



SEND Single Route of Redress National Trial

18th June 2018 Newsletter

Welcome to the June 2018 SEND Single Route of Redress National Trial newsletter. This newsletter focuses on:

Key updates since the national trial launch on 3rd April 2018

Guidance and toolkit

Events and webinars

Mediation: launch of standards for SEND Mediators

Key updates since the national trial launch 3rd April 2018

Since the launch of the national trial on the 3rd April 2018 there have been 13 cases registered under the First-tier Tribunal's extended powers.

Please note: The 13 cases identified above were registered between the 3rd April and the 14th June 2018. Updates on the number of cases registered under the national trial will be provided on an ongoing basis in the national trial newsletter.

As the national trial progresses, further information and updates will be provided through this newsletter. This will include:

- Frequently asked questions
- Key themes and emerging intelligence
- Updates from the national trial evaluation team
- Information and aggregate data on local authority and health commissioners' expense claims

Checks on local authority decision letters:

To ensure that families and young people are informed about the extended powers of the Tribunal, local authorities must clearly set out information on the national trial and the extended powers of the Tribunal in all their decision letters and in their local offers.



As a reminder, information on how to update SEN appeal decision letters, including a checklist and suggested wording on the national trial, is available in the [Toolkit](#) and directly [here](#).

Mott MacDonald are facilitating the trial on behalf of the DfE and will be contacting all local authorities requesting examples of updated decision letters over the coming months to ensure these now contain the correct information. If your local authority is asked to provide us with your decision letter template, we would greatly appreciate your support in providing us with examples. Once all letters have been reviewed we will be refreshing the information available and providing examples of good practice via the Toolkit and in future national trial newsletters.

Mott MacDonald will also be reviewing and monitoring Local Offers on an ongoing basis to ensure they clearly set out information on the national trial and the extended powers of the Tribunal, and may be in contact with local authorities for any queries.

National trial guidance and toolkit

We would like to remind you of the [guidance](#) and [toolkit](#) available to support local authorities, health commissioners, parents and young people throughout the trial. Additionally, a [webinar](#) has been recorded and is available online. This provides a summary of the following areas of the national trial:

- Overview and context of the national trial
- Introduction and overview on First-Tier Tribunal chamber
- Summary of the recommendations pilot
- New powers under the national trial
- The Tribunal procedure
- The Tribunal jurisdiction
- Rights of appeal
- What is expected of local authorities / health commissioners and support available

Please disseminate the above resources with your relevant teams and networks. If you are experiencing any issues with the above resources there is a helpdesk that can be contacted at SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com or on 0207 651 0308.

The helpdesk details given above can be contacted for any queries you have regarding the national trial. Local authorities and health commissioners may also contact their local DfE SEND adviser and NHS England lead, please contact the helpdesk if you require details of your local contacts.



Events and webinars

In January and February 2018 Mott MacDonald facilitated a series of induction events across each of the 9 regions, led by the Department for Education (DfE), HM Court and Tribunal Service, Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), and NHS England.

The workshops were aimed at relevant local authority SEND and social care representatives, and health care representatives. The aim was to help prepare local areas and make them aware of the regulations and new duties in relation to the national trial. A National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) regional representative was invited to every event.

Additionally, in May 2018, a number of training events for local Information Advice and Support Services (IASS) took place to train them on the extended powers of the Tribunal under the regulations and the new duties on local authorities and health commissioners.

Further events and webinars will be taking place throughout the duration of the national trial for local authorities, health commissioners, parents and young people. Below outlines the current timeline for planned events and webinars over the coming year.

| Autumn 2019 | Spring 2019 | Spring 2019 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Regional webinars for local authorities and health commissioners to cover progress and key updates in relation to the national trial.</p> <p>A webinar for parent carers covering key updates and emerging queries.</p> <p><i>Webinars will be live and a recorded version will be made available online here.</i></p> | <p>Regional training events to ensure local authorities, health commissioners and other relevant stakeholders are up to date on progress and duties in relation to the trial.</p> | <p>Regional webinars for local authorities and health commissioners covering the content from the events that will take place in the winter term in relation to the national trial.</p> <p><i>Webinars will be live and a recorded version will be made available online here.</i></p> |

Confirmed regional dates and details on the content that will be covered will be shared in due course and in future newsletters. If you have any suggestions on aspects of the national trial you would like covered in the content of these sessions, please contact SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com who will feed this into the planning for the sessions.



Launch of Standards for Special Educational Needs and Disability Mediators

On 23 May 2018, the College of Mediators and the Civil Mediation Council, with the support of the Department for Education, launched a set of SEND mediation standards and a corresponding voluntary system of accreditation. The standards were created, using examples of best practice, by a working group from the SEND mediation field, including Global Mediation, KIDS, Prime Resolution, Steve Hindmarsh Ltd and Trust Together.

This development will see the College of Mediators and Civil Mediation Council accredit SEND mediation training courses and mediators. The accreditation will be done through the formation of a panel of SEND mediation assessors who will review and approve applications. Applications for people to join the panel are now open (these will close on 25th June 2018 and successful applicants will be informed by 2nd July 2018).

The College of Mediators and Civil Mediation Council will also operate a joint register of SEND mediators (who have met the new required standards) which can be referred to by local authorities and other commissioners of SEND mediation. The register will go live from 2nd July 2018.

If you are interested in these developments, applying for accreditation or becoming a panel assessor, you can contact either:

- admin@collegeofmediators.co.uk or
- applications@civilmediation.org

The new standards and further details are available at <https://www.collegeofmediators.co.uk/News/Events>, the standards can also be accessed directly [here](#).

Please disseminate this newsletter to your teams and relevant organisations. Additionally, if you:

- Have received this newsletter but are not on the mailing list and would like to be
- Know anyone who would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list
- Have any requests for specific information or updates regarding the national trial you would like to be included in future newsletters
- Have any specific queries regarding the national trial
- No longer wish to receive this newsletter

please contact: SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com who will deal with your request accordingly.