



## Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Social Care Resource Panel

### What was the issue?

- Commitment to improving the quality and consistency of Single Assessments.
- Ensure through challenge that there is consistency of practice across the teams.
- Ensure through challenge that service provision and the Resource Allocation System (RAS) is equitable with an overview of packages across the county.
- Ensure all support options and resources are considered jointly to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of packages (as a whole).
- Ensure appropriate and adequate management oversight in regards to resource allocation.
- Ensure multi-agency consideration of resource allocation whilst adhering to data protection and confidentiality rules and regulations.

### What did we we do?

We developed the SEND Resource Panel with the intention to support effective decision making in the allocation of provision for Children and Young People within SEND, and their families. This Resource Panel replaces the previous Quality Assurance Panel (QAP) and Overnight Short Breaks Allocation Panel (ONAP). It has been approved by Senior Leadership and is expected to commence June 2018.

The panel composition is multi-agency and adheres to data protection and confidentiality rules and regulations. The composition is as per below:

Team / Service area	Position in team / agency*	Role on panel / comments / level of commitment
SEND Social Care	Service Manager	Chair
SEND Social Care	Operations Manager	Acting Chair (if Chair not available)

SEND Social Care	Team Manager	Should attend all meetings and represent cases as required
SEND Social Care	Social Worker	Invited to attend meetings to present own cases when required
Special educational needs and disability assessment and review (SENDAR)	Senior Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Co-ordinator	Represent Education perspective in decision-making
Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Groups	Representatives as identified	Represent Health perspective in decision-making
Social Care Case Management Team	Operations Manager / Case Decision Making member	Maintain links with Children's Teams and ensure consistency of decision-making / thresholds
Strategic Commissioning	Commissioning Officer	Support decision-making and creative exploration of provision options
Early Help	TBC	Support decision-making and creative exploration of provision options
Adult Social Care	Operations Manager	Support Transitions pathway for young people aged 16+
	Administrator	Maintain meeting notes and agenda etc
*Or, if required, an appropriate delegate may attend		

The monthly panel will consider the assessments and recommendations presented by the Social Work Team to support the Local Authority's decision making regarding allocation of Short Breaks, Overnight Short Breaks (including residential), Direct Payments, Carers' support packages and Section 20 accommodation requests.

All new referrals and requests for changes/increases in provision will be presented to Panel. Case Decision Meetings will be informed of any agreement given regarding Section 20 accommodation and the decision to initiate legal proceedings will remain wholly within the remit of Case Decision Meeting. In emergency situations, decisions can be made outside of Panel by the Chair in partnership with the SEND Social Care Operations Manager. These cases will be brought to the following Panel for information and/or further consideration.

Detailed Terms of Reference have been developed and agreed by Senior Leadership.

Parents will receive written notification of the decisions from Panel and the rationale behind the decisions. This will enable parents/carers to understand the reason for decision making and to challenge or make representation if they wish to do so.

Minutes from Panel will be recorded on the relevant child's file and the allocated worker will be notified of the decision to enable them to progress setting up support packages.

### **What difference will this make?**

- It is hoped the panel will improve independent overview of assessments and resource allocation.
- It is hoped the panel will improve multi-agency input leading to more holistic support packages.
- It is hoped that decisions will reflect the desired outcomes for the individual child/young person and their family, but also that they are an effective use of Local Authority and partner resources.
- It is hoped service packages countywide will become more equitable as all SEND managers and colleagues from partner agencies/departments will be involved in Panel, with evidence of critical challenge.
- It is hoped that there will be fewer complaints from parents/carers arising from the outcome due to the above.

### **Next steps?**

- Progress Resource Panel and continue to work on quality improvement, consistency, and outcome focussed, individualised support packages.

For further information please contact: Marie Bateman (Operations Manager) or Lisa Blundell (Service Manager).