



Welcome to the first edition of the refreshed CPP Newsletter!

This newsletter is all about keeping you informed, celebrating successes, sharing resources and key news from the Change Programme Partnership for SEND and AP improvements across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

We continue to explore the format of the newsletter, with a slicker version coming in January, but your feedback is invaluable, so drop any feedback to us here: llrcentraldeliveryteam@sdsa.net

As we wrap up 2024, we want to say a huge thank you to everyone, for the incredible work, dedication and collaboration over the past year. We hope you have plenty of time to rest and recharge over the festive break, have a happy New Year, and we look forward to all that's to come for the programme in 2025!

What is the Change Partnership Programme?

For those new here, below is a helpful overview of the Change Partnership Programme (CPP):

The CPP is part of the Government's SEND and Alternative Provision (AP) Improvement Plan, designed to make education and support more inclusive and effective for children and young people with SEND. Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland were selected as one of nine national pilot sites in 2023 to test and refine innovative approaches; develop inclusive practises across education, test new solutions like improved mediation services and Early Language Support services, and build partnerships between schools, local authorities, health services, and families to create a cohesive and collaborative system.

In the December edition:

- Programme Overview: Year 1 and our One Year On event
- What's Next: Updates on Phase Two of the programme and new priorities
- Key Workstreams: What's continuing, what's new, and what's evolving
- Policy Updates: The latest guidance from the DfE and what it means for us
- How You Can Get Involved: Opportunities to share updates and stories

A successful One Year On Event

The CPP was launched in September 2023, as part of the Government's SEND and AP Improvement Plan, with Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) serving as the East Midlands pilot site – one of nine nationally.

In September 2024, we celebrated the programme's One Year On at an event held at Leicester Racecourse. This milestone highlighted our progress, shared learning, and success stories from the first year.

Over the past year, LLR have worked on eleven key areas of focus, or workstreams, ranging from Local Area Inclusion Plans to digitised EHCP templates. These efforts have helped shape a more inclusive system and provided valuable evidence to inform future reforms.

We are preparing a summary document with key highlights and milestones from the year, which will be available this month to share with partners and the press. This will be a valuable resource to showcase the collective achievements of the Programme.

What's next for the CPP?

Continuing Through 2024/25: Confirmed

The DfE has committed to supporting the next phase of the programme, prioritising the following:

- Partnerships & Inclusion Plans: Refining Local Area Inclusion Plans with a focus on Inclusive Mainstream Practice
- Early Language Support (ELSEC): Jointly funded with ICBs, testing rapid-response Speech and Language services without requiring an SEN diagnosis
- Alternative Provision (AP): Testing a three-tier outreach service to support schools and intervene effectively
- APST/SAFE Approaches: Developing multidisciplinary 'team around the school' models to provide holistic support

Potential Extension to March 2026

If approved, the extension would allow us to test an expanded package of reforms, focusing on the following:

- National Inclusion Service Principles to create a coherent framework for inclusion
- Enhanced collaboration with schools, deep dives into inclusive practices, and joint commissioning approaches
- Full rollout of multidisciplinary APST models across all CPP local authorities

Key workstreams: updates and next steps

The following workstreams will continue:

- Local Area Inclusion Plans (now Partnerships & Plans): Evolving to align with a shared vision for Inclusive Mainstream Practice
- Bands & Tariffs: Pending agreement at the Steering Group and CPP Executive
- PINS: Supporting inclusion for neurodiverse children and young people
- ELSEC: Building on the successes of Speech and Language services
- Advice & Information: A new focus area added in September 2024

New Workstreams for Phase Two:

- ND Inclusion Pathway: Developing a screening and support model for neurodiverse children, inspired by the Portsmouth model
- SILLR Alliance: Preparing for a potential transition to a SEND & Inclusion LLR Alliance after the CPP end date
- SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy: Refreshing our approach to joint commissioning across the partnership

Policy updates from the DfE

The DfE has shared the following updates for local authorities:

- Testing of specific reforms like the EHCP Standardised Template, Advisory Tailored Lists (ATLs) and Mediation is now completed; local authorities are encouraged to continue using these processes if they are effective and align with statutory requirements
- The focus will shift to testing inclusive practices and outcomes at a local level, building towards a cohesive National Inclusion Framework

What are we working on?

Now the communications plan has been signed off, we have started a number of exciting projects to support and promote the CPP and workstreams:

- SLCN Toolkits for Rutland: Preparing toolkits to support speech, language and communication needs, set to launch in the new year as a pilot and extend across LLR soon after
- One Year On Summary: Developing a summary document to highlight the first year, key achievements and milestones, ready for circulation to partners and the press
- Alternative Provision materials: Creating flyers for the AP LLR online sessions and organising an AP event for education leaders, scheduled for September 25
- Template Design: Designing branded templates and other resources to ensure consistency and use across the CPP
- SEND and Inclusion Alliance for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (SILLR) Branding Workshops: Collaborating with our young people and young researchers to organise workshops that will help shape the vision for SILLR

How you can get involved

This newsletter is all about collaboration! Look out for emails from us, where we'll be asking for updates, highlights, and success stories to feature in future editions. Together, we can ensure this Programme's progress and achievements are widely shared and celebrated.