



National Network of Parent Carer Forums

'Our Strength Is Our Shared Experience'

# The SEND Green Paper: Will it solve the crisis in SEND?

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Children and Families  
Act 2014:  
The right reforms in  
the wrong environment

# Children and Families Act: The right reforms in the wrong environment

Coproduction  
not  
confrontation

Person  
centred not  
provision led

Joint working  
not silo  
working

## Money

- There just isn't enough money in the system
- The money that is in the system isn't being used effectively

## Incentives and accountability of leaders

- Schools aren't incentivised to be inclusive
- SEND is too often a low priority across health and social care
- Poor accountability and few consequences for failure

## Leaders, managers and staff aren't equipped and supported to deliver

- They don't know the law
- Haven't made the cultural changes

## Not enough coproduction

- Strategic
- Individual

# The problem in the SEND system

System drivers	Impact	Accountability	Impact	Intervention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Players in the system are not incentivised to prioritise SEND</li><li>• Not enough money in the system so false economies are pursued</li><li>• Lack of clarity about what should be provided and who should provide it</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children's needs are not identified, understood and met promptly</li><li>• Families do not get the services they need and are entitled to</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is a mismatch between responsibilities, powers and accountability in the system</li><li>• Local authorities, schools, health commissioners and providers, regional schools commissioners, tribunals</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Families have no simple means of redress</li><li>• Needs escalate and new needs develop (e.g. behaviour, mental health)</li><li>• Families reach crisis</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finally the system sometimes acts</li><li>• Too little too late</li><li>• Conditions may have worsened, emotional cost, trust is lost</li><li>• Families seek EHCPs and tribunals</li><li>• Financial cost to system escalates</li></ul>

The culture of coproduction is not embedded

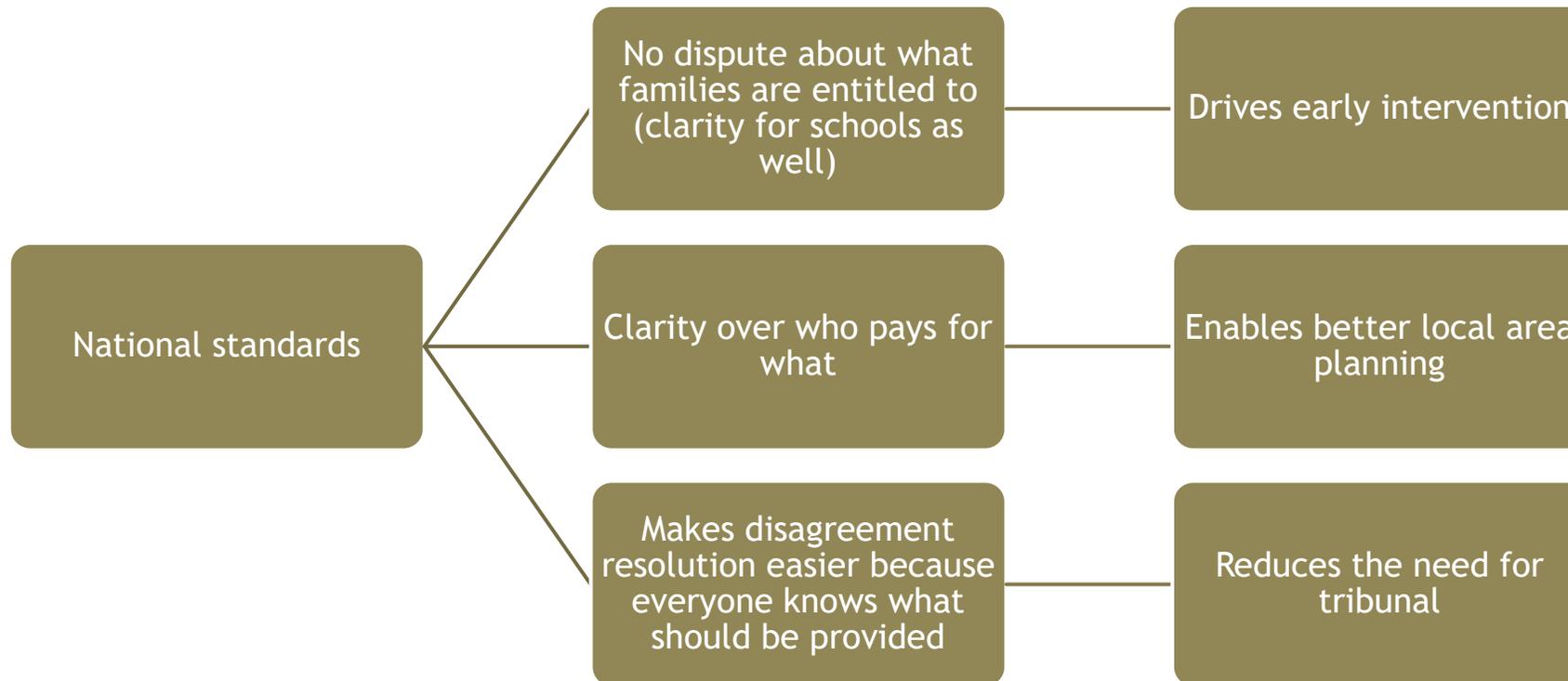


# What we think needs to change

1. Minimum standards for services
2. Clarity on joint commissioning and who pays for what
3. How the money is allocated and spent
4. Accountability, inspections and data
5. Right people, right knowledge, right skills



# There is much in the Green Paper that we are supportive of...



# There are also some things we are very concerned about



## Naming a place on EHCPs

- How will naming a place from a tailored list of settings actually work?
- How will the list be drawn up?
- What happens if a family does not think any of the settings on the list are suitable?



## How will the new redress process work?

- Will mandatory mediation be binding and the findings implemented?
- What happens if findings are not implemented?
- What happens if the mediation outcomes don't change outcomes?
- Will tribunals still be accessible?



## How does it all fit together?

- How will the new incentives, responsibilities, powers, accountability and regulation in the new system work?
- How will schools, MATs, Local Authorities, DfE regional directors, Integrated Care Systems, Local SEND partnerships, national SEND delivery board all fit together to create a cohesive and aligned system?



## Bandings and tariffs

- Will the new national system of bandings and price tariffs mean that some services are no longer available because they are too expensive?
- Will the new tariffs effectively "shut" more expensive provisions?
- What expectations are there on health and social care to contribute towards costs for more complex needs?



## Wider outcomes?

- There is not enough in the Green Paper about those CYP who are not destined for further education, training or work?
- What about more holistic outcomes such as independent living and community inclusion?



## Health and social care

- There is not a lot in the Green Paper about Health and Social Care

# And we can't forget the context

## The big picture - SEND must not get lost

- The agenda and priorities for schools are going to be dominated by the schools white paper
- The Health service is going to be focussed on making the set up of ICSs a success
- We await the children's social care review

## Implementation is going to be key

- Not enough thought was given to implementation in the 2014 reforms
- Setting up a national SEND delivery board is a positive
- We will wait and see how this works and what delivery plans look like

## We can't wait another 5 years - we are in crisis now

- There must be a programme to fix and improve the current system
- We can't wait for these reforms to come in
- Our children won't get these years back
- Parent carer forums must play a key role in driving continuous improvement
- [Department for Education The SEND local area support programme - YouTube](#)