

Delivering Better Value (DBV) Programme in SEND continued...

The review identified that one factor for the increase in spend was the challenges our mainstream sector faces to provide the necessary support for the increasing volume and complexity of our SEND cohort – leading to an increased need to access high-cost independent specialist settings.

We know some parents and schools feel that they are not able to access the services required to support their child without an EHCP, and that caseloads have been increasing in some of our specialist services.

We therefore need to develop a more efficient and integrated approach to service delivery, have better engagement with mainstream schools and parents and young people, work within a clear performance management framework, and foster a culture of continuous improvement.

To do this and with an additional £1 million of DBV grant funding we have now structured our improvement programme into four primary focus areas:

- **Workstream 1:** Redesigning our specialist services and ordinarily available provision (OAP) within schools and settings to support children with SEN.
- **Workstream 2:** Developing and delivering our sufficiency strategy ensuring we better understand current and future demand for services and have the right local services and capacity to support children. This includes developing our SEND bases within mainstream settings.
- **Workstream 3:** Preparation for Adulthood ensuring all children now, and in the future, have clear goals to prepare them for adulthood, have a clear transition plan to achieve these goals and that we have the right pathways and services to support these children to achieve their goals.
- **Workstream 4:** Redesigning our Spend Profile ensuring our spend on supporting children and young people with SEN delivers better value and helps to address the current gap in the funding we receive from the DfE, (this is called the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) high needs block) and actual monies spent