

## For Information

# EHCs: Local and National Context.

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## Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to advise the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee on our current progress on completing assessments for those children and young people who may have a special educational need or disability, in comparison to the national position.

Through the SEND2 data return and census every Local Authority is expected to upload specific data so a national average can be shared. This enables us to monitor how we compare to national data.

Below outlines both the national and local data comparisons linked to Education, Health and Social Care plans (EHCs), broken into the following data sets:

- Number of EHC needs assessment requests
- Number of EHCs
- Number of EHCs finalised within the 20-week legal timeframe

## Number of EHC Needs Assessment Requests

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>MK</b>	553	760	848
<b>National</b>	114,482	138,242	DATA NOT AVAILBLE

Nationally from 2022 to 2023 there was a rise of 20.8% in the number of requests for an EHC needs assessment. In Milton Keynes, there was a rise of 37% which is 16% higher than national. The national data for 2024 has not been published yet, however, Milton Keynes is showing a 12% increase from 2023 to 2024.

## Number of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)

Data gathered for national from January census

	2023	2024
<b>MK</b>	2642	2860
<b>National</b>	517,048	576,474

Nationally there was a 11% increase in the number of EHCPs recorded through the census. This number is set to increase year on year as a trend. In Milton Keynes, we saw an 8% increase in number of EHCPs which is just below national.

## Number of EHCPs finalised within 20-week legal timeframe

	2022	2023	2024
<b>MK</b>	87%	65%	44%
<b>National</b>	49.2%	50.3%	Data not available

Milton Keynes has, for the previous two years, performed higher than national in the completion of EHC needs assessments within 20 weeks. The percentage rate has dropped across the country this year due to the ongoing challenge of the recruitment of Educational Psychologists to carry out that part of the assessment, alongside the impact of such a significant increase in demand. There have been two commissioned projects to help address this locally and it is projected that by July 2025 we will have addressed a significant number of the current challenges, through the additional investment received, and we will see the percentage start to increase again. We look forward to understanding what the national reported average is for completion for 2024, but we are confident that we continue to sit above the national average as other Local Authorities also have this as a key area of concern with a call that this is considered within the SEND Reforms.