



TOWER HAMLETS



North East London
Clinical Commissioning Group

Let's Talk SEND

Steve Nyakatawa, Director of Education



Local Area Leadership



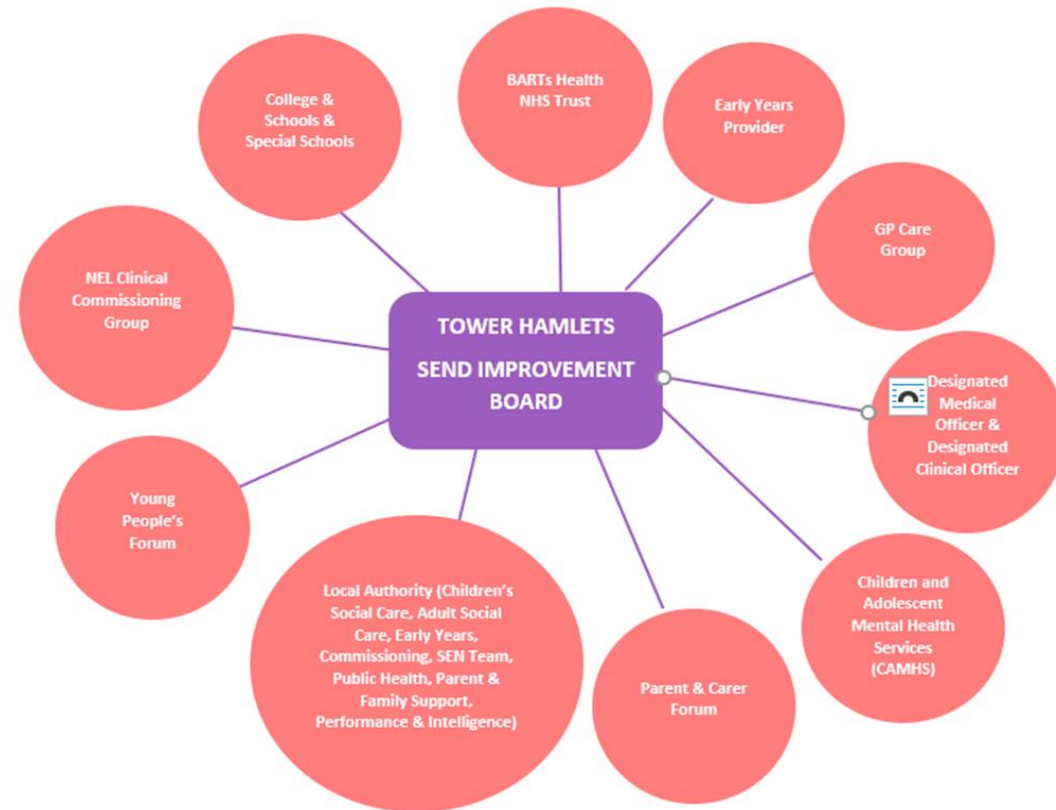
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- Support for Children and Families with SEND is a priority for Tower Hamlets as a local area.
- The Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Board has overall responsibility for SEND in the Local Area.

SEND Improvement Board



Local Area Inspection



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- Took place from the 28th June to the 2nd July 2021
- Undertaken jointly by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC).
- The Local Area produced a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) setting out how the Local Area will tackle the weaknesses identified.
- The WSOA is published on the Local Offer and is monitored by the SEND Improvement Board.



Local Area Inspection – system Strengths



- Pace of improvement has accelerated since 2018 – notable that we have been able to maintain this through the pandemic.
- Children with SEND achieve well at school and young people are supported into employment
- Good support to schools and early years providers for children with SEND.
- Parents and young people are involved in strategic meetings and influence decision making.
- Therapists and mental health professionals measure the effectiveness of their work with individual children and young people.
- Many services are highly regarded including SENDIASS, Behaviour and Attendance and the Sensory Service



Local Area Inspection – Area of Weakness



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- **Quality and oversight of EHC Plans including the annual review process**
- **ASD assessment and diagnosis waiting times**
- **Speech and language provision**
- **Communication between area leaders and parents**
- **Our improvement plan covers a wider range of areas but these are our main focus.**



Written Statement of Action



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- WSoA only covers the 4 areas of significant weakness. Other areas remain within the Improvement Plan.
- Four workstreams
 1. EHCP & Annual Reviews – led by John O’Shea (Head of SEND) and James Dodd (DCO)
 2. Assessment and Diagnosis of ASD – Led by Tony Parker (Head of Children’s Commissioning), Abdul Quddus (Deputy Head of Early Help) and Jo Conroy (General Manager, Paediatrics)
 3. Speech and Language Therapy – led by Tony Parker(Head of Children’s Commissioning), and James Dodd (DCO)
 4. Communication between Local Area leaders and parents – led by Steve Nyakatawa (Director of Education), and Jill McGinley (Head of Parent and Family Support)





Early Years

- **Early Education and Childcare Service**

Jess Milne, Head of Early Years (Interim)

Pat Wells, Early Years Strategic Quality and Sufficiency Manager

- **Inclusion**-Support for children in early years childcare settings and Children and Family Centres

Michelle Ward, Inclusion Manager

Sarita Badhan-Small, Joint Area Coordinator

- **Speech and Language Provision**

James Dodd, Joint Head of Community Children's Therapies

