. This aspect of the plan sought to provide a more flexible offer of Alternative Provision to assist schools to reduce exclusion and establish a new funding arrangement that is consistent with special school funding locally and AP funding nationally.



- 7.2 After extensive work in partnership with schools and Pupil Referral Services a new model was implemented from September 2020. It was agreed to delay the post implementation review until the 2021/22 academic year due to the impact caused by school closures due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 7.3 It is the LA's intention to increase PRS top-up funding in line with the general increase applied to E3 top-up funding.
- 8.0 TARGETED PROVISION UPDATE
- 8.1 During 2020/21 three schools began operating the new Targeted Mainstream Provision model as referenced in 4.8. A further five will begin operation in 2021/22 academic year with developments ongoing with a further three academy chains in addition. These schools will be:
- Wensleydale School
  - West Cliff Academy
  - Selby High School
  - Thirsk School/Sunbeck PRS
  - Alverton CP
- 8.2 The local authority has proposed the introduction of 31 targeted mainstream provisions. The focus for each provision will be to provide full time education for those children with either Communication and Interaction (C&I) or Social and Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) needs. The provisions detailed in 7.1 will realise 60 additional places for children with SEMH and C&I needs.
- 8.3 The impact of Covid-19 has meant some provisions were delayed from the original start date of September 2020.
- 8.4 It remains the intention of the LA to continue to work with schools and academies to establish 31 provisions across the county as set out in the Strategic Plan. To assist with this, and as part of our capital business case, the LA are making available capital resource from School Condition Grant to fund capital schemes in maintained schools. High Needs Provision Capital Allocation settlement from the DfE will be prioritised for capital schemes within academies.
- 8.5 Due to the small settlement of HNPCA (£716,000) from the DfE it remains a significant strategic issue that the LA do not hold any other capital funds to support academies to be part of this development. The LA position remains unchanged that it is important that all schools can be part of this important development, regardless of maintained or academy status. However, there remains a risk that academies could be disadvantaged due to a lack of available capital resource.
- 8.6 At full implementation of all 31 provisions it is expected that a reduction in spend of £48,000 will be realised. This 'headroom' will be subject to the LA's ongoing review of capacity and future requirements. The strategic intent of this development is to ensure more children are able to be educated closer to home and reduce the need for expensive independent provision in future years.

## 9.0 UPDATE ON SEND CAPITAL

9.1 The Special Provision Targeted Capital Programme (SPTCP) will factor in to its development the need for an additional circa 325 places over the course of the next five years – and the combination of this very significant pressure, and the limited resources made available through HNPCA and potentially reductions in School Condition Grant.

9.2 A review of special school condition and suitability during the course of the Autumn term will help to establish if there are opportunities to expand capacity with modest cost schemes. Given the limited availability of resources, the aim is to review all potential schemes and classify them as follows:

- **Priority 1 schemes** – highest priority schemes in terms of need with funding available to support the delivery of the schemes
- **Priority 2 schemes** – highest priority schemes in terms of need, but with funding provision not yet in place
- **Priority 3 schemes** – medium priority schemes in terms of need – funding provision not arranged

This approach will enable the mobilisation of Priority 1 schemes quickly when the first phase of the programme is finalised. It will also enable Priority 2 schemes to be ready to roll out, as and when additional resources become available.

9.3 The priorities at this stage remain as identified in the SEN Strategic Plan:

- to develop Targeted Mainstream Provisions
- to secure additional specialist capacity for pupils with SEMH needs (particularly in the pressure point of Hambleton / Richmond)
- to develop specialist capacity for pupils with ASD needs, recognising that single specialist provision will not be able to achieve a reach across the entire county

9.4 As indicated above, the intention is to develop this work further so that we can present a finalised first phase programme around the turn of the year.

## 10.0 CONCLUSIONS

10.1 The scale of the financial pressure facing the High Needs Block is significant and exceeds the High Needs Dedicated Schools Grant. Moving into 2022-23, further financial modelling will be undertaken to determine whether there is any potential 'headroom' from the indicative DSG funding allocation taking into account the in-year financial pressure from 2021-22 of c. £2.5m and any potential additional demand.

10.2 This financial pressure is not unique to North Yorkshire and reflects the national trend. SEND trends and data point to further potential financial pressure, both in terms of increasing demands and deficit recovery. This financial pressure is anticipated to continue in 2022-23 and beyond and the local authority must continue to implement the Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 0-25 to help achieve a financially sustainable position in the medium-term. The additional funding allocation for High Needs from the third year of the three-year £7.6bn additional school funding

settlement is welcome. The LA will continue to lobby for a fairer funding deal for schools and children with SEND.

#### 11.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

##### 11.1 That Schools Forum:

- Receive the report and notes the financial implications

STUART CARLTON

Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service

**APPENDIX 1: DfE Benchmarking Dataset**

	<b>Performance Indicator from DfE High Needs Benchmarking Dataset</b>	<b>NYCC</b>	<b>NYCC Rank</b>	<b>National Average</b>
Measure 1	level of EHCPs per 000 population 20-21	27.27	134	34.69
Measure 2	level of EHCPs per 000 population 16-17	16.84	137	23.81
Measure 3	level of EHCPs growth 16-17 to 20-21	61.98		45.70
Measure 11	Special Schools and Units per 000 population 20-21	8.62	128	12.73
Measure 12	Special Schools and Units per 000 population 16-17	6.87	133	10.43
Measure 13	Special Schools and Units per 000 population growth 16-17 to 20-21	25.58		22.02
Measure 21	Inclusivity :- special schools and units as % of total EHCPs - 20-21	39.68	39	34.08
Measure 22	Inclusivity :- special schools and units as % of total EHCPs - 16-17	43.68	61	41.26
Measure 23	Inclusivity :- special schools and units as % of total EHCPs - movement 16-17 to 20-21	-9.16		-17.39
Measure 31	NMSS and Independent Placements per 000 Population - 19-20	1.52	97	2.06
Measure 32	NMSS and Independent Placements per 000 Population - 16-17	0.97	101	1.57
Measure 33	NMSS and Independent Placements per 000 Population - growth 16-17 to 20-21	56.03		31.07
Measure 34	NMSS and Independent spend 19-20 (£s per head)	122.94	43.00	104.59
Measure 35	NMSS and Independent spend 16-17 (£s per head)	62.72	107	95.61
Measure 36	NMSS and Independent spend 16-17 to 19-20	96.03		9.40
Measure 37	NMSS and Independent spend relative to Population 19-20 (£s per head)	80.83		50.69
Measure 38	NMSS and Independent spend relative to Population 16-17 (£s per head)	64.34		60.74
Measure 39	Increase in NMSS and Independent Spend relative to population during period 16-17 to 19-20	25.63		-16.54
Measure 41	Overall level of spend - High Needs budget 2016-17 (£s per head)	408.62	111	484.37
Measure 42	Overall level of spend - High Needs budget 2019-20 (£s per head)	503.70	116	563.42
Measure 43	Overall level of spend - % change 2016-17 to 2019-20	23.27		16.32