

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting24th June 2021

1. Title of Item/Report

Stockton-on-Tees Local Area SEND Strategy 2021-23

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet approval was sought for the proposed Stockton-on-Tees Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) strategy for children and young people aged 0-25 and their families.

The proposed strategy had been developed jointly by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group and parents/carers of children and young people with SEND represented by the Stockton Parent Carer Forum. The strategy outlined the local area's commitment to driving developments across our system and the services within it so that collectively we support children and young people with SEND to achieve the best possible outcomes and to become successful and happy adults.

The strategy was the culmination of the transformation and improvement journey so far, building upon the learning from the local area inspection in 2019, and brought together our previous strategic implementation plan and action plans into a single, shared and long-term vision.

The strategy was informed by the self-evaluation, the SEND Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health Needs Assessment, and ongoing consultation, engagement and coproduction work with the families of children and young people with SEND. It had been endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 19 May 2021.

It's six key priorities were:

- Working in partnership with families;
- Understanding the needs and strengths of children, young people and their families;
- Developing a system which meets children, young people and family's needs and is accountable for improving outcomes;
- Ensuring that most children and young peoples' needs can be met in local, inclusive mainstream schools;

- Developing and maintaining a range of local, high quality specialist provision for those who need it;
- Ensuring children and young people achieve their potential and ambitions, and live as independently as possible.

RESOLVED that :-

1.Cabinet endorse the proposed Stockton-on-Tees Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy 2021-23 and its six key priorities;

2. Cabinet note that an accompanying action plan will be developed to ensure accountability for key partnership actions and continuous improvement.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The SEND strategy supports the key priority of making the Borough a place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm. It is specifically focused on the priority to:

Help schools to improve pupil wellbeing, reduce exclusions, improve careers advice and to continue the drive to improve educational attainment for all pupils, including those with additional needs, recognising the disruption caused by COVID-19 and the 'catch up' support required

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Cllr Nigel Cooke declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he was an employee of TEWV who had been involved in the preparation of the strategy.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight - Friday 2nd July 2021

Proper Officer
28 June 2021