

REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date: 6th December 2016

BARNSELY SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY STRATEGY (2016-18)

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1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To inform the Board of the aims and strategic priorities of the Borough's Special Educational Needs and Disability Strategy (2016-18)

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Health and Wellbeing Board members are asked to:-

- Note the recent publication of the Strategy and for partners on the Board to adopt its broad aims and strategic priorities.
- The Board notes the future developments indicated in Paragraphs 5.2 – 5.3 of this report.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Barnsley Special Educational Needs and Disability or SEN(D) Strategy (2016-18) was recently submitted for approval and adoption by the Council's Cabinet, at its meeting held on 16th November 2016. The development of the Strategy was informed through extensive consultation with the Council's partners and a copy is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3.2 The purpose of the SEN(D) Strategy is to support Barnsley MBC and its partners in meeting their statutory duty under Part 3 of the Children and Families Act (2014) including the following:

- To work with health and social care organisations in jointly commissioning services that will provide integrated support for children and young people with SEN aged 0 – 25 years.

- To consult children and young people, together with their parents and carers and to co-operate with a range of local providers across education (including post 16 education and training providers) health, social care and voluntary sectors in order to plan and commission quality services.
- To co-produce and publish a local 'offer' of SEN(D) services and provision, including assisting young people with SEN(D) to access skills and employment opportunities and obtain decent accommodation.
- Provide a co-ordinated education, health and care assessment for children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEN(D) and provide education, health and care plans (EHCPs) in order to improve their education and health outcomes, including through the option of direct payments and personal budgets.
- Consider the transition from children's to adults services for young people with SEN(D).

3.3 The Strategy's vision is to create a well planned continuum of provision from birth to age 25 that meets the range of complex needs of such young people. This includes a strong commitment to early help and intervention in order to ensure a child or young person's needs are identified early in order to promote independence.

3.4 The three broad aims of the Strategy closely adhere to this statutory duty and are outlined below:

1. To improve education outcomes, supported by the Schools Higher Needs Funding Block, together with the health and emotional wellbeing for all children and young people with SEN(D) in Barnsley and that the Strategy is owned and supported by all statutory and non statutory partners.
2. To ensure Barnsley delivers the necessary changes to the assessment of needs and joint commissioning of integrated provision, as set out in Part 3 of the Children and Families Act.
3. To address any gaps in provision and to improve the quality of integrated services across the full spectrum of provision.

3.5 These broad aims are underpinned by the following strategic priorities and objectives:

Priority 1: Improving Lifelong Outcomes For Children And Young People With SEN(D) And Their Families

Objective 1: To continue to raise the attainment of children and young people with SEN(D).

Objective 2: Improve and strengthen the early identification of SEN(D) and improve the efficiency of production of EHCPs to ensure children's needs are met promptly.

Objective 3: To develop a co-ordinated, planned, approach to multi agency working.

Objective 4: Support young people in making a fulfilling transition to adult life.

Priority 2: Involve, Engage And Enable Children And Young People With SEN(D) And Their Families

Objective 5: Enable children and young people with SEN(D) and their parents and carers to obtain full participation in the planning and delivery of services.

Objective 6: To work towards ensuring the right support is available to parents and carers.

Objective 7: Ensure all relevant information on the local SEN(D) offer and on local services is clear and accessible.

Priority 3: Ensure The Highest Quality Of Provision And Services Through Effective Procurement And Commissioning Arrangements

Objective 8: Delivering the right provision and the right support at the right time.

Objective 9: To develop a skilled professional SEN(D) workforce which is knowledgeable and confident.

3.6 The broad aims and strategic priorities of the SEN(D) Strategy will be progressed through an action plan which will be managed and monitored by a Multi Agency SEN(D) Strategy Group. This main group will be supported by a set of task and finish groups who will be responsible for the implementation of developments to a range of services and systems.

3.7 Membership of this Strategy Group will include the following organisations:

Barnsley Alliance for School Improvement, Barnsley CCG, Barnsley MBC and the South and West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Trust.

3.8 The action plan, together with the emergence of any risks and resulting remedial action, will be reported on a regular basis to the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group.

4.0 Resource Implications

4.1 The financial implications of meeting the education, health and wellbeing needs

of children and young people with SEN, together with future demand and available resources, during 2016-18, were reported to the Cabinet on 16th November. There are no resource implications or risks arising for the Board through consideration of this report.

5.0 Conclusion And Next Steps

- 5.1 The Board is recommended to note the publication of the new Strategy with partners encouraged to adopt its broad aims, strategic priorities and objectives as part of a Borough wide, place based approach for improving education, health and wellbeing outcomes for children with SEN(D).
- 5.2 Barnsley MBC and its statutory partners are anticipating a forthcoming Ofsted inspection of SEN(D) provision in the Borough during 2016/17 and the outcomes of the inspection will be reported to a future meeting of the Board.
- 5.3 In the Education White Paper, published in March 2016, SEN(D) provision was identified as being a continuing role of local authorities in conjunction with their partners. Therefore, the Board is, also, recommended to note that a central government consultation on the future role of the local authority in education, to include SEN(D) provision, is expected to be launched early next year.

6.0 Appendices And Background Papers

- 6.1 Appendix 1: Barnsley Children and Young People's Services SEND Strategy (2016-18)

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