



March/April 2022

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

*Keeping stakeholders, parents and carers informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme.*

### **6) Dudley Parent Carer Forum publishes findings from their annual survey**

Dudley Parent Carer Forum are delighted to be releasing their Annual Survey Report on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. The report has been developed following an extensive survey of parent carers in the borough, which ran between September and November 2021.

The report highlights a number of considerable challenges that parent carers are facing in Dudley, such as difficulties in gaining Education, Health and Care Plans for their children or young people, and long delays in receiving a diagnosis. The survey also identified the significant impact that caring can have on day to day life.

Co-Chairs of the Dudley Parent Carer Forum, Claire Powers and Jenny Jones said

*"The results of the survey and subsequent report are very disappointing, however they do reinforce the experiences we hear from local parent carers on a day to day basis.*

*Although we have been working with the Local Authority and Health Services for some time in order to generate change, we are very aware that this is not yet having the impact needed for children and young people. We hope that this report, coupled with the recent Ofsted SEND reinspection results will encourage Local Authority and Health leaders to do all that they can to improve the lives of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and their families"*

Parent Carer Forums are grant funded by the Department for Education (DfE) to ensure Parent Carers have a voice in each Local Authority Area and to support their strategic involvement in local services. Dudley Parent Carer Forum is the official Parent Carer forum for Dudley.

Dudley Parent Carer forum aims to support parent carers of children and young people with SEND to have their voices heard. We gain views and opinions on local issues and give regular feedback to ensure that parents are kept up to date and informed.

Parent Carers can find out more by visiting our Facebook page, @DudleyPCF, or our website [www.dudleyparentcarerforum.co.uk](http://www.dudleyparentcarerforum.co.uk).

The annual survey report is available [online](#).

## Contacts:

- Service Director for Early Help/Schools and SEND, Dudley Council – Helen Ellis [helen.ellis@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:helen.ellis@dudley.gov.uk)
- Interim Head of SEND – Julia Dean [julia.dean@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:julia.dean@dudley.gov.uk)
- Interim Head of CDT – Toni Dawodu [toni.dawodu@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:toni.dawodu@dudley.gov.uk)
- SEND Manager - Sue Powell – [susan.powell@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:susan.powell@dudley.gov.uk)
- SEND Team Manager North- Rob Bennett [robert.x.bennett@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:robert.x.bennett@dudley.gov.uk)
- SEND Team Manager South – Kelly Warne [Kelly.warne@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Kelly.warne@dudley.gov.uk)
- SEND Programme Manager – Simon Hickman [simon.hickman@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:simon.hickman@dudley.gov.uk)
- SEND Programme Manager – Paul Klein [paul.klein@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:paul.klein@dudley.gov.uk)

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