



INDEPENDENCE REVIEW OF CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE – CASE FOR CHANGE

STATEMENT BY THE DISABLED CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

The Independent Review of Children's Social Care published its "Case for Change" today (17 June).

The report paints a picture of a system under strain; that is too focused on investigation rather than supporting families; and that is in urgent need of investment and reform. This will be all too familiar to families with disabled children.

When the review was launched, we were very concerned that it would not have any focus on disabled children and families. We are pleased, therefore, that the review team has listened to the views and experiences of parent carers; and that the report recognises that the system is failing to provide them with the support they need.

As the report states, there is a range of work underway in government looking at provision for disabled children, including the long awaited SEND Review. We expect the SEND review will also look at social care support for families, but it must not fall between these reviews.

The Case for Change is a good start. As it moves onto its next stage, the Independent Review of Children's Social Care must develop recommendations to address the specific needs of disabled children and their families.

Disabled Children's Partnership

17 June 2021