

REPORT TO: Children Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 27 January 2020

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Children, Education & Social Care

SUBJECT: High Needs Review

WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report will be delivered in the form of a presentation on the progress to date in reviewing, revising and redesigning High Needs processes and provision in Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- i) Members of the Board consider the outcome of the review and request an update on the progress of the review at the next meeting.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In November prior to the main Board meeting members were invited to a briefing on the progress to date in the review and redesign of High Needs assessment and provision. This information was presented in the form of both a verbal report and written summary.

3.2 This presentation will summarise the progress to date including the developments since the November 2019 briefing.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

Developing more inclusive local provision that meet the needs of children and young with SEND in Halton allows pupils to be educated within their

own community alongside their peer groups.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

None.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Current provision does not meet the needs of children and young people in the Borough. High numbers of children are being educated in independent provision with many pupils having to travel outside the borough to access provision. This is not in their best interest and is not sustainable.

7.2 Ensuring mainstream schools are more inclusive will reduce the demand on specialist settings and out of borough provision. Remodelling specialist provision so that it better meets local need and special schools provide places for only the most complex children and young people with SEND, reducing the level of placements in independent provision.

7.3 The newly established Placement Division will visit all independent settings checking on the quality of provision, outcomes for the children and young people and attendance. They will also review the price ensuring each placement represents good value for money.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 The aim of the review is to better understand the SEND population so that we can improve the quality of SEND provision within the borough, the outcomes of children and young people with SEND and encourage all our schools to become more inclusive.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
LA Summary of High Needs Review	Rutland House	Ann McIntyre – Operational Director – Ann McIntyre – Operational Director- Education, Inclusion and Provision & Operational Director - Resources
School Forum High Needs Report – 16 th January 2019	Halton website	Ann McIntyre – Operational Director – Education Inclusion and Provision & Operational Director Resources