

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting17th March 2022

1. Title of Item/Report

Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) Strategy -
Progress and
next steps for 2022/23

2. Record of the Decision

The Children and Families Act 2014 introduced significant changes to the systems and approaches for children and young people aged 0-25 with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). In 2016 an inspection framework was introduced to assess the effectiveness of local areas in fulfilling their statutory duties and in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND.

A new SEND strategy was developed by health, education and social care partners in 2021 and reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board in May 2021.

Cabinet received a report which provided an overview of the six strategic priorities, an update on progress against them and set out the next steps to be taken.

The latter included the following actions for 2022/23:-

- A focused piece of work involving all partners had begun to look at 'Getting out and about'. What this means in Stockton Borough and how we all can contribute to promoting as close to independent travel as possible leading to opportunities in adult life;
- Finalise and launch the coproduced Local Area Preparation for adulthood (PfA) guide through a series of events with all stakeholders.
- The continuity of support across the 0-25 age range for those with complex needs/disabilities is an area of continual change. The Local Area has agreed to focus on this over the next 12 months to enable voices of those that experience the support to influence the future development required.

- A renewed national focus and additional funding for development of additional supported internships was announced in January 2022. This work will be actioned during this year.

- Take a multi-agency approach to meet the needs identified through recent consultation processes.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

1. Note progress to date in delivering against the 6 strategic outcome areas in the SEND strategy.

2. Endorse the outline action plan for 2022/23.

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. The strategy provides the strategic direction for our activity as a local area, and Cabinet is asked to endorse the action plan for 2022/23 to ensure a continued focus on these areas.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

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

Midnight - Friday 25th March 2022.

Proper Officer
21 March 2022