



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD 12th September 2019

Report sponsor: Andy Smith, Strategic Director
of People Services
Report author: Gurmail Nizzer, Director of
Children's Integrated Commissioning

ITEM 05

SEND Inspection

Purpose

- 1.1 To provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with an overview of the key findings, what we are going to do next and key messages following the recent special educational needs and disability (SEND) inspection.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the contents of this report.

Reason

- 3.1 To ensure that the HWB is informed of the outcomes of the SEND inspection and any implications for the HWB or its members.

Supporting information

- 4.1 Ofsted and CQC jointly inspect local areas to see how well they fulfil their responsibilities for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- 4.2 The purpose of such inspections are to provide an independent external evaluation of how well a local area carries out its statutory duties in relation to children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in order to support their development.
- 4.3 Ofsted and CQC recently undertook an inspection of provision in Derby.

- 4.4 The inspection identified a number of strengths and things we could do better in relation to:
- Identification of need.
 - Assessment and meeting need.
 - Outcomes.
- 4.5 There were a number of strengths recognised in the inspection which included:
- Improved outcomes for children in early years and key stage 1 with good joint working between education, health and social care.
 - Vulnerable children and young people with SEND such as looked after children and those entering the youth offending service receive good support.
 - Children and young people with SEND with identified health needs benefit from specialist health visiting services and the children's community nursing team.
 - Young people with SEND are well supported into adult life with the majority of young people with SEND leaving school and college to enter employment or higher education.
 - Children and young people with SEND speak positively about their schools and the range of different professionals who help and support them.
- 4.6 The following areas for improvement were identified:
- Failure of the local area to take the joined up actions that were required to implement the SEND reforms.
 - There is a lack of an overarching strategy for provision and outcomes for those with SEND.
 - Number of weaknesses relating to EHCPs – quality, timeliness and outcomes.
 - Long-standing and systemic issues with waiting times to access key services.
 - Parental engagement and high levels of parental dissatisfaction.
- 4.7 Whilst these areas for improvement are locally recognised and we are committed to addressing, it should be noted that there is a wider context and ongoing challenges. Here are the four reasons for the crisis:
1. Local authorities will no longer be able to move funds.
 2. The switch from statements to Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) has left a funding deficit.
 3. Pupil numbers are rising.
 4. The Education Services Grant (ESG) will be removed in April 2017

- 4.8 Recognising the urgent need to own and make improvements, the following initial actions are planned:
- Continue to work on our improvement plans and priorities already agreed.
 - Refreshed SEND JSNA to inform an up to date understanding of need.
 - Two day full day workshops took place on 29 & 30 August to engage the local area in the development of our Written Statement of Action (WSOA); including schools, frontline practitioners (early help, education, social care and health), parents and CYP.
 - Draft WSOA in place by the end of November 2019.
 - Communication Plan drafted alongside the WSOA.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 Key stakeholders are invited to the August workshops to develop our response to the inspection in the form of the Written Statement of Action (WSOA).

Other options

- 6.1 None.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 Not applicable.

Legal implications

8.1 A SEND Code of Practice is a statutory code sets out:

- details of legal requirements that you must follow without exception,
- statutory guidance that must be followed by law unless there's a good reason not to.

The code, which applies to England, is for:

- headteachers and principals
- governing bodies
- school and college staff
- special educational needs (SEN) coordinators
- early education providers
- local authorities
- health and social services staff.

Other significant implications

9.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

| Role | Name | Date of sign-off |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| Legal Finance Service Director(s) Report sponsor Other(s) | Andy Smith, Strategic Director of People Services | 03/09/2019 |