

Random Samples of Tweets from Vice Chair Jan 22 to 3rd May 22.

**Chopsy Bristol** @ChopsyBristol · 17 Jan
Interesting late answer to a public forum question at last People Scrutiny Commission just in. So is Bristol exceeding both the National average and statistical neighbours for EHCNAs? I wonder what the data shows?

In 2019 Leeds had 953 initial requests, they completed 96.1% within 20 weeks.

When is BCC going to start to ensure EHCs are completed on time instead of blaming the number of applications? If other LAs can manage, why can't Bristol?

Answer

The situation in Bristol is challenging as our increase in applications for needs assessment exceeds both the national and statistical neighbour averages, unlike some local authorities we also have legacy cases that we need to complete in addition to the new requests coming into the team. There are also continual, difficult decisions to be taken as to where to allocate our limited resources. For example, do we improve the number of plans issued on time or ensure that we are working on cases where families have already been waiting for some time? In Bristol we have decided to address both issues. We have also submitted a request to increase finances to increase our capacity for statutory SEND work.

Whilst not reflected in our timeliness figures, the total number of EHC plans finalised has increased in September 2021 to the highest recorded so far this year in a month. To understand the scope of the Statutory SEND assessment team it is important to look at all the work undertaken by the team including plans in and out of time scales. Whilst we acknowledge we are still on a journey to improve our timeliness figures, Bristol has issued more EHCs in 2020 than any of our statistical neighbours.

**Chopsy Bristol** @ChopsyBristol · 20 Jan
I'm a bit behind what's going on with Bristol Send on a political level at the moment. Won't be back on top of it until about mid February. As a family, we're too impacted by the Send crisis in Bristol to keep a step ahead. Rest assured, it's still a catastrophe

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**Chopsy Bristol** @ChopsyBristol · 23 Jan
This 🗑️ I am incredibly selective about which professionals are allowed in my home these days. And anything from a Trouble Families background AKA Families in Focus is positively banned

**Chopsy Bristol** @ChopsyBristol · 24 Jan
Just filled in a couple of surveys for the local parent carer forum. Has your child ever experienced discrimination in school? Rolled my sleeves up for that one. My response is the one with the word 'unhinged' in it.

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NB: the last Tweet refers to the surveys BPC launched – Chopsy is vice chair, but writes this as if not affiliated at all.