



# SEND Single Route of Redress National Trial

## Winter Newsletter: January 2021

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Welcome to the Winter 2021 SEND Single Route of Redress National Trial newsletter. This edition includes:

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  3. **National trial webinars for parent carers and local areas**
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### 1. Key Updates

**Since the launch of the national trial on the 3rd April 2018 there have been 2,800 cases registered under the First-tier Tribunal's extended powers and 947 decisions have been issued.**

*Please note: The 2,800 cases identified above were registered between the 03/04/2018 and 11/01/2021. Updates on the number of cases registered under the national trial will be provided on an ongoing basis in the national trial newsletter.*

### **New email address for letters in response to recommendations**

As you will be aware local authorities are required to send a copy of their letters in response to national trial recommendations to the Department for Education and the evaluators as well as keep copies on file as these will be obtained by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) for the purpose of SEND inspections.



A new email address is now available for local authorities to send their letters to the DfE. The email address is [Rec.letters@education.gov.uk](mailto:Rec.letters@education.gov.uk). A copy of the letter should also be sent to the evaluators at [SENDletters@IFFResearch.com](mailto:SENDletters@IFFResearch.com)

### **Latest SEND Tribunal data from HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS)**

In December HMCTS published the latest set of statistics on the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Tribunal for the academic year 2019/20. The data sets out the number of appeals by type, nature, and age of the child, as well as by outcome of the appeal. You can download the document at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tribunal-statistics-quarterly-july-to-september-2020>.

## **2. Judges Summary of National Trial Decisions**

The third summary of anonymised national trial decisions issued by the First-tier Tribunal Special Educational Needs and Disability has now been published and can be downloaded at [www.sendpathfinder.co.uk/summary-of-national-trial-decisions](http://www.sendpathfinder.co.uk/summary-of-national-trial-decisions).

The summary covers the period of April 2019 – July 2019 and includes:

- Breakdown of the grounds of appeal e.g. sections of the plan being appealed
- Summary of the case
- The appeal outcome
- Where the appeal was raised by a young person

## **3. National trial webinars for parent carers and local areas**

Last month we hosted two webinars about the national trial; one for parent carers and one for local areas. Thanks to everyone who provided their thoughts and suggestions on what topics you wanted us to cover. The webinars feature an update from DfE on the national trial, information from mediation providers on how to get the most out of a mediation session and advice from HMCTS on what to expect at a SEND appeal hearing.

Both of the webinars were recorded so if you weren't able to attend you can watch them again on the link below:

<https://www.sendpathfinder.co.uk/events-materials-and-resources>

## **4. National trial briefing events for local areas**

In March we will be hosting a national trial briefing event for local authorities SEND teams, social care and health providers. The events will provide local areas with an update from DfE on the progress of the trial and a reminder of duties in relation to the SEND national trial. There will be a presentation from a SEND Tribunal First-Tier



Tribunal Judge along with a Q&A session. This years' events will also include sessions on mediation and joint working practices to help local areas further embed learning from the national trial.

The events are aimed at local area SEND representatives with 4 spaces allocated per local area:

- 1 place for a SEND representative
- 1 place for a social care representative
- 1 place for a health representative
- 1 SENDIASS representative

We will be hosting the event three times in March.

[14:00 – 16:45, Wednesday, 3 March 2021](#)

Booking closes on 24 Feb 2021

[09.30 – 12.15, Thursday, 18 March 2021](#)

Booking closes on 11 Mar 2021

[13:00 – 15:45, Wednesday, 24 March 2021](#)

Booking closes on 17 Mar 2021

If you wish to attend, please select your preferred date, the local area you represent and your role from the drop-down menu. If your local area is no longer listed on the drop-down menu of the order form for any of the dates above, the allocation for your local area has have been filled. If there are no spaces available for your local area and sector, please email [SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com](mailto:SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com) and we will add you to the waiting list. Places will be allocated after booking closes.

Should you have any difficulties with the booking process, or have any questions, please contact Mott MacDonald at [SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com](mailto:SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com).

## **5. How to complete the expense claim forms**

Last year we hosted a webinar for LAs on how to complete an expense claim for SEND tribunal activities under the national trial. This grant award can be claimed to reimburse the reasonable costs incurred by LAs and health commissioning bodies when attending or preparing for the SEND Tribunal.

The webinar features a live run-through of how to fill out the claim forms and provides a detailed breakdown of the three stages of the claim process. A Q&A document was also produced which includes responses to all the questions asked at the end of the webinar. The webinar recording and Q&A document can be found in the expenses section of the [online toolkit](#).



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### **Guidance and toolkit reminder**

We would like to remind you of the [disagreement resolution online toolkit](#) available to support LAs health commissioners, parents and young people throughout the trial.

Please disseminate the resources with your relevant teams and networks. If you are experiencing any issues with the resources there is a helpdesk that can be contacted at [SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com](mailto:SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com).

### **Share the newsletter with your colleagues**

Please forward 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](mailto:SENDdeliverysupport@mottmac.com) who will deal with your request accordingly.