



DCP Statement 2023 – REACTION FROM THE DISABLED CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

We are very concerned about the revelations over the weekend about the government's "Delivering Best Value" contract including targets for reducing the number of Education, Health and Care Plans.

When the government published its plans for SEND last year, the greatest concern was that they were focused more on saving money than supporting children and families. These reports appear to confirm that. Parents already face massive battles to get the support their children need and are entitled to, and they will despair that it is going to get even harder. This should not be a numbers game; it is about children's education, care and wellbeing and their futures.

The Government must now give clear and unambiguous advice to local councils that decisions about Education, Health and Care assessments and plans must be made in accordance with the law and should not be driven by any arbitrary targets for the number of plans.

Stephen Kingdom, Campaign Manager, DCP

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