

Speech and Language Therapy for under 5s

James Dodd

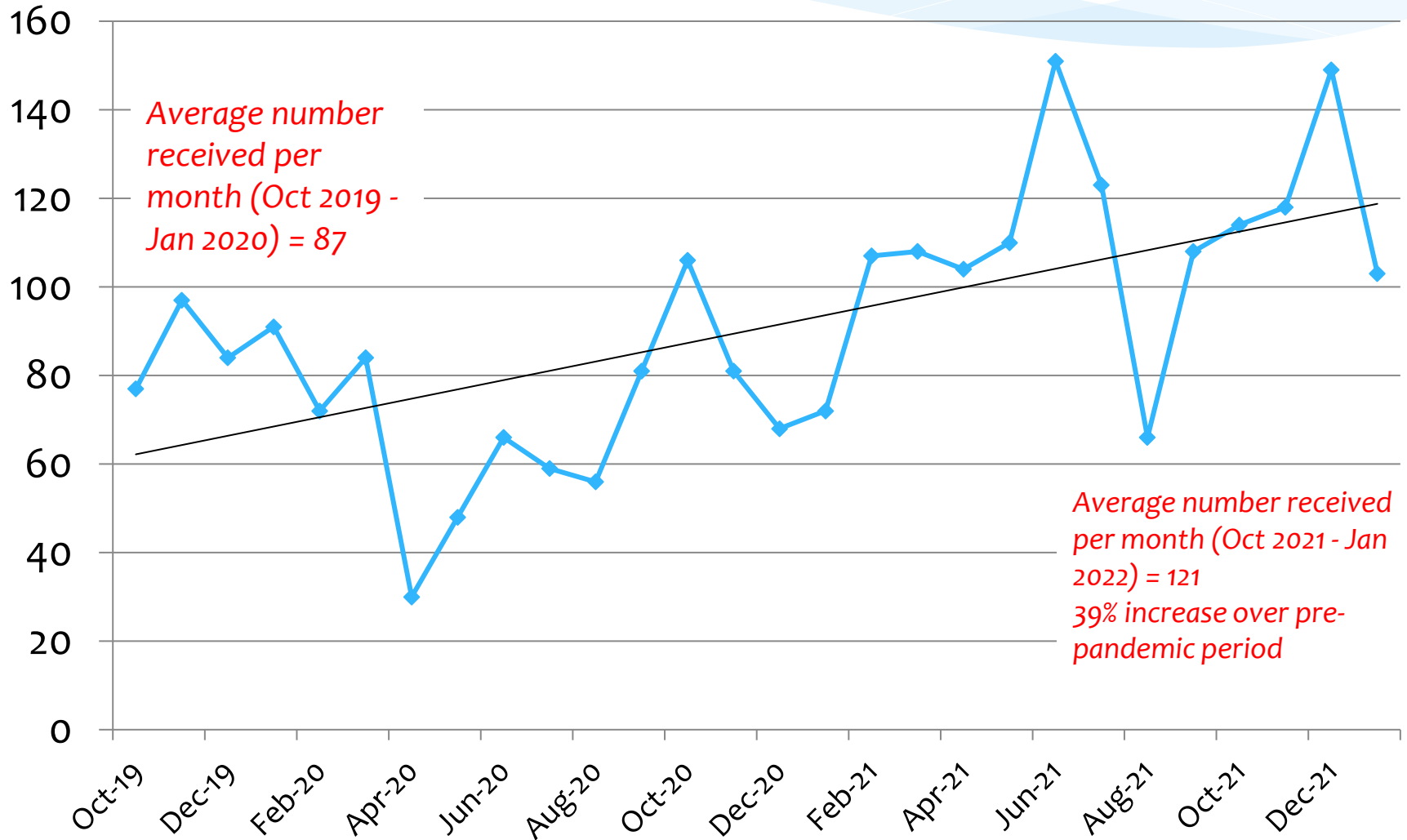
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Different speech and language therapy teams working with under 5s

- * Most children will be referred with concerns around language and/or social communication
 - * Seen by our “Early Years” team
- * Children with swallowing difficulties
 - * Seen by our “Eating and Drinking” team
- * Children with hearing impairment
 - * Seen by our “Deafness” team
- * Children with complex needs likely to go to Stephen Hawking school
 - * Seen by an integrated therapies team

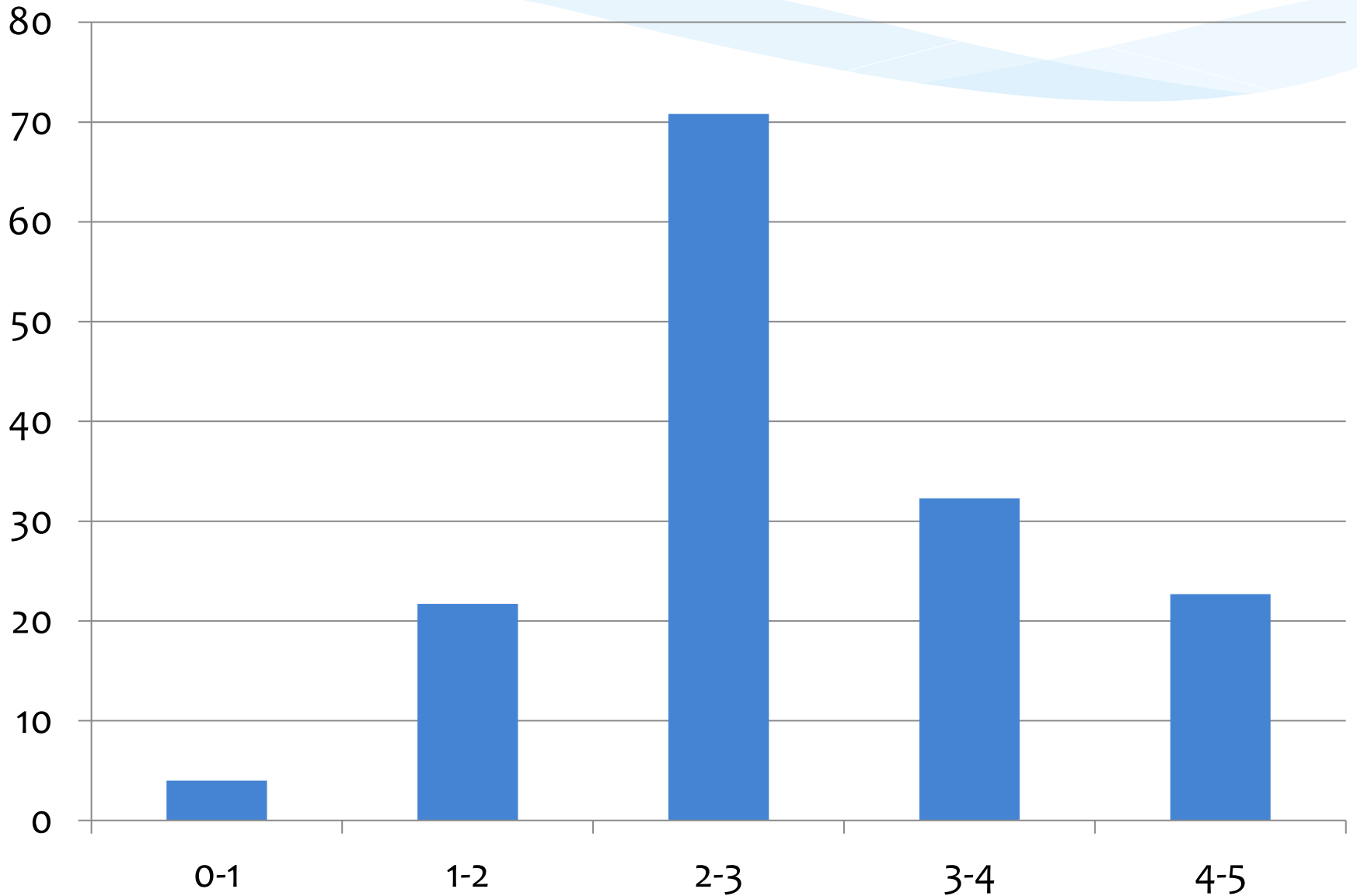
Communication Referrals for SaLT received by month from Oct 2019



What the Early Years team offers for all children under 5

- * Assessment and advice
 - * Now assessments often in Children and Family Centres
- * Writing advice as part of education, health and care needs assessments
- * Parent Consultations
 - * For those children who have previously been seen for an assessment
- * We don't currently have the capacity to provide ongoing intervention for all children under 5

Average number of SLT-Communication referrals received per month by age group (Oct 2019 - Jan 2022)



Intervention our Early Years team offer for children referred before the age of 3

- * For children whose needs are mainly around language:
 - * Individual or group therapy looking at optimising adult-child interaction
 - * These children likely to get a diagnosis of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)
- * For children whose needs are mainly around social communication difficulties
 - * Parent program looking at strategies to encourage communication
 - * These children likely to get a diagnosis of Autism (ASD)

How we want to change in 2022

- * Provide intervention for 3-5s that need it
 - * Need more funding to do this (part of the written statement of action as response to SEND inspection)
- * Integrated working with Children and Family Centres, nurseries and schools
 - * Current pilot in John Smith's 'Invitation to Play' group
 - * Next step after 'Little Talkers' groups in CFCs
 - * Better location than clinic rooms – better impact
- * Drop-ins for parents that don't involve referrals
 - * Speed up advice and signposting