

#CountDisabledChildrenIn Local Authority Data

This document provides data for each local authority area in England, looking at the challenges facing disabled children and their families when trying to access support services

Campaigners may find this information useful to help them call on their local councils to increase investment in disabled children's services as part of the [#CountDisabledChildrenIn](#) campaign. This document forms part of the wider [#CountDisabledChildrenIn toolkit](#), which is available online.

A number of publicly available data sources have been analysed for this document, with an overview listed below.

Local authorities are listed alphabetically in this document. To search for your own local authority area please use the 'find' function on your device or scroll to your local authorities name.

If you have any questions about the information in this document, please email us at disabledchildrens.partnership@mencap.org.uk

Types of data in this document

1. Local authority spending in support for disabled children and their families

Local authority spending has been analysed over a five-year time-period prior to the start of the Coronavirus Pandemic. It is therefore important to remember that the pressures of the pandemic were yet to impact local areas¹. Spending on **short breaks for disabled children, short breaks for looked after disabled children, direct payments** and **other services for disabled children** were compared in real terms (adjusted to take into account for inflation). Cuts in budgets for this vital support are presented below for relevant local authorities.

2. Education Health and Care Plan (EHCPs) – 20 weeks assessment

In order to ensure that disabled children and young people receive the support they require, the support is assessed and detailed in a legal document called an EHCP. Local authorities are required by law to assess and produce an EHCP within 20 weeks of an application being received. In 2020 in England, on average 58% of EHCPs were assessed within 20 weeks. The data provided for each local authority reviews how the rates of EHCPs issued changed over five years. This gives an insight into the delays families are faced with trying to ensure appropriate support for their disabled child whilst at school. The longer the delay to getting an EHCP, the

¹ For our full research on the impact of the pandemic on disabled children's health and social care see <https://disabledchildrenspartnership.org.uk/leftinlockdown/>

longer families go without vital services like therapies, respite care or health services.

3. Education Health and Care Plan (EHCPs) – mediations and tribunals

If the support outlined in the EHCP fails to meet the needs of the disabled child, the family have the right to appeal. The first stage of this process is to enter into mediation with the local authority. If the result is unsatisfactory, the family will move forward to a tribunal. In England in 2020, 27% of all mediations progressed to tribunals. The data below lists the proportion of mediations that proceeded to tribunal, highlighting inadequate support listed in the EHCP.

4. Social Worker Vacancies

Disabled children requiring support from social care either at home or in the community, have their needs assessed by a social worker. Therefore, local children's social worker The vacancy rate provide insight into how accessible social services are for disabled children and their families. Nationally, in 2020 the vacancy average rate was 16% in England.

If you would like to understand more about the datasets reviewed please see the methodology section [here](#).

National summary

Despite rising numbers of children, expenditure on support for disabled children has reduced in real terms, with more than half of local councils having real terms cuts. Analysis by local authority area reveals that expenditure on support for disabled children as reduced in real terms, with more than half of local councils having real terms cuts.

80 local authorities saw real terms spending cut in service for disabled children (short breaks, direct payments and other support services).

All local authorities

Barking and Dagenham

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 13 percentage points

21% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

Barnet

There was a real terms spending cut of £865,000 on services for disabled children in Barnet, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 12 extra support staff, every year over five years.

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

29% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 39% in 2020, above the national average

Barnsley

There was a real terms spending cut of £13,000 on services for disabled children in Barnsley, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

7% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Bath and North East Somerset

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was equivalent to national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

Bedford Borough

88% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Bexley

There was a real terms spending cut of £616,000 on services for disabled children in Bexley, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 9 extra support staff every year, over five years.

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 2 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Birmingham

There was a real terms spending cut of £1,900,000 on services for disabled children in Birmingham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 27 extra support staff every year over five years.

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 57 percentage points

9% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 27% in 2020, above the national average

Blackburn with Darwen

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Blackpool

There was a real terms spending cut of £309,000 on services for disabled children in Blackpool, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 12 percentage points%

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Bolton

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 9 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 13% in 2020

Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 13% in 2020

Bracknell Forest

There was a real terms spending cut of £165,000 on services for disabled children in Bracknell Forest, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 72 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Bradford

7% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 26% in 2020, above the national average

Brent

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 10 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 26% in 2020, above the national average

Brighton and Hove

There was a real terms spending cut of £206,000 on services for disabled children in Brighton and Hove, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 3 percentage points

13% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Bristol, City of

There was a real terms spending cut of £295,000 on services for disabled children in Bristol, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 74 percentage points

26% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Bromley

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

42% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 24% in 2020, above the national average

Buckinghamshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £661,000 on services for disabled children in Buckinghamshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 9 extra support staff every year over five years

35% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 33% in 2020, above the national average

Bury

There was a real terms spending cut of £308,000 on services for disabled children in Bury, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 73 percentage points

50% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 20% in 2020, above the national average

Calderdale

There was a real terms spending cut of £270,000 on services for disabled children in Calderdale, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Cambridgeshire

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 10 percentage points

51% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Camden

There was a real terms spending cut of £171,000 on services for disabled children in Camden, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

100% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Central Bedfordshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £328,000 on services for disabled children in Central Bedfordshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

24% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Cheshire East

There was a real terms spending cut of £365,000 on services for disabled children in Cheshire East, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued was below the national average and rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

Cheshire West and Chester

There was a real terms spending cut of £986,000 on services for disabled children in Cheshire West and Chester, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 14 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 21 percentage points

47% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Cornwall

There was a real terms spending cut of £226,000 on services for disabled children in Cornwall, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

Coventry

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Croydon

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 33 percentage points

44% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 26% in 2020, above the national average

Cumbria

There was a real terms spending cut of £2,800,000 on services for disabled children in Cumbria, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 40 extra support staff, every year over 5 years.

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

42% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Darlington

There was a real terms spending cut of £3,600 on services for disabled children in Darlington, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

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Derby

There was a real terms spending cut of £92,000 on services for disabled children in Derby, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below the national average, with just 23% of assessments issued within the legal statutory timescale

37% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Derbyshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £1,400,000 on services for disabled children in Derbyshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020). That's the equivalent to 20 extra support staff every year, over five years.

38% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Devon

21% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 23% in 2020, above the national average

Doncaster

There was a real terms spending cut of £1,300,000 on services for disabled children in Doncaster, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020). That's the equivalent of 19 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced by 26 percentage points

28% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 18% in 2020

Dorset

7% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Dudley

There was a real terms spending cut of £250,000 on services for disabled children in Dudley, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 57 percentage points

17% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 25% in 2020, above the national average

Durham

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.5 million on services for disabled children in Durham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 21 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 13 percentage points

18% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Ealing

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 30% in 2020, above the national average

East Riding of Yorkshire

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

East Sussex

There was a real terms spending cut of £2.3 million on services for disabled children in East Sussex, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 33 extra support staff every year over five years

42% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Enfield

42% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 18% in 2020, above the national average

Essex

There was a real terms spending cut of £700,000 on services for disabled children in Essex, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 10 extra support staff every year over five years.

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 5 percentage points

32% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 13% in 2020

Gateshead

There was a real terms spending cut of £106,000 on services for disabled children in Gateshead, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

73% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Gloucestershire

There was a real terms spending cut of £290,000 on services for disabled children in Gloucestershire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 24 percentage points

10% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Greenwich

There was a real terms spending cut of £914,000 on services for disabled children in Greenwich, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 13 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale returned to the previous year levels with just 40% of assessments approved within the legal statutory timescale

36% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Hackney

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 10 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 23% in 2020, above the national average

Halton

There was a real terms spending cut of £372,000 on services for disabled children in Halton, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020)

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 5 percentage points

13% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 21% in 2020, above the national average

Hammersmith and Fulham

13% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Hampshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £2.7 million on services for disabled children in Hampshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 39 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 3 percentage points

34% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Haringey

There was a real terms spending cut of £773,000 on services for disabled children in Haringey, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 11 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 32% in 2020, above the national average

Harrow

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 47 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 19% in 2020, above the national average

Hartlepool

100% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Havering

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 19 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 28% in 2020, above the national average

Herefordshire

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 28% in 2020, above the national average

Hertfordshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £3.3 million on services for disabled children in Hertfordshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), the equivalent of 47 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 17 percentage points

Hillingdon

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 64 percentage points

12% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 33% in 2020, above the national average

Hounslow

There was a real terms spending cut of £182,000 on services for disabled children in Hounslow, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

11% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 20% in 2020, above the national average

Isle of Wight

There was a real terms spending cut of £196,000 on services for disabled children in Isle of Wight, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Isle of Scilly

There was a real terms spending cut of £4,900 on services for disabled children in Isle of Scilly, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 50% in 2020, above the national average

Islington

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below the national average with just 55% of assessments completed within the legal statutory timescale.

9% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Kensington and Chelsea

There was a real terms spending cut of £829,000 on services for disabled children in Kensington and Chelsea, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 12 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 54 percentage points

17% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Kent

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.3 million on services for disabled children in Kent, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 19 extra support staff every year over five years

19% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Kingston upon Hull, City of

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.6 million on services for disabled children in Kingston upon Hull, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 23 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

17% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Kingston upon Thames

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 7 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Kirklees

There was a real terms spending cut of £648,000 on services for disabled children in Kirklees, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 9 extra support staff every year over five years.

29% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Knowsley

There was a real terms spending cut of £139,000 on services for disabled children in Knowsley, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 19 percentage points

14% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Lambeth

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale returned to the previous years' levels

7% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 37% in 2020, above the national average

Lancashire

There was a real terms spending cut of £653,000 on services for disabled children in Lancashire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 9 extra support staff every year over five years

47% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 25% in 2020, above the national average

Leeds

26% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Leicester

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 26 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

Leicestershire

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 18 percentage points

19% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Lewisham

There was a real terms spending cut of £408,000 on services for disabled children in Lewisham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 2 percentage points

56% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Lincolnshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £1,188,000 on services for disabled children in Lincolnshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 17 support staff every year for five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 27 percentage points

24% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Liverpool

There was a real terms spending cut of £159,000 on services for disabled children in Liverpool, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 3 percentage points

45% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Luton

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 12 percentage points

38% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 37% in 2020, above the national average

Manchester

There was a real terms spending cut of £75,000 on services for disabled children in Manchester, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 3 percentage points

24% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

Medway

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 24 percentage points

28% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 29% in 2020, above the national average

Merton

There was a real terms spending cut of £783,000 on services for disabled children in Merton, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 11 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below the national average, with just 39.6% of assessments completed within the legal statutory timescale.

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Middlesbrough

There was a real terms spending cut of £86,000 on services for disabled children in Middlesbrough, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

25% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Milton Keynes

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 9 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Newcastle upon Tyne

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 42 percentage points, above the national average

Newham

There was a real terms spending cut of £200,000 on services for disabled children in Newham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 19 percentage points

46% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 55% in 2020, above the national average

Norfolk

There was a real terms spending cut of £655,000 on services for disabled children in Norfolk, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 9 extra support staff every year over five years

28% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

North East Lincolnshire

67% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 28% in 2020, above the national average

North Lincolnshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £258,000 on services for disabled children in North Lincolnshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 40 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

North Northamptonshire

The data here is for Northamptonshire County Council, which was the responsible council until 2021.

There was a real terms spending cut of £360,000 on services for disabled children in Northamptonshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 72 percentage points

27% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 27% in 2020, above the national average

North Somerset

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 48 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

North Tyneside

There was a real terms spending cut of £49,000 on services for disabled children in North Tyneside, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 23 percentage points

33% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

North Yorkshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.6 million on services for disabled children in North Yorkshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 23 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 49 percentage points

14% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Northamptonshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £360,000 on services for disabled children in Northamptonshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 72 percentage points

27% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 27% in 2020, above the national average

Northumberland

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

16% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Nottingham

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.8 million on services for disabled children in Nottingham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 26 extra support staff every year for five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 16 percentage points

32% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Oldham

10% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 15% in 2020

Oxfordshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £392,000 on services for disabled children in Oxfordshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

33% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Peterborough

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below national average with just 52% of assessments undertaken during the legal statutory timescale

8% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Plymouth

There was a real terms spending cut of £317,000 on services for disabled children in Plymouth during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 27 percentage points

Portsmouth

When assessing available data in Portsmouth, we saw no negative trends in terms of budget cuts, EHCP delays and other measures that this document uses. Therefore, there is no data present for Portsmouth in this sheet.

However, this does not mean there are no other pressing local problems in disabled children's health and care in Portsmouth. We would still encourage campaigners to email their local councillors in Portsmouth to ensure disabled children and families are not forgotten as the council sets budgets.

Reading

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 10 percentage points

26% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 30% in 2020, above the national average

Redbridge

There was a real terms spending cut of £534,000 on services for disabled children in Redbridge, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 8 extra staff per year every five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

26% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 25% in 2020, above the national average

Redcar and Cleveland

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

Richmond upon Thames

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 1.4 percentage point

Rochdale

There was a real terms spending cut of £384,000 on services for disabled children in Rochdale, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

33% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Rotherham

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.1 million on services for disabled children in Rotherham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 16 extra support staff every year over five years

6% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020

Rutland

67% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Salford

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale returned to 2018 levels

56% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Sandwell

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

22% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Sefton

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 33 percentage points

19% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 10% in 2020

Sheffield

There was a real terms spending cut of £3 million on services for disabled children in Sheffield, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 43 extra support staff every year over five years

31% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Shropshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £81,000 on services for disabled children in Shropshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 25 percentage points

12% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Slough

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 44% in 2020, above the national average

Solihull

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 2 percentage points

12% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Somerset

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 17 percentage points

27% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

South Gloucestershire

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.8 million on services for disabled children in South Gloucestershire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 26 extra support staff every year per five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 28 percentage points

13% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 27% in 2020, above the national average

South Tyneside

72% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Southampton

There was a real terms spending cut of £550,000 on services for disabled children in Southampton, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 8 extra support staff every year over five years

46% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 21% in 2020, above the national average

Southend-on-Sea

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Southwark

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.8 million on services for disabled children in Southwark, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 26 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 27 percentage points

43% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 18% in 2020, above the national average

St Helens

15% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 14% in 2020

Staffordshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £3.3 million on services for disabled children in Staffordshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 47 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 43 percentage points

17% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

Stockport

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.1 million on services for disabled children in Stockport, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 16 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 55 percentage points

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Stockton-on-Tees

86% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Stoke-on-Trent

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 29 percentage points

11% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 28% in 2020, , above the national average

Suffolk

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.7 million on services for disabled children in Suffolk during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020). That's the equivalent of 25 extra support staff

20% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Sunderland

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

47% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Surrey

There was a real terms spending cut of £7.8 million on services for disabled children in Surrey during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 111 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2018 levels.

38% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 28% in 2020, above the national average

Sutton

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.4 million on services for disabled children in Sutton, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 20 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2019 levels.

60% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

Swindon

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 13 percentage points

26% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 35% in 2020, above the national average

Tameside

There was a real terms spending cut of £436,000 on services for disabled children in Tameside, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

24% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 19% in 2020, above the national average

Telford and Wrekin

67% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Thurrock

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.5 million on services for disabled children in Thurrock, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 21 extra support staff every year for five years

46% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 18% in 2020, above the national average

Torbay

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 41 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 39% in 2020, above the national average

Tower Hamlets

There was a real terms spending cut of £3.7 million on services for disabled children in Tower Hamlets during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020). That's the equivalent of 53 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 52 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 21% in 2020, above the national average

Trafford

100% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 26% in 2020, above the national average

Wakefield

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.3 million services for disabled children in Wakefield, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent of 19 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 8 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 19% in 2020, above the national average

Walsall

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale returned to 2017 levels

Waltham Forest

There was a real terms spending cut of £228,000 on services for disabled children in Waltham Forest, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

22% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

Wandsworth

There was a real terms spending cut of £587,000 on services for disabled children in Wandsworth, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent of 8 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below the national average, with just 46% of assessments approved within the legal statutory timescale

11% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 43% in 2020, , above the national average

Warrington

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 2.4 percentage points

40% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Warwickshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £713,000 on services for disabled children in Warwickshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 10 extra support staff per year over five years

23% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

West Berkshire

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 11% in 2020

West Northamptonshire

The data here is for Northamptonshire County Council, which was the responsible council until 2021.

There was a real terms spending cut of £360,000 on services for disabled children in Northamptonshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 72 percentage points

27% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 27% in 2020, above the national average

West Sussex

There was a real terms spending cut of £5.5 million on services for disabled children in West Sussex, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent 79 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was below the national average with 55% of all assessments approved within the legal statutory timescales

31% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Westminster

31% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

Wigan

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 16 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 20% in 2020, above the national average

Wiltshire

There was a real terms spending cut of £2.9 million on services for disabled children in Wiltshire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent of 14 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 15 percentage points

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 13% in 2020

Windsor and Maidenhead

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

19% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 32% in 2020, above the national average

Wirral

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.8 million services for disabled children in the Wirral, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to 25 extra support staff every year over five years

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 11 percentage points

21% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 22% in 2020, above the national average

Wokingham

There was a real terms spending cut of £270,000 on services for disabled children in Wokingham, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020).

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 26 percentage points

33% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 23% in 2020, above the national average

Wolverhampton

Since 2016 the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week timescale reduced 57 percentage points

33% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 16% in 2020

Worcestershire

There was a real terms spending cut of £644,000 on services for disabled children in Worcestershire, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent to nine extra support staff every year over five years

22% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 17% in 2020, above the national average

York

There was a real terms spending cut of £1.6 million on services for disabled children in York, during the five years before the pandemic (2015-2020), equivalent of 23 extra support staff every year over five years

In 2020, the proportion of EHCPs assessed and issued within the legal statutory 20-week was above the national average but a slight decline illustrates that the rates were equivalent to 2017 levels.

50% of mediations to discuss EHCP plans progressed to tribunal in 2020, above the national average

The vacancy rate for children's social workers was 12% in 2020