
The West Berkshire SEND Strategy (2018-2023)

Report being considered by:	Health and Wellbeing Board
On:	04 October 2018
Report Author:	Nina Bhakri
Item for:	Information

Purpose of the Report

This report presents the West Berkshire strategy for improving outcomes for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities aged 0-25 years.

This strategy has been jointly produced with parents, carers, West Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group, public health, NHS specialist services, early year's settings, schools and further education providers and sets out a shared strategic vision for SEND provision in West Berkshire for the next five years:

“for all children and young people with special education needs and disabilities to have the right support and opportunities at the right time so that they become resilient, happy adults.”

The strategy outlines collective partnership commitments and anticipated outcomes that will emerge as a result of the work delivered around the following five strategic objectives:

1. Improving inclusion and education outcomes for children with SEND in early years settings and mainstream schools
2. Developing a continuum of local provision to meet the needs of children with SEND (including Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH))
3. Enabling young people to enjoy good physical and mental health and wellbeing
4. Improving Post 16, education, learning, employment and training
5. Improving positive transitions for young people with SEND to enable them to prepare for adulthood

The draft SEND Strategy was consulted on widely through a public consultation exercise for six weeks from 11 June 2018 to 20 July 2018. This involved an online survey, alongside a series of public engagement events to seek views from a wide range of key stakeholders and to enable people to share their thoughts and ideas to help shape the final version of the document.

Analysis of the consultation feedback is presented in Appendix 1. Appendix 2, presents the final strategy, updated in response to the consultation findings.

The West Berkshire SEND Strategy will be formally determined through an Individual Executive Member Decision.

Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- Note the vision and priorities of the Strategy in relation to HWB priorities
- Note the new West Berkshire SEND Strategy

How the Health and Wellbeing Board can help

To ensure that SEND issues are embedded effectively throughout relevant plans and in the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Health and Wellbeing Board has agreed that the:

- Children’s Delivery Group should provide the strategic drive, co-ordination and oversight by receiving regular performance and outcome indicator reports on progress against objectives, while partners grouped under thematic priorities will be the delivery vehicle for implementation of the strategy.
- Health and Wellbeing Board should receive reports against progress through the Children’s Delivery Group.

Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Executive for final determination?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: X
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Introduction/Background

The Children and Families Act 2014, introduced the most significant reforms to the Special Education Needs system in almost thirty years.

The reforms place new statutory duties on local authorities to plan for SEND provision in their area, these include:

- Putting children and parents at the heart of the system,
- Extending provision from birth to 25 years
- Introducing and extending rights and protection to young people by introducing new education, health and care plans.
- Applying a “whole area” approach that includes the local authority, clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), public health, NHS England for specialist services, early year’s settings, schools and further education providers.
- A requirement for local authorities to keep special education provision under review

The number of children with education, health and care plans has increased by 14% since 2013 as a result of the age range increasing to include young people up to the age of 25.

There has also been an increase in the population of children with EHC Plans who attend special as opposed to mainstream schools, with associated financial pressures.

Additionally, the Government has introduced a new national funding formula for schools which will require even more effort to target our resources effectively and achieve even better value for money in the investment we make to improve pupil outcomes.

It is against this context that West Berkshire has undertaken a review of its provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities with the aim to agree with children, young people and parents and partners across health, education and social care a joint overarching vision for SEND in West Berkshire for the next five years.

The review process led to the outcome of a new five year SEND Strategic Plan for West Berkshire for 2018-2023 and a public consultation to shape its final format.

This report presents;

1. The key points from the public consultation (a detailed report of the consultation findings is presented in Appendix 1).
2. The changes made to the draft SEND Strategy in response to the public consultation.
3. The West Berkshire SEND Strategy in its final form (Appendix 2)

Supporting Information

Key findings from the consultation:

The overall response was a positive welcome that West Berkshire and its partners are committed to work together to champion the long term wellbeing of children and young people with SEND.

The vision, principles and intended outcomes strategic objectives and actions

Before submitting comments, respondents were asked to indicate their broad support or disagreement with the core elements of the draft SEND Strategy, the proposed vision, principles, intended outcomes and each of the five strategic objectives for development. Overall, there was strong support for the proposed vision, with 80% of respondents either strongly agreeing or agreeing with the vision statement. 72% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with the underlying principles. 75% of respondents agreed with the intended outcomes.

Comments submitted that corroborate the welcome given to the strategy include:

I like the 'quality first' approach that is being proposed. Your wants and wishes are clear and there is clarity over the need to ensure this is not just one agency's responsibility but that championing our young people will only work with a multi agency directive.

I feel you have them right, including person centred, early help, and greater independence, choice and control given to them and their families

If it even comes to fruition it could be good

Themes prompting several comments and / or discussion at consultative meetings

Workforce training and development and the need to raise wider awareness and understanding of SEND

Inclusion – The need to understand and respond appropriately to the different sets of behaviours presented by children with SEND in order to support their inclusion rather than exclusion

The need for clearer and accessible information to support children’s transition to adult services

The need to review support currently provided for parents and carers with children who have SEND and for young carers

The need for greater clarity on pathways of care and support for children and young people with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Supporting children and young people with learning disabilities who also have emotional health and wellbeing needs

Opportunities post 16 and post 19 – There is strong support for an increasing focus on young people with SEND post 16 and post 19, both to maintain improvements in learning and wellbeing achieved at school and to orientate school and care better to equip young people with the skills to become as independent as possible.

Early intervention and early years – Several respondents to the on-line survey and those taking part in the public consultation events highlighted the importance of maintaining and improving support for young children so that needs can be identified early. The importance of early intervention for groups such as those with ASD, learning difficulties and impairments was cited and the evidence that this results in better lifelong outcomes for the child. Ensuring more effective reaching of all families with young children with additional needs to be emphasised, with an emphasis on support rather than extensive assessments.

Revisions to the SEND Strategy:

As highlighted above, strong support was given by respondents for the draft SEND Strategy. The draft SEND Strategy was presented to the SEND Strategic Partnership Board who agreed the final strategy should be based on the draft, with the following changes:

Page 20: Objective 1: Proposed actions:

- 4.17 Promote secondments between mainstream and specialist schools
- 4.13 Develop Social Emotional Mental Health guidance and a resource bank, including guidance on behaviour and disciplinary policies and anti bullying policies
- 4.14 Review SEND training for Newly Qualified Teachers
- 4.15 Promote disability awareness training in schools
- 4.16 Promote duty of schools to publish an access plan

Page 24: Objective 3: Actions:

2.7 Develop support for young people to set up their own businesses

Page 27: Objective 4: Actions:

4.3 Produce with families, an information and guidance pack (including a young persons friendly version) detailing the criteria for accessing services, transition processes and providing guidance on support and services

Page 29: Objective 5:

Priority 1: Empower young people with SEND and their parents and carers to understand their health and wellbeing needs

Priority 2.4 Review support which is available for parents on issues such as eating, sleeping, toileting and behaviour

Priority 3.4 Ensure that ASD, ADHD and anxiety pathways are transparent and understood by all agencies

Priority 3.5 Review access to emotional health and wellbeing support for children with learning disabilities

Priority 3.6 Raise the profile of the deaf CAMHS service and the ASC Disability Health Team

Options for Consideration

The Children and Families Act (2014), requires local authorities to keep the provision for children and young people with SEND under review through a local strategic review and planning for future SEND provision. This statutory obligation, alongside future challenges posed by increasing demand for High Needs Funding and further financial restrictions resulting from the new financial funding formula for schools mean that it is imperative to target resources effectively and achieve even better value for money in our investments through strategic planning.

Proposals - Governance and accountability of the renewed SEND system

The delivery of our strategy is not the responsibility of a single agency. It requires a partnership approach, owned by all stakeholders working with children, young people and families. These include health, education, social care, schools and voluntary and community organisations. Consequently, governance for this strategy will be provided by the West Berkshire SEND Strategic Partnership Board.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to agree that the West Berkshire Children's Delivery Group should provide the strategic drive, co-ordination and oversight by receiving regular performance and outcome indicator reports on progress against objectives, while partners grouped under thematic priorities will be the delivery vehicle for implementation of the strategy.

The West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing Board is also requested to agree that it should receive reports against progress through the Children's Delivery Group. This will ensure

that SEND issues are embedded effectively throughout relevant plans and in the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Conclusion

This report presents;

- The West Berkshire SEND Strategy (2018-2023)
- A report of analysis of the public consultation held to shape the final strategy

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

- Note the new West Berkshire SEND Strategy
- Note the governance and accountability arrangements for the new strategy

Consultation and Engagement

The development of the SEND Strategy was overseen by the West Berkshire SEND Strategic Partnership Board, a multi agency partnership, with parents and carers at its core and comprising stakeholders across education, NHS, West Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Public Health, social care, voluntary and community sector partners and the West Berkshire Lead Member and Executive Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People.

The draft SEND Strategy was consulted on more widely through a public consultation exercise for six weeks from 11 June 2018 to 20 July 2018. This comprised an online survey, alongside a series of public engagement events to seek views from a wide range of key stakeholders and to enable people to share their thoughts and ideas to help shape the final version of the document.

Appendices

Appendix A – Data Protection Impact Assessment

Appendix B - The West Berkshire SEND Strategy 2018 -23

Appendix C – a report on the consultation for the West Berkshire SEND Strategy

Appendix D – Equalities Impact Assessment

Background Papers:

Special educational needs and disability, (SEND)

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/special-educational-needs-disabilities>

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of practice 0-25 years; Department for Education and Department for Health, 2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf

Health and Wellbeing Priorities 2018/19 Supported:

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- Promote positive mental health and wellbeing for adults.
 - Improve opportunities for vulnerable people to access education, employment, training and volunteering.

Health and Wellbeing Strategic Aims Supported:

The proposals will help achieve the following Health and Wellbeing Strategy aims:

- Give every child the best start in life
 - Support mental health and wellbeing throughout life
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Officer details:

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Appendix A

Data Protection Impact Assessment – Stage One

The General Data Protection Regulations require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for certain projects that have a significant impact on the rights of data subjects.

Should you require additional guidance in completing this assessment, please refer to the Information Management Officer via dp@westberks.gov.uk

Directorate:	Communities
Service:	Education
Team:	SEN and Disabled Children’s Team
Lead Officer:	Nina Bhakiri
Title of Project/System:	<p>“From birth to adulthood”</p> <p>Our strategy for improving outcomes achieved by children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and / or disabilities 2018 - 2023</p>
Date of Assessment:	21 September 2018

Do you need to do a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)?

	Yes	No
<p>Will you be processing SENSITIVE or “special category” personal data?</p> <p>Note – sensitive personal data is described as “<i>data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person’s sex life or sexual orientation</i>”</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will you be processing data on a large scale?</p> <p>Note – Large scale might apply to the number of individuals affected OR the volume of data you are processing OR both</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will your project or system have a “social media” dimension?</p> <p>Note – will it have an interactive element which allows users to communicate directly with one another?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will any decisions be automated?</p> <p>Note – does your system or process involve circumstances where an individual’s input is “scored” or assessed without intervention/review/checking by a human being? Will there be any “profiling” of data subjects?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will your project/system involve CCTV or monitoring of an area accessible to the public?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will you be using the data you collect to match or cross-reference against another existing set of data?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Will you be using any novel, or technologically advanced systems or processes?</p> <p>Note – this could include biometrics, “internet of things” connectivity or anything that is currently not widely utilised</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you answer “Yes” to any of the above, you will probably need to complete [Data Protection Impact Assessment - Stage Two](#). If you are unsure, please consult with the Information Management Officer before proceeding.