

REPORT TO: School Forum

DATE: 10th October 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Education, Inclusion and Provision

SUBJECT: Special Educational Needs Review

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide an update to School Forum on the review of Special Educational Needs

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

- 2.1 School Forum note the report; and**
- 2.2 Seek a progress report at the next meeting.**

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 At the School Forum meeting in 22nd June 2016 it was agreed that a review of provision and funding for special educational needs and disability could be undertaken in Halton.

3.2 Two meetings of the review group have now taken place; one was held on 17th July 2016 and the second on 21st September 2016. The membership of the group includes:

- Ann McIntyre – Operational Director – Education, Inclusion & Provision - Chair
- Maraide Hurst – Warrington Road Nursery
- Sara Ainsworth - Brookfields
- Lesley Feakes - Simms Cross Primary
- Jeanette Vincent – The Grange School
- Nigel Hunt – The Bridge
- Jane Baker – Riverside College
- Alison Sutch – Halton NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- Anita Parkinson – Divisional Manager Inclusion
- Paula Edwards – Inclusion
- Eileen O'Brien – Inclusion
- Angela Swift – Impart
- Sam Murtagh – HBC Commissioner
- Simon Bell – HBC Commissioner

➤ Kay Whitelaw and Sheila Hudson - School Nursing Representatives

3.3 The meeting agreed that we should strive for a “well-planned range of provision from birth to adulthood that meets the needs of children and young people with SEND and their families and improves their outcomes” and that our principle responsibilities should be to:

- Work in partnership to review and identify the most appropriate provision and support for pupils and students with special educational needs and disabilities
- Develop an understanding of current and future needs of children and young people with SEND
- Ensure all pupils and students with special educational needs have access to provision and support that meets their needs
- Ensure available resources are used to maximum effect to drive improved outcomes for children
- Ensure all resources are targeted fairly, consistently and efficiently between across the sector
- Review all specialist provision within the borough
- Review out of borough specialist provision
- Ensure new requirements will be funded from within existing resources – through re-cycling resources and priorities
- Ensure the formula will seek to allow for the increase in opportunities for pupils to access learning and social opportunities through the use of dual placements
- Seek to secure value for money
- Develop the capacity of mainstream schools through the training of mainstream staff to support inclusion.
- Develop proposal for consultation with all key stakeholders and partners.

- 3.4 In the first two meetings the focus has been on detailing the current provision from early years through to post-16. The meetings have considered the revised Child Development Centre process named "Support Children with Additional Health Needs via a Co-ordinated approach", the take up and funding of 2 years old, the criteria and levels of funding distributed for enhanced provision both in the early years and mainstream schools, the pattern of specialist provision in the borough including resource base and special school, as well as the provision and funding for post-16 provision. The meeting have also considered the approach and funding of early intervention in other neighbouring local authority areas.
- 3.5 The next meeting will consider the costs of children and young people placed in independent provision and those in provision in other Local Authorities. The meeting will focus on revising the approach to the allocation and monitoring of funding enhanced provision/early intervention.