

# Haringey Safety Valve Programme Progress Update

February 2024



# Safety Valve Programme Approach

Haringey Council has developed a comprehensive plan to reduce its deficit, which will support its goal of improving the overall SEND system.

The plan aims to manage the demand for Education, Health, and Care Plans and use cost-effective resources while maintaining high standards for all children and young people with SEND.

Haringey has agreed a Safety Valve Programme with the Department for Education which achieves a balanced budget in 2027-2028 and a cumulative deficit of £29.9m.

Haringey's Safety Valve portfolio of projects will reduce costs by £47.8M over five years.

We will address demand management within the SEND system, through implementing robust early intervention approaches to meet the needs of children with SEN earlier, reducing 611 EHCPs to align with London averages by 2027-28

# Safety Valve Programme Approach

We have developed capital proposals to reduce unit costs within the SEND system by developing in-borough provision for an additional 118 children and young people within mainstream education settings.

This is a stand-alone area of work as part of the Safety Valve programme that interfaces with the wider Schools Estates programme and will not impact future pupil place planning as they are for small cohorts of pupils.

We will complete a review of bandings and top-ups and ensure we have effective commissioning arrangements.

We have taken an early intervention approach, supporting schools and developing a graduated response to meet demand and reduce the need for specialist support.

Through our strong partnership arrangements, we will continue to work with our key school leaders, parents, carers, children, young people and partners to create shared ownership and change the culture of the SEND system in Haringey.

# Background Information: Safety Valve Workstreams

The Haringey Safety Valve Programme is made up of three workstreams: demand management, commissioning, and leadership culture and governance across 18 projects:

**Workstream A:** will address demand management within the SEND system by embedding early intervention to meet needs at an earlier stage and for some children and young people, prevent the need for an EHCP. We envisage that this will bring the number of EHCPs in Haringey in line with London and National averages. These projects include:

- Investments in early intervention in Speech and Language Therapy
- Review of Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) pathways with support and investment in the Autism Team to provide pro-active support.
- Projects to ensure that preparation for adulthood is prioritised with an ambitious programme of creating supported internships.
- Within this suite of projects, there will also be a focus on the effective use of Annual Reviews to cease plans as appropriate and to identify where children might require health and social care funding and support.

# Background Information: Safety Valve Workstreams

**Workstream B:** will concentrate on reducing the overall budget pressure created by bandings and funding costs, particularly those in relation to independent non- maintained school (INMS) placements. These include:

- A whole-scale review of SEND bandings and top-ups.
- Increased capital investment in SEND placement sufficiency to create 118 new education placements for children with SEND.
- Several commissioning projects to address the prolonged use of spot purchase and lack of co-ordination between Annual Review processes and individual child arrangements.

**Workstream C:** will enable the strategic changes necessary to create culture change in SEND services; these include:

- Working more closely with parents, carers and schools.
- Lean process mapping of SEND services, wider workforce development, coherent application of the SEND core standards, and communication of the ordinarily available offer of education.

# Summary of Safety Valve Projects

---

Demand management	Commissioning	Culture, Governance and Leadership
A.1 SLT	B1.1 Primary ASC capital	C.1 Core standards
A.2 Autism	B1.2 Secondary and post 16 ASC capital	C.2 Culture change
A.3 SEMH pathway	B.3 Complex needs capital	C.3 Process mapping
A.4 Thresholds and Annual Reviews	B.4 Alternative Provision (oversight)	C.4 WFD
A.5 SEND Supported Internships	B.2 and B.5 Placements (including post 16)	
A.6 Early Years	B.6 Bandings and Top Ups	

---

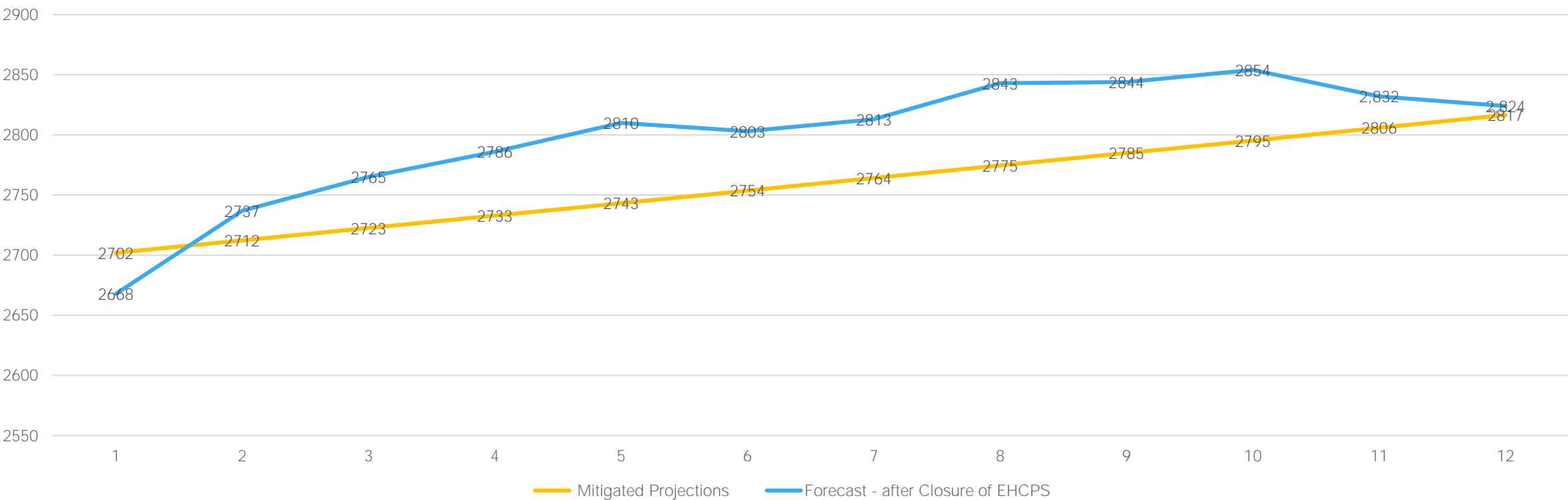
[Overview of the Safety Valve Programme \(PDF, 488KB\)](#) and [Haringey Safety Valve Project Summaries](#)

# Safety Vale Measure- Forecast EHCP's to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Haringey's DSG Plan submitted in January 23 forecasts that by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 there will be 2,817 active EHC Plans after mitigation.

As at the January 2024 , Haringey had 2,854 active EHC Plans, however after the closure of the EHCP's for young people no longer in education, it is anticipated that this will reduce the number of open EHCP's to 2,824 by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, 7 EHCP's above target.

January 24  
Forecast EHCP's as at 31st March 2024



# Overall progress to date

Project	Updates
<b>Project A1.</b>  Review Therapeutic Support for Speech & Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision of training is now business as usual and is constantly being monitored.</li><li>• Data set now in place measuring impact of SLCN pathway delivery.</li><li>• Review of 2023/24 and next steps being arranged following the Implementation Group meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024.</li></ul>
<b>Project A.2</b>  Increase capacity of mainstream schools to meet the needs of autistic children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff for autism support team (LAST) are in post and children are being supported with intervention.</li><li>• Direct pathway to LAST team is in place.</li><li>• Review from the impact model complete from 22/33.</li><li>• Monitor impact as part of project legacy.</li></ul>
<b>Project A.3</b>  Increase capacity of mainstream schools to meet the needs with SEMH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi-professional workshop completed to agree Social Emotional Mental Health Graduated Response and Pathway.</li><li>• Mapping of existing services against SEMH needs underway.</li></ul>
<b>Project A.4</b>  Thresholds and Annual Reviews of EHCP's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training for Statutory Assessment Teams have been rolled out to make EHCP assessment and annual review process for robust and in line with best practice.</li><li>• Some dedicated support has been put into complete overdue EHCP Annual Reviews with an aim to complete c200 ARs per month.</li></ul>



# Overall progress to date

Project	Updates
<b>Project A.5</b>  Supported Internships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continuation of onboarding for Sept.'24 new intakes. Two further Information Day and Open Day planned in March, to promote supported internships further. Future community engagement plan now developed. There are 32 young people with a Supported Internship, the target was 43 for 23/24. To help mitigate this additional engagement events are taking place for students and potential employers.</li></ul>
<b>Project A.6</b>  Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Early Years workshop being held in Mar to review original project and assumptions made as scope of project needs reviewed in light of increasing demand.</li></ul>
<b>Project B.1, B.3 and B.7</b>  Capital Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cabinet approval was given on the 6 Feb for 118 new placements to be created. Proposed Schools have been identified, however all are at different stages of viability.</li><li>Four the six sub-groups are now active and both primary provisions have been out on field visits to learn from best practice to ensure they can be prepared for the indicative go-live dates of each projects in late 2024 early 2025.</li><li><b>Alexandra Primary</b> – Primary SEMH x 10 places – Separate cohort meeting scheduled for matching and profiling. Contractor visiting to conduct surveys. Plan to open Sept 25</li><li><b>Earlsmead Primary</b>– Primary ASC x 15 places – Contractor working on the designs, meeting to be organised around cohorts, meeting also taken place on new sensory room. Plan to open Sept 24</li><li><b>The Brook</b> – Primary SLD x 10 places –timelines will be provided on projects for temp and modular building – Plan to open Sept 25</li><li><b>Park View (St Mary' site)</b> – Secondary and Post 16 SEMH x 34 places - Governors meeting organised for March to communicate programme and next steps Date TBC</li><li><b>Riverside</b>– SLD x 15 places – Secondary site, additional space has been provided as part of safety valve. – Open</li><li><b>Fortismere Secondary</b> – Secondary and Post 16 ASC x 34 places – Date TBC</li></ul>

# Overall progress to date

Project	Updates
<b>Project B.2</b> Cost effective commissioning and brokerage of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Block contract arrangement with Independent Non-Maintained School being prioritised.</li><li>• SEND and AP Sufficiency Strategy now published.</li><li>• Currently collating data around high-volume/high-cost providers.</li><li>• A Commissioning Lead has been recruited to progress work on the project.</li></ul>
<b>Project B.5</b> Commissioning Post 16 Learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approach to review of current placement costs for 16s is confirmed and underway. Breaking down and reviewing costs by provider and by post-16 learner. Initiating conversations with high-volume / high-cost providers. Initial meeting with the highest volume/cost provider.</li><li>• A Commissioning Lead has been recruited to progress work on this project.</li></ul>
<b>Project B.6</b> Remodel financial support/ top ups to mainstream and special schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bandings approved at Cabinet on 6 Feb.</li><li>• Moderation of current cohort of children completed, this identified higher numbers of children with complex needs being supported within mainstream settings.</li><li>• Proposed funding allocations developed that will be progressing to Schools Forum on the 14<sup>th</sup> March.</li><li>• Proposals include options to provide increased funding for mainstream schools.</li></ul>

## February 24- Forecast Deficit against DFE Safety Valve Agreement

The Table below shows that Haringey is still on target, with a favourable position of £0.07m in 2023/24.

Application of Safety Valve Funding- Update Jan 24	Actual	Actual	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Projected Opening Deficit before Safety Valve and Mitigation Plans	-£21.61	-£23.83	-£26.30	-£29.22	-£31.07	-£31.78	-£30.45
Opening Deficit after Safety Valve and Mitigation	-£17.02	-£21.61	-£11.87	-£11.38	-£11.28	-£10.14	-£7.86
In Year deficit	-£4.59	-£2.22	-£2.50	-£3.02	-£1.86	-£0.80	£1.29
Less Safety Valve Funding	£0.00	£11.96	£2.99	£2.99	£2.99	£2.99	£5.98
Closing Deficit at year End	-£21.61	-£11.87	-£11.38	-£11.40	-£10.28	-£8.09	-£0.82
Safety Valve Agreement		-£24.40	-£26.40	-£29.20	-£30.80	-£31.40	-£29.90
Variance Against Safety Valve Agreement		£0.57	£0.07	-£0.02	-£0.27	-£0.38	-£0.55

# Ways we are engaging with stakeholders

Audience	Ways of engaging
Overview and Scrutiny	Update will be provided as part of the finance report
Young People via the SEND Youth Forum 'Elevated Youth'	Chair of Elevated Youth is a member of the SEND Executive.
Relevant Governance boards: Start Well Board, Health and Well Being Board	Reports have been taken to all relevant boards, further reports on request.
Partners and Stakeholders: Health, Integrated Care Board (ICB), Whittington, Barnet Enfield Haringey Mental Health Trust (BEH MHT), Markfield, Voluntary Community Sector (VCS), Council staff	SEND Executive Board members provide updates to wider partners SV Operational Group and subgroups, staff service meetings
Public information	Monthly SEND newsletter and social media updates, <u>Dedicated webpage with a range of user-friendly comms materials</u> . Haringey People magazine / Haringey People Extra e-newsletter

# Ways we are engaging with stakeholders

Audience	Ways of engaging
Parents and Carers via SEND Power Carer Forum (PCF)	Chair of PCF is a member of the Safety Valve steering group. PCF representatives are involved in individual tasks and finish groups/projects
Haringey Headteacher meetings (primary/secondary/post-16)	Head Of Service: SEND attends a range of school meetings with the Haringey Early Years Primary and Special Heads Association (HEPSEA) Schools and SEND Partnership Form Assistant Director: Early Help and Prevention: SEND attends Special Heads
Chairs of Governors	Head Of Service: SEND, attends Local Leaders of Governance (LLG) Bespoke session at Governors Training (last one Feb 23). Governor representative is a member of the Safety Valve Steering Group.
Haringey Schools Forum	The Director, Assistant Director and Head Of Service attend forums, with a report provided at every meeting. The chair and High Needs Subgroup chair are members of the SV steering group
Haringey SEND Executive	Assistant Director provides report at every meeting
Members briefings	Briefings circulated to Lead Member for Childrens and Finance Members are represented on the SV steering group
Children and Young People and Schools Scrutiny	Formal reports provided and updates on request

# Stakeholder and Comms Engagement

The latest updates on key milestone events and timelines regarding the Safety Valve programme can be accessed on the public domain: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer>

## February

- Bandings and Top Up Moderation
- LA Briefing for Schools and Governors 5 Feb
- Cabinet 6 Feb
- Schools and SEND Partnership Forum 7 Feb
- Schools Forum 8 Feb
- Safety Valve Steering Group 14 Feb
- SEND Engagement Event with Parents and Carer 28 Feb

## Planned events/sessions in March

- Bandings and Top Ups Briefing Special Schools 1 Mar
- Bandings and Top Ups Briefing Primary Schools 5 Mar
- Bandings and Top Us Briefing Secondary Schools 6 Mar
- Schools and SEND Partnership Forum 13 Mar
- Safety Valve Steering Group 13 Mar
- Schools Forum 14 Mar
- Primary Heads 19 Mar and 20 Mar



# Ways to get involved and learn more about the programme



- [Overview of the Safety Valve Programme which supports children and young people with SEND in Haringey](#)
- [Monthly Highlight reports published on Local Offer](#)
- [Sign up to our SEND newsletter for regular updates](#)
- [Give us your feedback by emailing: \[sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk\]\(mailto:sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Join SEND Power, your local parent carer forum](#)
- If you would like to be part of developing this programme going forward, please register your interest at [sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:sendcomms@haringey.gov.uk)