

# Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Committee

## Update on the Education, Health and Care Plan Process and its impact in St Helens

October 2023

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# SEND Performance - Regional Benchmarking:

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Blackburn with Darwen	91.6	93.9	95.8	94.83
Blackpool	65.2	88.1	73.6	83.78
Bolton	36.9	54.5	62.6	44.14
Bury	78.9	27.4	34.7	51.05
Cheshire East	51	42.7	66.6	40.11
Cheshire West and Chester	88.7	54.3	27.6	31.18
Cumbria	85.2	84.7	78.1	72.12
Halton	34.2	50.3	77	53.62
Knowsley	64.5	73.4	80.1	63.55
Lancashire	74.8	74.8	66	98.65
Liverpool	7.5	9.2	59.7	92.03
Manchester	66.7	51	72.6	57.49
Oldham	86.6	94.8	89.1	96.52
Rochdale	55	97.2	95.9	91.82
Salford	92.9	66.4	62.6	48.31
Sefton	23	66.9	61.1	27.43
<b>St. Helens</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>28.9</b>
Stockport	45.6	42	94.4	49.9
Tameside	49.3	82.4	36.6	39.21
Trafford	61.8	81.8	75.9	36.34
Warrington	18.6	86.4	57.2	48.18
Wigan	98.6	80.4	83.5	83.92
Wirral	32.5	52.4	18.7	36.18
North West Regional Average	60.1	62.5	66.5	62.74
England Average	60.4	58	59.9	49.1

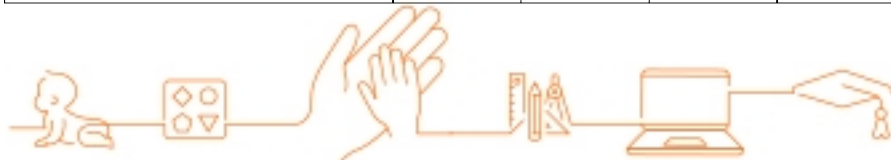
The table to the left holds the most recently available EHCP performance data for the North West region. (St Helens is highlighted in Yellow).

Of these 23 Local Authority Areas:

14 LAs, (60%) have a performance figure lower than the Regional average.

10 LAs, (43%) have a performance figure lower than the National Average.

St Helens was also the highest performing LA in both 2020 and 2021.



# SEND Performance - 2022/23 Capacity:

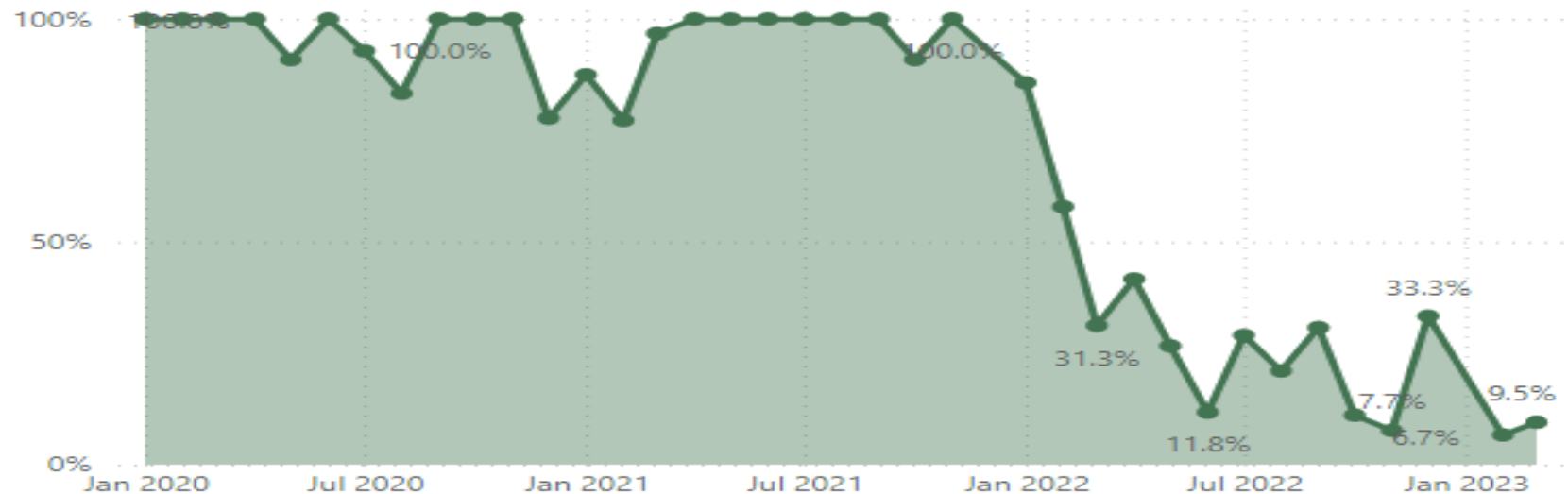
Timeliness of assessment reduced from 96% in 2021 to 28.9% in 2022.

While the national average also dropped by almost 10% over the same period, (from 59.9% to 50.7%) the St Helens average deteriorated by almost 60% and continued to decline into 2023.

This deterioration in performance was caused by a significant reduction in the capacity of the SEND Team due to a high number of resignations in 2022, which reduced the team from 9 FTE members of staff to 3.5. This also compounded a further capacity issue in the Educational Psychology Service.

The impact of this throughout 2022/23 can be seen below:

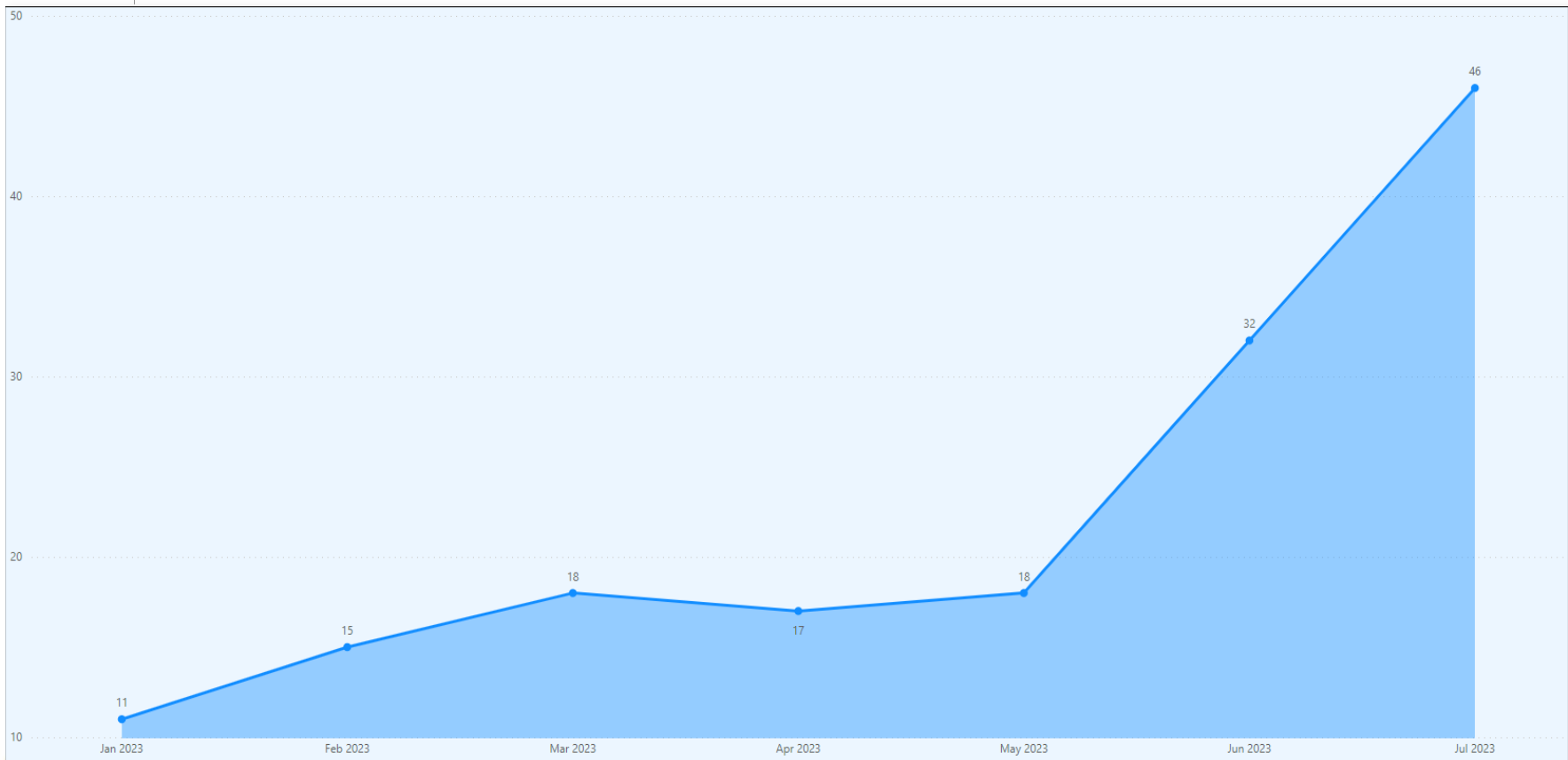
Rate of EHC plans excluding exceptions issued within 20 weeks



# SEND Performance - Recovery:

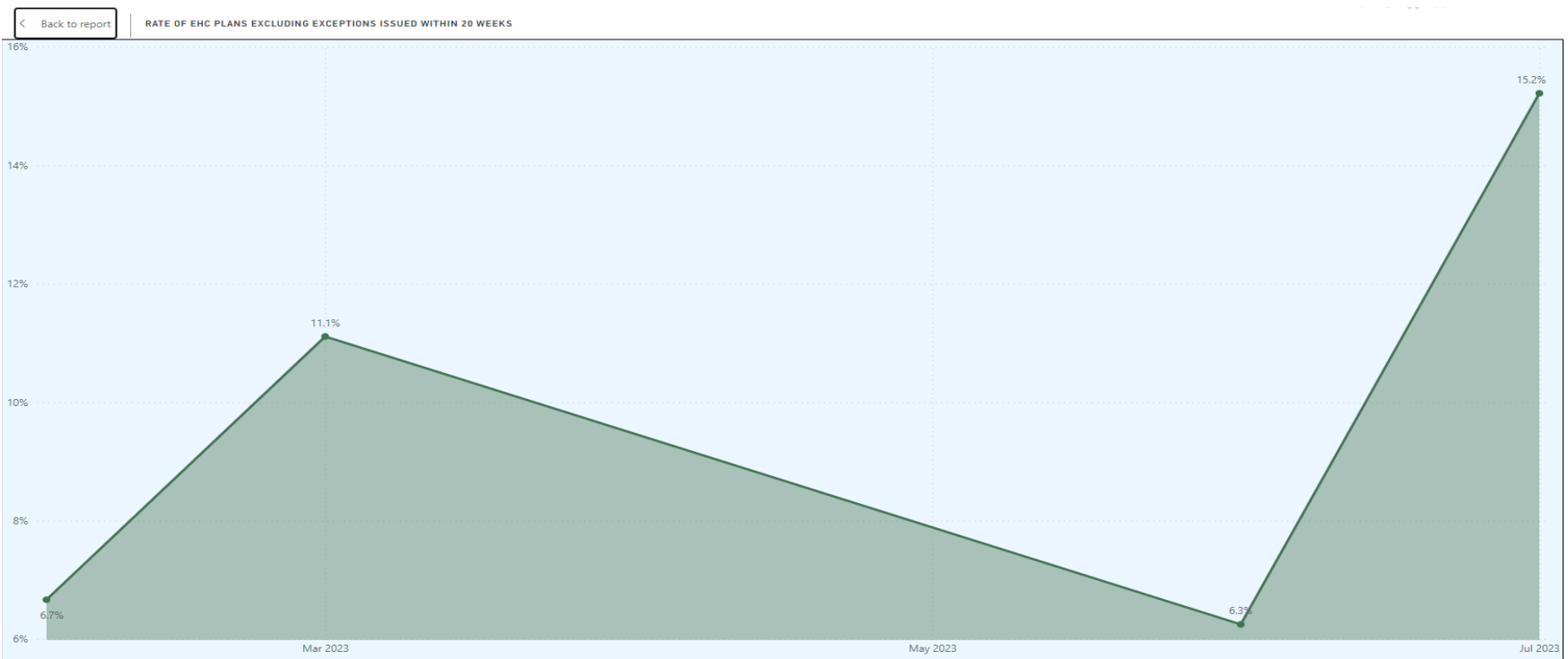
Due to a successful programme of recruitment and the resultant capacity increase, the number of final EHCPs issued by the team is increasing steadily, as is the proportion of plans meeting the 20 week deadline. The SEND team have issued more EHCPs between Jan to Sept 2023 than in the whole of 2022, another indicator that performance generally is recovering.

< Back to report | NUMBER OF EHC PLANS ISSUED (EXCLUDING EXCEPTIONS)



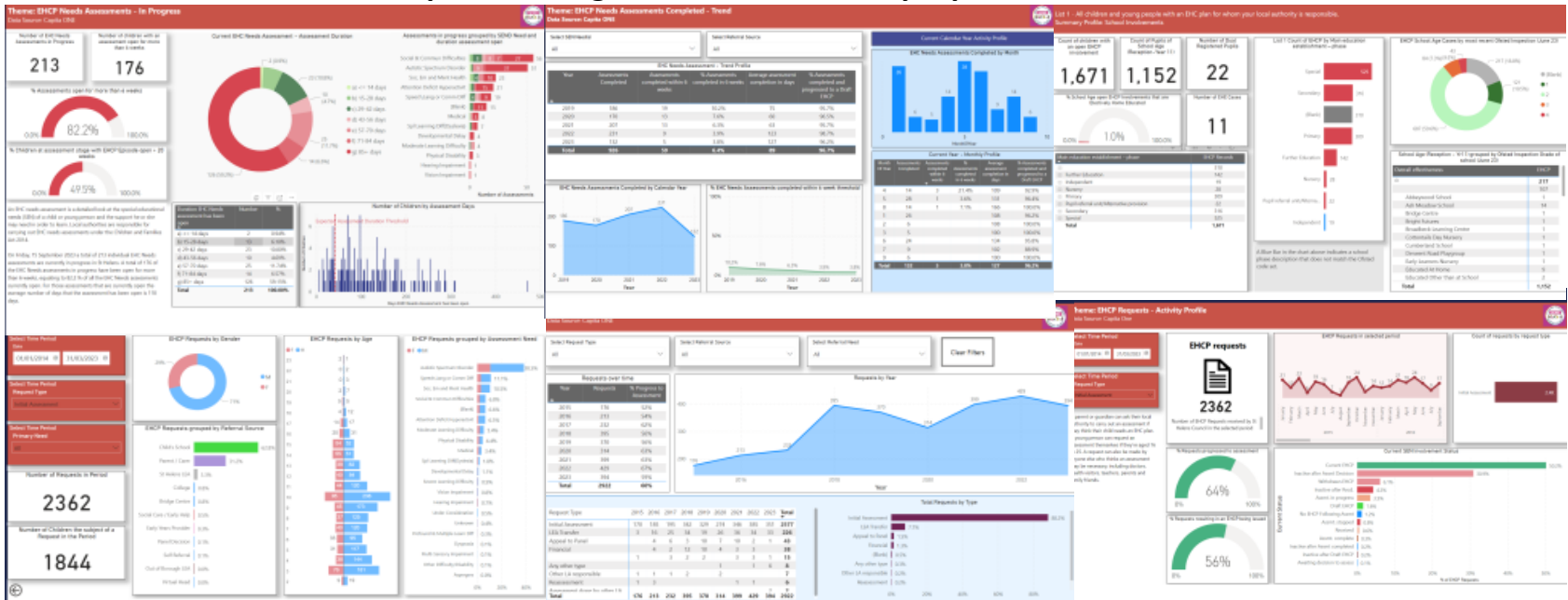
# SEND Performance - Recovery:

The graph below illustrates the improvement in timeliness on a month-by-month basis for 2023. In July, just over 15% of all plans issued were completed within 20 weeks compared to just over 6% in January. If the recent improvements can be maintained, a return to the national average is achievable by the end of 2023. Please note that as this graph represents the proportion of plans meeting the 20 week deadline, it should be viewed alongside the previous graph which illustrates increases in volume, as the 'dips' illustrate where overdue plans are being cleared from the backlog. The impact of the recent cyber incident on recovery is currently being assessed.



# SEND Performance - Monitoring:

## SEND Data Dashboard example “Screengrabs” for illustrative purposes:



A SEND data dashboard has now been built which provides real time ‘at a glance’ data across a range of key SEND metrics.

This is will allow EHCP performance to be monitored, as well as providing key trend information and analysis to support any SEND local area inspection Key Lines of Enquiry.

The SEND data can be overlaid with the other Education and Learning Service Dashboards to support wider strategic planning and resource deployment.

