



Accelerated Progress Plan for an Area following the judgement by Ofsted/CQC that sufficient progress had not been made against the weaknesses outlined by the Inspection

Name of the Local Area	Shropshire
Date of Inspection	21–23 November 2022 (Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
	Revisit)
Date of Publication of the Revisit report	06 February 2023
Accountable Officers from the LA and CCG	David Shaw (LANO) – Shropshire County Council
	Tanya Miles – Exec Director of People Shropshire County Council
	Gareth Robinson, Director of Delivery and Transformation and Executive Lead
	for SEND, Shropshire Telford and Wrekin
	Jennifer Griffin – Designated Clinical Officer for SEND, NHS Shropshire, Telford
	and Wrekin
DfE and NHSE Advisers	Gabrielle Stacey (DfE) and Debbie Ward (NHSE)

Co-production, Communication and Engagements

This Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) has been achieved through commitment from stakeholders across the SEND System. PACC (Parent Carer Forum), IASS (Information Advice and Support Service) have been integral to the co-production of this plan both through the local SEND Quality and Assurance Group (QAG), and dedicated workshop sessions focused on developing the actions required and expected impact which will be experienced by Children and Young People (CYP) with SEND and their families. Additionally, the APP has been developed through contributions from the Neurodiversity (ND) workstream, Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) workstream and Strategic Leads for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP).

The draft APP has been presented to both the SEND Partnership Board, in January and March 2023, and the Shropshire Council People Overview Committee, March 2023. Feedback from both the board and committee have been incorporated in the Accelerated Progress Plan.

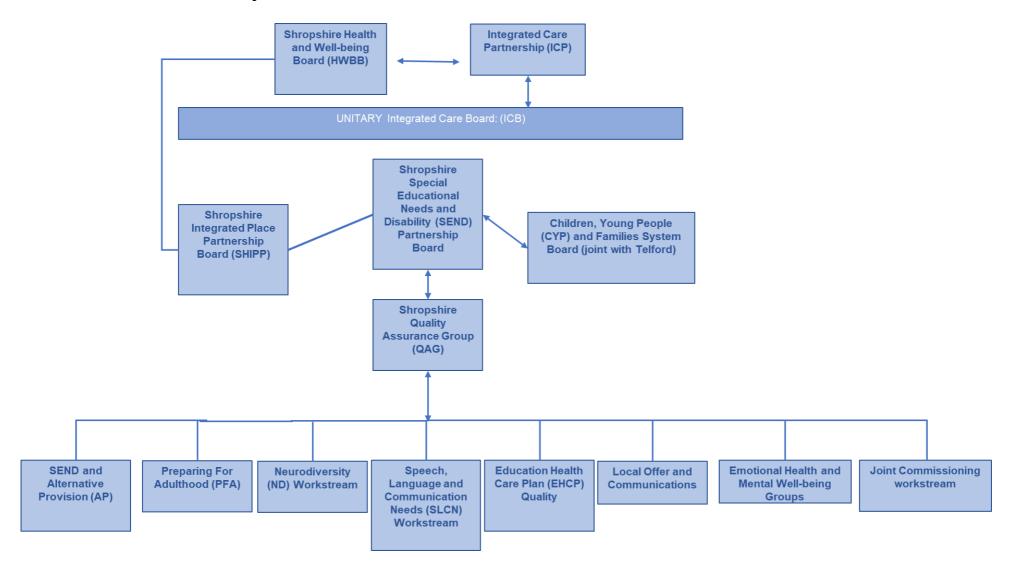
Further co-production, communication and engagement activities are planned to ensure that CYP (Children, Young People) with SEND, their families, practitioners who support CYP with SEND and the wider community are fully sighted and engaged on the progress of the APP. In January 2023 the local area hosted a workshop entitled Embedding Co-production with attendance from across the partnership, at this workshop the local area committed to developing co-production standards which will further embed the commitments set out in the APP.

All the workstreams established to deliver this APP have multi-agency attendance including attendance of lead representatives from PACC. As a local area one of our priorities to further improve co-production and engagement is to work more closely with CYP with SEND. We recognise that currently we are missing the opportunity and benefits of strategic co-production directly with CYP with SEND and we look forward to remedying this.

Through acknowledging that SEND is everybody's business it is essential that as a local area we have a clear overarching communication strategy underpinned by an annual communication plan bringing together SEND and PACC newsletters, social media platforms, Local offer website and ICS communications to ensure that CYP with SEND, their families and broader stakeholders are aware of both the progress with the APP and also the opportunities available for CYP with SEND. In line with this we commit to strengthening our transparency regarding actions taken following feedback, utilising the Local Offer website to publicise what CYP with SEND and their families told us, and then what we as a system did to improve things.

To reinforce the local area's commitment to SEND we are developing the SEND and AP Strategy 2023-2028, this will comprise of a relaunch of the SEND Strategy and will include Alternative Provision (AP) to give a greater focus on inclusion.

Governance and Accountability Structures and Processes



Accelerated Progress Plan

RAG: R: Delayed or Low confidence of completion;

A: Completion delayed or at risk but being managed;

G: Completion on track and will be met;

C: Completed;

Priority Area 3: Significant wait times for large numbers of children and young people on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) diagnostic pathways.

Actions designed to lead to improvement

Overarching Aspiration: The needs of CYP related to ASD & ADHD are effectively identified at early stages and there is high quality support both nre during and nost diagnosis

pre, during and p				ı
Theme of Actions	Action	Responsible officers	By When	Action RAG
	3.1.1 Collate details of all support currently available for those with (or possibly with) ASD & ADHD age 0 - 5	ND Workstream led by Co-Chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton)	Apr 23	
	3.1.2 Collate details of all support currently available for those with (or possibly with) ASD & ADHD age 5 - 18	ND Workstream led by Co-Chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton)	Jul 23	
	3.1.3 Collate details of all support currently available for those with (or possibly with) ASD & ADHD age 18+	ND Workstream led by Co-Chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton)	Sep 23	
Public Clarity	3.1.4 Have a specific ASD area on local offer website (as requested through the Local Offer working group	ND Workstream led by Co-Chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton) & Local Offer Team	Jun 23	
avallable	3.1.5 Publish all the support available on the local offer website	ND Workstream led by Co-chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton)	Sep 23	
	3.1.6 Promote the support on offer via SEND newsletter, local offer website, healthier together website, PACC newsletters, Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) and Head Teacher networks	ND Workstream led by Co-Chairs (Dr Kathryn Morgan & Liam Laughton)	Sep 23	

	3.2.1 Gather & analyse feedback from early years & educational settings regarding neurodiversity and how to support identified needs	Dr Kathryn Morgan, Specialist Senior Educational Psychologist	May 23	
	3.2.2 The multiagency ND Training Steering Group will co- produce a plan to meet the identified needs of schools and settings including training and coaching to enable early identification and support for needs related to ASD and ADHD	Co-Chairs of ND Training Steering Group, Principal Educational Psychologist	Jul 23	
3.2 Actions to ensure good quality support for		Karen Levell, Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Sep 23	
Early Years and Educational Settings	3.2.4 Early years settings to complete a self-evaluation of their inclusivity and their approach to admittance – in each locality there will be one setting who has done the SEN review and is engaged in supporting other settings in their locality	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead & Alison Rae, School Improvement Adviser	40% of settings by end of Jan 24	
	3.2.5 Education settings to complete a self-evaluation of their inclusivity and their approach to enabling pupils to remain in mainstream education and thrive— in each locality there will be a professional learning network to collaborate and share practice (peer review programme)	Steve Laycock Principal Educational Psychologist	40% of settings by end of Jan 24	
	3.3.1 Continue the Autism West Midlands offer of support which does not require a diagnosis to access	Yvonne Oliver - LA Commissioner	Apr 23	
 3.3 Actions to ensure good quality support for parents and 	advice line which will be accessible to children for whom there are	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust (SCHT)	Jun 23	
carers	3.3.3 Roll out of the Healthier together website with advice and guidance for the ND population	Millar Bownass, CYP's Mental Health Commissioner	Apr 23	
	2.4.1 Dovolon and recruit to the relea of ND Practitioners to	Dr Kathryn Margan, Specialist Sonier	Son 22	
3.4 Actions to enable trial of enhanced	3.4.1 Develop and recruit to the roles of ND Practitioners to support a targeted cohort	Dr Kathryn Morgan, Specialist Senior Educational Psychologist & Steve Laycock, Principal Educational Psychologist	Sep 23	
support	3.4.2 Review the impact of the ND Practitioners to inform the	Dr Kathryn Morgan, Specialist Senior	Apr 24	

	Educational Psychologist & Steve Laycock, Principal Educational Psychologist		
3.4.3 Develop the Dimensions Tool and clarity regarding how the tool will be utilised initially, and evaluated prior to further roll out		Sep 23	

Area of weakness identified in the original inspection

Priority Area 3: Significant wait times for large numbers of children and young people on the ASD and ADHD diagnostic pathways.

Actions	designed	to l	ead	to	imı	prov	ement
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Overarching Aspiration: CYP who require a diagnostic assessment, easily access a high-quality diagnostic assessment in a timely way									
Theme of Actions	Action	Responsible officers	By When	Action RAG					
	3.5.1 Clear criteria and referral route for current ASD diagnostic pathway in place - 0-5	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Apr 23						
3.5 Actions to	3.5.2 Clear criteria and referral route for current ASD & ADHD diagnostic pathway in place - School age	BeeU Strategic Leads, Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust (MPFT)	Apr 23						
know how to	3.5.3 Clear criteria and referral route for current ASD & ADHD diagnostic pathway in place - 18+	Frances Sutherland, Commissioner for NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin	Apr 23						
make good referrals which	3.5.4 Clear criteria and referral route for current ASD & ADHD pathway published on the local offer	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Jul 23						
are accepted	3.5.5 For the 5 – 18 service promote the 'Advice and Support Recommendations for Referrers' document via SENCo and Head Teacher networks, Primary Care network, SEND Health Operational Group	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Jul 23						
3.6 Actions to ensure	3.6.1 Review communications which are sent out with local SEND parent carer forums	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	May 23						
diagnostic service	3.6.2 Implement changes to improve communications and feedback changes to the SEND Quality and Assurance Group to review the impact on CYP/family experiences	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Sep 23						

	3.7.1 All referrals considered at a Multi-Disciplinary Team discussion (including ASD practitioners, OT, nurses, social workers, psychiatry, ADHD specialists, psychology, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy)	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Apr 23
3.7 Actions to	3.7.2 Upon acceptance of referral CYP to be offered an initial holistic assessment which enables access to range of support available within BeeU	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Apr 23
into crisis whilst waiting for	3.7.3 Protocol in place for prioritising CYP for ASD assessment based on factors such as whether their placement is at risk of breaking down	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Apr 23
robust	3.7.4 Further promotion of how families and CYP can contact the service if their situation changes so their prioritisation can be reconsidered (currently stated in letter)	BeeU Strategic Leads, MPFT	Sep 23
	3.7.5 Enhance the risk management approach through additional funding from the Learning Disability and Autism LDA program	Hillary McGlynn, NHS STW	Sep 23
	3.7.6 Complete an audit of cases waiting over 6 months to assess the impact of waiting and review the effectiveness of approaches to manage risk. Share the learning from audits with the SEND Partnership Board and Learning Disability and Autism Board	Raphael Chichera, Senior Quality Lead Mental Health and LDA, NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin	Jul 23
	3.8.1 Commissioner understanding of current waiting times from referral treatment for ASD 0 - 5	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
	3.8.2 Commissioner understanding of current waiting times from referral treatment for ASD & ADHD 5 - 18	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
ensure capacity	3.8.3 Commissioner understanding of current waiting times from referral treatment for ASD & ADHD 18+	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
of the diagnostic service meets the	3.8.4 Develop, fund and recruit to short term recovery plans	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
demands of the population	3.8.5 Understand the capacity of the services currently	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
	3.8.6 Develop a trajectory of future growth and capacity required to meet the needs	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23
	3.8.7 Develop a business case to fund the increased demands	Led by Associate Director of	Jun 23

			Transformation and Commissioning					
			viewing their skill mix to mit cruitment and retention, in t			n Cooper, CYP le Operations, SCH1	ad for Nursing, AHF -	PJan 24
			ership Foundation Trust (Mi rogressing recruitment into		Beel	J Strategic Leads	, MPFT	Jun 23
		3.8.10 Recruit to an eteam structure	enhanced Learning Disabilit	y and Autism		Toro-Pearce, AD livery	of Transformation	Jun 23
3.9 Action monitor a escalate	and	3.9.1 Clear data repo oversight from perform	nt from performance & assurance manager			ager NHS Shrops	nance & Assurance hire Telford &	Jun 23
waits to	ICS	3.9.2 Ensure the qua harm review and risk	ity team have assurance in place around process			essa Whatling, De ing & Quality NHS rekin	Jun 23	
			nt on level of harm as ascertained by harm review ss, ensure the potential risks of long waits are CB risk registers		Tracey Jones, Director of Mental Health, Learning Disabilities & Autism, and Children & Young People		Jul 23	
Impact	measur	es to be achieved						
Releva nt Theme of Actions	·	ed Impact	How are we measuring the impact	Baseline		6 months	12 months	18 months
	support (Using d SEND In	YP report that they received survey - to be developed to be sought in Jupport when they needed in May 23 Jsing definitions from the Baseline Jun 23 END Inspection Review Dec 23 uestionnaire) Review Jun 24		June	NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec	60%	80%	
			Survey - to be developed in May 23	Inspection repor indicated a 'lack		NA Progress will be	60%	80%

	of support available & this support met the needs of the CYP and have the experience of waiting well if applicable	Baseline June 23 Review Dec 23 Review June 24		monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec		
3.1	Professionals report that they know and signpost to the range of support available		workstream report that they know some of the support available	Members of the ND workstream report that they know all of the support available	routine	Evidence of local induction process for new starters
3.2	Lower rates of suspensions and permanent exclusion where CYP are SEN support or have an EHCP - Note this is not specific to the ND cohort	measures for primary and	To be confirmed using 2022/23 suspension/exclusion trends.	compared to	compared to	40% reduction compared to previous year.
3.2	Higher rates of attendance for CYP who are SEN support or have an EHCP - Note this is not specific to the ND cohort	Services supporting EBSA	Portal once full Spring term 23 information is included.	and EHCP gap with all pupil's attendance reduces by (%	and EHCP gap with all pupil's attendance reduces by (% to	SEND support and EHCP gap with all pupil's attendance reduces by (% to be confirmed following baseline)

	Early years and Education settings are well supported to meet the needs of CYP who may have ASD and ADHD	Attendance at training	Early years and Education settings have identified that they want support with: -inclusive practice -upskilling school staff	training and support will be coproduced by the ND Training	Years and Education settings will have received	_
	,	Survey - to be developed in May 23 Baseline June 23 Review Dec 23 Review June 24	To be sought	NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec	20% more than baseline	40% more than baseline
	Early Years and Education setting staff can demonstrate how they ensure good inclusive practice for CYP with needs related to ND (ASD & ADHD)	Survey - to be developed in May 23 Baseline June 23 Review Dec 23 Review June 24	To be sought Available from Sept 23 onwards.	NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec	20% more than baseline	40% more than baseline
	Families report that they can access their preferred early years placements, with support from the LA where appropriate	Early Years School Improvement team to record prevalence of challenges getting an early year's placement	To be sought	NA	95%	100%
	Families accessed support which enabled them to understand their CYP's needs and how to support them	Record of course attendance and course outcomes	30 families access formal support each year	50 families access formal support each year	65 families access formal support each year	80 families access formal support each year
3.4	For those CYP who have a 'dimensions tool plan' created	Outcome of intervention summary	To be sought	NA	90%	100%

those who support them will have a better understanding their needs and how to support them					
Access to the 0 – 5 ASD diagnostic assessment service within 18 weeks	Service Performance Metrics	0 – 5 Service: 61% seen within 18 weeks	70%	85%	95%
Reduction in average waits to access the 0 – 5 ASD diagnostic assessment service	Metrics	Average wait: 11 months	Average wait: 10 months		Average wait: 4 months
Access to the 5 – 18 ASD diagnostic assessment service within 18 weeks	Service Performance Metrics	5 – 18 Service: 49% seen within 18 weeks	60%	75%	85%
Reduction in average waits to access the 5 - 18 ASD diagnostic assessment service	Metrics	Average wait: 11 months	Average wait: 10 months	_	Average wait: 4 months
Access to the 18+ ASD diagnostic assessment service within 18 weeks	Service Performance Metrics	Average wait: 2 years	NA	40%	50%
Reduction in average waits to access the 18+ ASD diagnostic assessment service	Metrics	Average wait: 2 years	Average wait: 18 months		Average wait: 8 months
diagnostic assessment service within 18 weeks		80% Nov 2022	Maintain 80%	95%	95%
Reduction in average waits to access the 5 – 18 ADHD diagnostic assessment service	Metrics	Average wait: 6 months	Average wait: 6 months	_	Average wait: 4 months
Access to the 18+ ADHD diagnostic assessment service within 18 weeks	Service Performance Metrics	55% Figure for all adults Nov 2022	NA		95% for 18 – 25 year olds
Reduction in average waits to access the 18+ ADHD diagnostic assessment service	Metrics	Average wait: 2 years	Average wait: 18 months	•	Average wait: 8 months

Area of weakness identified in the original inspection

Priority Area 4: Significant waiting times for those needing assessment and treatment from the speech and language therapy service.

Actions designed to lead to improvement

Overarching Aspiration: Speech language and communication needs of children are effectively identified at early stages and there is high quality

support at universal and targeted levels to reduce the number of children who require more specialist support

	i and targeted levels to reduce the number of children who require mor			
Theme of Actions	Action	Responsible officers	By When	Action RAG
	4.1.1 Collate details of all support currently available from Public Health for those with SLCN including from the Best Start to Life programme	Steph Jones, Health Child Programme Coordinator supported by the SCHT 0 – 19 Service	May 23	
	4.1.2 Collate details of all support currently available from Early Years Settings for those with SLCN	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead	May 23	
	4.1.3 Map the full offer of current SLT support – SLT Handbook Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT		Apr 23	
4.1 Actions to ensure clarity about	4.1.4 Collate details of all other support currently available for SLCN (excluding Speech and Language Therapy SLT)	SLCN Workstream led by Chair (Alison Parkinson)	Jul 23	
the support available	4.1.5 Publish all the support available on the local offer website	SLCN Workstream led by Chair (Alison Parkinson)	Aug 23	
	4.1.6 Promote the support on offer via SEND newsletter, local offer website, SCHT NHS (National Health Service) SLT website, PACC newsletters, SENCo and Head Teacher networks	SLCN Workstream led by Chair (Alison Parkinson)	Aug 23	
	4.1.7 Have a specific SLCN area on local offer website (as requested through the Local Offer working group)	SLCN Workstream led by Chair (Alison Parkinson) & Local Offer Team	Aug 23	
	4.1.7 Continue the multiagency SLCN workstream to enable the continuation of support for SLCN being delivered by all	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT supported by ICB Commissioner – to be recruited	Apr 23	
	4.2.1 Education to promote the use of SLC UK data tracking to	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND	Jun 23	
ensure good quality	support the implementation of Talk Boost	Lead		

Years and	4.2.2 All settings to utilise the SLC UK data reporting on Talk Boost	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead	Sep 23	
Educational Settings	the early identification and support of SLCN. This evaluation to be	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead supported by Alison Rae, School Improvement Adviser	Jul 23	
		Karen Levell, Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Apr 23	
	years & education settings to identify needs early and provide good quality support, including best practice SLCN Teaching (SLCN	Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead & Dr Kathryn Morgan, Specialist Senior Educational Psychologist	Sep 23	
		Sue Carrol, Early Years SEND Lead	Sept 23	
	training to ensure sustainability	Alison Rae, School Improvement Adviser supported by Sarah Court, Telford & Wrekin's Learning Support Advisory Teachers	Apr 23	
		Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Sept23	
	4.2.9 SLT relaunching traded services offer for ELKLAN	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Sep 23	
	4.3.1 Enhance the peer support offer for families regarding SLCN, adopting a SLCN champions model`	SLCN Workstream led by Chair (Alison Parkinson)	Apr 24	
4.3 Actions to		Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Sep 23	
	4.3.3 Publicise the commitment to SLCN being everyone's responsibility and that everyone has a role to play in supporting SLCN		Apr 23	
	4.3.4 Maintain the SLT service advice line	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT support by ICB Commissioner – to be recruited	Jul 23	

Area of weakness	identified in the original inspection			
	inificant waiting times for those needing assessment and treatme	nt from the speech and langua	ge therapy serv	/ice.
	o lead to improvement			
Overarching Aspira	ation: CYP who require Speech and Language Therapy support can ac	cess this in a timely way		
Theme of Actions	Action	Responsible officers	By When	Action RAG
	4.4.1 Complete triage upon referral and implement specialist clinical pathways to ensure CYP who have the greatest clinical need for specialist SLT are seen most quickly	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Apr 23	
	4.4.2 Complete an audit of cases waiting over 6 months to assess the impact of waiting and review the effectiveness of triage. Share the learning from audits with the SEND Partnership Board and CYP and Families System Board	Alison Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager SCHT	Jul 23	
	4.4.3 Complete analysis of current commissioning arrangements across, LA, schools and Health to meet need	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning & Local Authority Commissioning Lead	May 23	
ensure the capacity	4.4.4 Commissioners to understand current spend, both block contract and individual commissioning and school spend to enable benchmarking	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning & Local Authority Commissioning Lead	May 23	
of the population	4.4.5 Commissioner to understand current waiting times from referral to treatment	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23	
	4.4.6 Develop, fund and recruit to short term recovery plans	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23	
	4.4.7 Understand the capacity of the services currently	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23	
	4.4.8 Develop a trajectory of future growth and capacity required to meet the needs including early indicators of the impact of Talk Boost on referral rates	Led by Associate Director of Transformation and Commissioning	Jun 23	
	4.4.9 Develop a business case to fund the increased demands across	Led by Associate Director of		

		the age range		Transformation and Commissioning	İ	Jun 23	
		4.4.10 Review the SLT service sp the needs of the population whilst SLCN being supported by all		Led by Associate D Transformation and Commissioning & L Authority Commiss	l .ocal	Sep 23	
		from performance & assurance m	anager	Jane Williams, Per Assurance Manage Shropshire Telford	er NHS & Wrekin	Jun 23	
4.5 Actions monitor and escalate lor	io I	review and risk process		Vanessa Whatling, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality NHS Shropshire Telford & Wrekin		Jun 23	
to ICS		risk process, ensure the potential risks of long waits are noted on the ICB risk registers		Tracey Jones, Dire Health, Learning D Autism, and Childre People	isabilities &	Jul 23	
Impact me	asures a	ind milestones to be achieved					
Relevant Theme of Actions		Expected Impact	How are we measuring the impact	Baseline	6 Months	12 months	18 months
4.1, 4.2	when the	oort that they received support ley needed it definitions from the SEND on Questionnaire)	Survey - to be developed in May 23 Baseline Jun 23 Review Dec 23 Review Jun 24	To be sought	NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec		80%

4.1, 4.3	Families report that they know and can access the full range of support available & this support met the needs of the CYP and have the experience of waiting well if applicable	Baseline Jun 23 Review Dec 23		NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec		80%
4.2	Professionals report that they know and signpost to the range of support available	Audit	SLCN workstream report that they know some of the support available	the SLCN workstream report that they know	Evidence of routine signpostin g to relevant support	Evidence of local induction process for new starters
4.2	Early years and Education settings are well supported to meet the needs of CYP who have SLCN	Attendance at training	Early years and Education settings have identified that they want support with: - inclusive practice	The plan for training and support will	Early Years and Education settings will have received training	
4.2	Early Years and Education setting staff report a greater understanding of needs related to SLCN and how to meet those needs	Survey - to be developed in May 23 Baseline Jun 23 Review Dec 23 Review Jun 24	Available from Sept 23 onwards.	be monitored	than baseline	40% more than baseline

4.2	Early Years and Education setting staff can demonstrate how they ensure good inclusive practice for CYP with needs related to SLCN	Survey - to be developed in May 23 Baseline Jun 23 Review Dec 23 Review Jun 24	Available from Sept 23 onwards.	NA Progress will be monitored at 9 months following review survey in Dec		40% more than baseline
4.2	Children completing the Early Years Foundation Stage progress well with their speech, language and communication skills despite the impact of Covid.	Early Years Foundation Stage Framework – communication, literacy and language Progress with ECHP outcomes related to SLCN	83% of children achieved expected levels in communication and language October 2022	NA	Maintain the level of 83%	NA
4.4, 4.5	Timely access to specialist and general pathways within the SLT service	Service Performance Metrics	waiting for SLT	Specialist pathways: 95% General pathway: 50%	General pathway:	
4.4, 4.5	Reduction in average waits to access the 18+ ADHD diagnostic assessment service	Service Performance Metrics		Average wait: 8 months	wait: 6	Average wait: 4 months

Area of weakness identified in the original inspection

Priority Area 5: Inconsistency in the quality of input from education, health and care into EHC assessment and planning

Actions designed to lead to improvement

Overarching Aspiration: Improve consistency and quality of EHCP's supported by good assessment and planning process

Themes for Action	Action	Responsible Officers	By When	Action RAG
	5.1.1 Improve the pre- EHCNA pathway to ensure that the requests received from settings contain person-centred information and focus on holistic outcomes which relate to the child's/ young person's aspirations to allow appropriate planning for the EHC assessment, where agreed, to be carried out	Karen Levell – Service manager SEND & Inclusion	Sep 23	
	5.1.2 Co-produce new statutory advice templates for education, education psychology, health, and care and review the process for obtaining the CYP voice ("all about me") and parent/carer views	Fran Davis – SEN Team Manager	Sep 23	
5.1 Actions to	5.1.3 Develop a rolling multi-agency joint workforce training programme for all practitioners completing statutory EHC advice utilising the Council for Disabled Children's training resources	Fran Davis – SEN Team Manager Sharon Graham – DSCO Jennifer Griffin - DCO	Apr 23	
ensure the quality of new EHC Plans is improved	5.1.4 Review arrangements to ensure an assessment of social care need is completed for each EHCNA and, where a child is not known to statutory social care services, ensure that advice and information relating to care needs and provision is requested from other professionals who know our families and CYP well so that the early help offer is embedded as part of the Education Health Care process	Sharon Graham – DSCO Heidi White – Early Help SEND Operational Lead	Sept 23	
	5.1.5 Review commissioning arrangements and update health service specifications to ensure health advice is provided where a CYP has a clinical requirement for input rather than being based on referral status	Jennifer Griffin – DCO ICB Commissioner – to be recruited	Sep 23	
	5.1.6 Review arrangements for provision of advice from health teams less frequently involved in EHCNAs eg. Epilepsy team, wheelchair services	Jennifer Griffin – DCO	Sep 23	
	5.1.7 Develop and deliver a revised induction and EHC plan writing training programme for Special Education Needs and/or Disability	Fran Davis – SEN Team Manager	May 23	

	Case Officers			
	5.1.8 Develop a performance monitoring system to provide reporting and Power BI dashboard data to monitor 20-week timescale for issuing finalised plans	Samantha Bradley – Performance and Integration Manager	June 23	
	5.1.9 Improve the quality and timeliness of statutory social care advice for EHCNAs and Annual Reviews	Sharon Graham - DSCO	Sep 23	
	5.1.10 Improve the quality and timeliness of statutory Health advice for EHCNAs and Annual Reviews	Jennifer Griffin - DCO	Sep 23	
	5.1.11 Develop a recruitment / retention strategy to ensure sufficient capacity within the Educational Psychology Service	Steve Laycock – Principal Educational Psychologist	Sep 23	
	5.1.12 Reinstate SEND Health Operational Group to address quality of EHCP advice and improve consistency	Jennifer Griffin, DCO	Apr 23	
	5.1.13 Review the Special Education Needs and/or Disability Team structure and develop a recruitment / retention strategy to ensure sufficient capacity to complete all statutory tasks	Karen Levell – Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Sep 23	
	5.1.14 Strengthen coproduction of EHCPs at an individual level by exploring and procuring an on-line digital Education Health Care system to enable families, professionals, and education settings to engage, contribute and collaborate on EHC assessments, plans and reviews	David Baker – Head of Automation and Technology	Apr 24	
5.2 Actions to ensure an effective quality assurance process.	5.2.1 Publish Education Health Care Plan quality standards and coproduce a Quality Assurance Framework to agree the "Shropshire standard" of what a good quality plan looks like.	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Jul 23	

	5.2.2 Establish and embed a multi-disciplinary quality assurance process to monitor and improve the quality of new and amended Education Health Care Plans	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Jul 23	
	5.2.3 Develop and implement quality standards for statutory advice, including education, education psychology, health and social care and roll out a workforce training programme for practitioners	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Sep 23	
	5.2.4 Undertake monthly multi-disciplinary audits to ensure improved consistency of Education Health Care Plans	Karen Levell – Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Sep 23	
	5.2.5 Recruit Associate DCO for SEND to increase capacity to support EHCP quality within health	Jennifer Griffin - DCO	Jun 23	
	5.2.6 Engage in external peer review process for monitoring the quality of EHCP's	Karen Levell – Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Sep 23	
	5.3.1 Develop and implement an annual review recovery plan and develop business case to ensure sufficient capacity to amend all Plans issued prior to August 2023 to ensure they meet the new quality standards	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Sep 23	
5.3 Actions to ensure all current EHC Plans are	5.3.2 Create a suite of co-produced new annual review templates and guidance, including key phase transition and preparation for adulthood templates	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Sep 23	
updated and amended to meet new quality standards and issued within statutory timescales	5.3.3 Review Special Education Needs and/or Disability Team operating model with a specific focus on capacity to update Education Health Care Plans following amendments agreed via annual review	Karen Levell – Service Manager SEND & Inclusion	Apr 24	
	5.3.4 Develop a performance monitoring system to provide reporting and Power BI dashboard data to monitor timescale for issuing finalised plans following annual review	Samantha Bradley – Performance and Integration Manager	Sep 23	
	5.3.5 Create a multi-agency (including Education Settings) training	Fran Davis – SEND Team	Sep 23	

	plan to ensure all staff are aware, understand and implement the local annual review processes	Manager						
	5.3.6 Review and update the local processes for annual reviews and publish an updated pathway on the local offer	Fran Davis – SEND Team Manager	Sep 23					
Impact measures a	Impact measures and milestones to be achieved							

Impact m	Impact measures and milestones to be achieved								
Relevant Theme of Actions	Expected Impact	How are we measuring the impact	Baseline	6 Months	12 months	18 months			
5.1, 5.3	Families and children and young people tell us they have their special educational needs met in an appropriate and timely way	Survey	Complete baseline survey to review experience of families and children and young people to show improvement in EHCP	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 50% of families and children and young people have their special educational needs met in an appropriate and timely way	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 75% of families and children and young people have their special educational needs met in an appropriate and timely way	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 100% of families and children and young people have their special educational needs met in an appropriate and timely way			
5.1, 5.3	Families and children and young people tell us they feel included and well supported at SEND support	Survey	Complete baseline survey to review experience of families and children and young people to show improvement in EHCP	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 50% of families and children and young people feel included and well supported prior to	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 75% of families and children and young people feel included and well supported prior to	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 100% of families and children and young people feel included and well supported prior to			

				EHCNA request	EHCNA request	EHCNA request
5.1, 5.3	Families and children and young people are confident that their views and aspirations are reflected in the holistic outcomes which underpin the basis of an EHCNA when the decision to assess is made	Survey	Complete baseline survey to review experience of families and children and young people to show improvement in EHCP	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 50% of families and children and young people feel that their views and aspirations are reflected in the holistic outcomes	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 75% of families and children and young people feel that their views and aspirations are reflected in the holistic outcomes	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 100% of families and children and young people feel that their views and aspirations are reflected in the holistic outcomes
5.1, 5.3	Families and Children and Young People tell us that the advice accurately reflects the Children and Young People's special educational needs and that they feel listened to and included in the assessment process	Survey	Complete baseline survey to review experience of families and children and young people to show improvement in EHCP	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 50% of families and children and young people feel listened to and included in the assessment process	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 75% of families and children and young people feel listened to and included in the assessment process	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 100% of families and children and young people feel listened to and included in the assessment process
5.1, 5.3	All partners, including PCF report improved communication and understanding of what is required of them and across the different organisations within the statutory EHCNA process	Survey	Complete baseline survey across all partners to review communication and understanding within the ENCNA process	Based on the initial baseline show 50% of partners have increased confidence and understanding of what is required in EHCNA process	Based on the initial baseline show 75% of partners have increased confidence and understanding of what is required in EHCNA process	Based on the initial baseline show 100% of partners have increased confidence and understanding of what is required in EHCNA process

5.1, 5.3	Children and Young People will have their social care and health needs and provision accurately identified within the Education Health Care Plan	Audit	Establish baseline measure of Good or Outstanding Plans	Ensure minimum of 50% of new plans are good or outstanding	Ensure minimum of 75% of new plans are good or outstanding	Ensure minimum of 100% of new plans are good or outstanding
5.1, 5.3	Families and Children and Young People report that they receive their EHCP's within statutory timescales	Survey	Complete baseline survey to review experience of families and children and young people to show improvement in receipt of EHCP statutory timescales	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 50% of families and children and young people have received their EHCP within statutory timescales	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 75% of families and children and young people have received their EHCP within statutory timescales	Based on the initial baseline and increased response rate of more than 100% of families and children and young people have received their EHCP within statutory timescales
5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Audit activity demonstrates all EP advice is completed within 6 weeks of request.	Performance Measures	Current baseline established around 85% of EP advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 85% compliance of EP advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 90% compliance of EP advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 100% compliance of EP advice received within 6 weeks of request
5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Audit activity demonstrates all Social Care advice is completed within 6 weeks of request.	Performance Measures	Current baseline established around 85% of Social Care advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 85% compliance of Social Care advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 90% compliance of Social Care advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 100% compliance of Social Care advice received within 6 weeks of request
5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Audit activity demonstrates all Health advice is completed within 6 weeks of request.	Performance Measures	Current baseline established around 85% of Health advice received within 6	Maintain minimum 85% compliance of Health advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 90% compliance of Health advice received within 6 weeks of request	Maintain minimum 100% compliance of Health advice received within 6 weeks of request

			weeks of request			
5.1, 5.2	All Education Health Care Plans are judged good or outstanding when measured against agreed Quality Assurance framework using the multi-agency audit tool	Performance Measures	Current baseline assumed 0%	Ensure minimum 50% of all new EHCP's are rated good or outstanding at audit points	Ensure minimum 75% of all new EHCP's are rated good or outstanding at audit points	Ensure minimum 100% of all new EHCP's are rated good or outstanding at audit points
5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Learning outcomes are routinely used to inform workforce training and development to continually improve the quality of Education Health Care Plans	Multi-agency training workshop	Ongoing development cycle	Hold multi-agency training workshop to identify and share learnings and 100% of workforce have engaged in appropriate development updates	Hold multi-agency training workshop to identify and share learnings and 100% of workforce have engaged in appropriate development updates	Hold multi-agency training workshop to identify and share learnings and 100% of workforce have engaged in appropriate development updates
5.3	Audit activity demonstrates all current Education Health Care Plans issued prior to August 2023 are rewritten/amended	Audit measures	Increased number of EHCP's issued prior to August 2023 are rewritten/amended	33% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 to be reviewed and updated	66% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 to be reviewed and updated	100% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 to be reviewed and updated
5.3	Audit activity demonstrates all current Education Health Care Plans issued prior to August 2023 that have been rewritten/amended are rated good or outstanding	Audit measures	From new quality standards introduced, establish baseline of number of current plans rated good or outstanding	33% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 are rated good or outstanding	66% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 are rated good or outstanding	100% of EHCP's issued before August 2023 are rated good or outstanding

Risk Register

Priority	Risk	Severity/Impact	Mitigation	Progress following action
3, 4	Commissioning capacity to undertake the necessary activities to address the current gaps in service and monitor provider's performance	. •	Create capacity to develop a business case to recruitment to new team Recruit new team – commenced Strengthened senior leadership – currently active	
3, 4, 5	Recruitment challenges across the partnership	Medium	Commenced Agency staff recruitment and training ICS People's System Plan to improve recruitment and retention	
3, 4	Operating within a financially challenged system	Medium	Section 75 partnership arrangement around LDA funding Mental Health Investment Standards System Development Funding monies for LDA and Mental Health	
5	Lack of robust data for baselining and monitoring impact	Medium	Performance and Integration Manager appointed. Development of Power Bi tool underway NHS data dashboard development / SEND Partnership Board reporting	
5	Poor response to satisfaction surveys	Low	Engage Parent Carer Forum (PFC) and IASS in development of surveys and use of social media platforms to promote. Developing overarching surveys rather than separate ones.	

3, 4, 5	Demand continues to rise putting further pressure on the system Requests for EHC Needs assessments increase	Developing Shropshire Ordinarily Available Provision (SOAP) Strengthen Outreach Offer Workforce development and training Communication plan	

Annex B: Supporting statement for the Accelerated Progress Plan

We recognise that, like everywhere, the Covid-19 pandemic impacted on our progress. In September 2022 the 7- day rate of positive covid cases per 100k of population was significantly higher in Shropshire (55.9) than that in West Midlands (45.0) and England (45.4). This has resulted in Shropshire experiencing an extended reaction to the pandemic and the subsequent challenges.

During this time a significant number of practitioners, clinicians and health commissioners were re-deployed to support the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme. As with Health and Care organisations, Shropshire Council's workforce were also re-deployed to assist other areas to cope with the impact of Covid-19. These factors on workforce had direct impact on our progress in addressing the areas of weakness detailed in the original inspection report (March 2020).

Factors accounting for insufficient progress	How we are addressing these
Priority Area 3 & 4:	
Temporary additional funding was used to reduce waiting times however this did not lead to sustained improvements	 Restructuring of the ICB Partnership Directorate including additional capacity in the Transformation and Commissioning Team to develop business cases for long term/recurrent funding
Significant staff changes in senior leadership in both provider and commissioner teams	 Since summer 2022 there has been a change and enhancement in strategic leadership within MPFT's BeeU service Within commissioning, interim commissioning cover has been sought however permanent recruitment is underway
Insufficient priority and governance in connection to the length of waits and impact of these waits during the migration from the CCG to ICB	 The draft ICS Joint Forward Plan gives clear priority to CYP and SEND A full review of the governance structure for CYP and SEND within the ICB is underway and due to be completed by June 2023, with the establishment of a Children, Families and SEND System Board Established Executive Lead for SEND, and Senior Responsible Officer for SEND within the ICB
Increased demand for diagnostic and specialist services	 Enhancing the graduated support offer to meet needs earlier and support CYP to be supported well whilst they wait for a diagnosis if necessary Reviewing the demand and capacity within services Develop a trajectory of future growth and capacity required to meet the needs Develop a business case to fund the increased demands across the age range

	Exploring the skill mix, recruitment and retention and taking action in line with the ICS Workforce Strategy
Priority Area 5:	
Significant staff changes in senior leadership and weak strategic planning	 New permanent leadership Recruited to key strategic roles – Assistant Director – Education and Achievement (new role from March 22) Developed new DSCO role Renewed our governance arrangements – now a single SEND Partnership Board from March 23. Previously there were two Boards Development of SEN Data Dashboard to measure timeliness and quality of EHCP's Developing and embedding agreed co-production standards across the partnership
Recruitment /retention issues within Educational Psychology and very high turn- over of SEN Team staff	 Recruited to PEP role through long term agency contract EPS workforce strategy to be developed and implemented SEND Team staff training plan – IPSEA and NASEN casework award Restructuring SEN caseworkers work plans and monitoring workload
Workforce Capacity issues	 Working with business analysts to adopt LEAN process Exploring use of digital platforms to be developed, procured and implemented Increased roll out of SEN portal for annual reviews Enhance SEN workforce – developed senior SEN caseworker role Reviewing the SEND team structure to ensure sufficient capacity to carry out statutory tasks in light of increasing demand
Gaps in education, health and care practitioners' knowledge of EHC assessment and planning education, health and care practitioners	 Developing new workforce training and development plan Reviewing and publishing new EHC assessment and annual review pathways Recruiting to an Associate Designated Clinical Officer for SEND post
Increase in number of EHC assessment requests and an increase in the number of EHCPs to review and maintain	 Launch of Inclusion framework (SOAP) to ensure EHC thresholds are agreed and understood Review of EHC request paperwork

	Develop annual review recovery plan
Inadequate EHC QA process	 Development of new multi-agency QA framework Set up new multi-agency QA panel Reporting results of QA audits to Partnership board and incorporating learning into workforce training and development Develop and embed new process for obtaining and utilising feedback following the assessment and Annual Review process

We will ensure Partners, including Children, Young People and Families, are fully aware and kept informed of our actions and progress by

- Committing to developing co-production standards as agreed through our recent "embedding co-production" workshop
- Further strengthening our governance arrangements and new terms of reference to ensure good representation and accountability from all partners at SEND & Inclusion Partnership Board
- Ensuring full stakeholder representation in all our workstreams
- Ensuring multi-agency attendance at provider network events such as governor training, headteacher and SENCO briefings/ networks
- Continuing to develop and improve Shropshire's Local Offer and enhance the workforce capacity to regularly publish our progress on the Local Offer
- Utilising feedback from our SEND surveys for parents/carers and CYP following EHCNA and A/R processes and publishing our learning on our Local Offer
- Holding Q&A sessions for SENCO's through our SENCO networks
- Continuing to produce our SEND Newsletter and PAAC newsletters and including regular summaries and updates from the SEND & Inclusion Partnership Board within our newsletters and communications
- Developing our usage of social media platforms
- Developing our overarching communications strategy including an annual communication plan
- Relaunch SEND Strategy in tandem with the new Inclusion Strategy

Support and challenge we feel would be most helpful over the coming months

We have seen significant change in our strategic leadership over the last 12 months. The management of change has been especially challenging, particularly considering the staff turn-over and the COVID-19 pandemic which continues to impact, and we recognise the continued challenge of delivering our SEND action plan within the financial climate.

We believe co-production is strong however we would value further support in developing our CYP voice and young person's engagement at a more strategic level.

In terms of external support, additional advice on national best practice in terms of quality assurance of EHCPs and in particular, multi-agency QA frameworks would be helpful alongside external scrutiny of our quality of EHCPs.

We have agreed DfE monitoring of EHC monthly performance indicators would be a helpful process and we will utilise the findings from this to further improve our EHCP processes.

In order to measure our success in improving the quality of our EHCP's, we recognise that there is an inter dependency with the wider SEN System.

We would therefore welcome support in other co-related areas of work as follows:

- Co-produce an inclusion framework and associated toolkit which sets out expectations of the support that should be ordinarily available for Children and Young People with Special Education Needs and/or Disability within mainstream settings to ensure that CYP who require an EHCNA are correctly identified
- Develop a specialist outreach offer (learning and behaviour support)) for schools and settings to build capacity and confidence to ensure that provision is made to meet the individual needs of CYP with SEND within mainstream settings and that CYP are supported through the graduated response (SEND Support)

GLOSSARY

Dimensions Tool – The Dimensions Tool is being developed in Shropshire to enable practitioners to consider a range of 'dimensions' when addressing a CYP's needs. The tool considers different dimensions including; worry and anxiety, mood and enjoyment, sleep, relationships, family situation, sensory responses, work and education, addictions, eating and connections with others.

<u>Healthier Together Website</u> This website provides advice for parents, young people and pregnant women, as well as clinical resources to support healthcare professionals.

<u>Talk Boost</u> - Talk Boost are targeted interventions for children with delayed language helping to boost their language skills to narrow the gap between them and their peers. The programme aims to accelerate children's progress in language and communication by an average of six months, after a nine-week intervention. The Talk Boost programme has a helpful <u>Parent Hub</u>.

<u>Elklan Training</u> – Speech, language and communication training delivered to practitioners including early years and education settings by accredited trainers.

SLT Handbook - A handbook for parents, carers and practitioners detailing the SLT service offer

IASS Website - Shropshire Information Advice and Support Service

Local Offer - Shropshire SEND Local Offer website

PACC – Shropshire Parent Carer Forum

Acronyms:

ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

AP - Alternative Provision

APP - Accelerated Progress Plan

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ASD - Autism Spectrum Disorder

BeeU - (CAMHS) Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

CBT - Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

CDC - Child Development Centre

CYP - Children and Young People

EHCP - Education, Health and Care Plan

HWBB – Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Board

IASS - Information Advice and Support Service

ICB - Integrated Care Board

ICP - Integrated Care Partnership

LDA - Learning Disability and Autism

MDT - Multi-Disciplinary Team

MPFT - Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust

ND - Neurodiversity

NHS - National Health Service

PACC - Parent Carer Forum

PB - SEND Partnership Board

PFA - Preparing for Adulthood

QAG - Quality and Assurance Group

SCHT - Shropshire Community Health Trust

SENCo - Special Educational Needs Coordinator

SEND - Special Educational Needs and Disability

SHIPP - Shropshire Integrated Place Partnership Board

SLCN - Speech, Language and Communication Needs

SLT - Speech and Language Therapy

SOAP - Shropshire Ordinarily Available Provision