

What can you do if the council refuses to carry out an EHC needs assessment?

- You can ask the council to review its decision or try to come to a resolution through mediation
- Challenge the council's decision in the Special, Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal

What happens if the council decides to carry out an EHC needs assessment?

If the council decides to carry out an EHC assessment, they will ask you to provide information to support your application, for example, medical reports and or they may ask you to agree to their professionals assessing your child's needs.

What should you expect once the council has carried out the EHC needs assessment?

After the assessment the council must tell you whether or not they will issue an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan).

. The council must tell you the outcome of the assessment within 20 weeks of your application. There are limited circumstances in which the council can extend the 20 weeks for telling you the outcome.

If the council issues an EHC Plan, the most important thing it will include is a description of your child's educational (and social care and health care) needs and the support that will be put in place to meet those needs.

If you are unhappy with the information about your child's educational needs and / or you think the support the council has included in the EHC Plan is not enough you can ask the council to arrange mediation to try to resolve the dispute. You can also challenge the decision in the SEND tribunal if you can't resolve it with the council the council through mediation