WALSALL SEND LOCAL AREA – ACCELERATED ACTION PLAN
RISK REGISTER

Risks that are aligned to the Accelerated Action Plan

Date	Imp Plan Ref	Risk	Severity / Impact	Mitigation	RAG	Update
October 2022	APP 1.1.1 – 1.1.6	That permanent staff are not able to recruited or existing staff leave resulting in insufficient staffing levels to meet demand of the service across the Local Area. (Local Authority and Health Agencies)	Reduced and insufficient capacity to deliver high quality services which are effective and delivered at the right time and in the right place, resulting in statutory EHC assessments not being completed within timescales, compromising the 20-week statutory target for assessments. Fewer people choosing careers in relevant professions (e.g., Ed Psych, OT) and more people leaving the relevant professions mean that there is a smaller pool of candidates available nationally. Higher paid opportunities through a robust private market puts added pressure on Local Area budgets.	Use of agency staff to address capacity issues. Recruitment and retention strategy to be developed as part of the Improvement Plan. Advertising and recruitment of substantive posts ongoing across the Local Area (EHC Team, EP's, CAMHs and SLT). Establishment of new SEND lead post in healthy Child Programme 0-19 Service Health Visiting and School Nursing. Recruitment and retention activities in place across children's related pathways. Improving processes and systems mitigates some of the risk of insufficient capacity.		
October 2022	APP 1.1.1 – 1.1.6	Funding is not agreed to increase capacity or if funding is agreed, sufficient staff cannot be recruited Associated risks are held within the Health Care Trusts and will be disaggregated and discussed in more detail as risk register is developed. (Local Authority and all Health Agencies)	Statutory EHC advices cannot be completed within timescales compromising the 20-week statutory target for assessments and families wait too long for assessments and targeted interventions	STP business case in place for increased capacity within the EHC assessment team. Business case in early stage of development to secure funding for additional Walsall Health Care Trust staff specialising in SEND and capacity reviews are underway in other areas. As part of the improvement plan, alternative and innovative ways of working will be explored to minimise additional funding requirements and mitigate any lack of funding available to increase staff capacity.		
October 2022	APP 1.2.1	Capacity within teams across the local area is compromised through addressing the backlog of advices and assessments. (Local Authority and all Health Agencies)	Advices and assessments continue to be out of timescales and plans cannot be updated in a timely manner following review.	Additional staff are currently in place within the Local Authority with robust plans in place to clear the back log of assessments over the next three months. Teams across health have plans in place to clear outstanding advices and assessment waiting lists.		
October 2022	APP 1.3.6	That there is not enough funding available through the high needs block to meet increasing demand and increasing complexity of need. (Local Authority and Health Agencies)	Sufficient support is not available to meet demand and to implement support outlined in EHC Plans	Robustly implement the graduated approach to SEND services in Walsall as outlined in our Getting it Right for SEND strategy so that children are supported at the right level. Ensure services that are available are of good quality and provide value for money through robust commissioning. Funding decisions are made jointly with the Local Area funding support needs fairly across agencies as identified in plans.		
October 2022	APP 2.2.1	There is a lack of technical skill and capacity available to update the local offer webpages	Local Offer remains difficult to navigate and update and parents and carers continue to feel that it is not a useful tool.	Work with LA corporate web team to ensure resources and support is in place.		

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