



Report to Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Report of: Dawn Walton, Director of Commissioning, Inclusion & Learning

Subject: SEND & Inclusion Strategy

Author of Report: Tim Armstrong, Head of SEN

Summary:

To provide scrutiny committee an update on the development of the Sheffield SEND & Inclusion Strategy including an update on the progress being made to date on Sheffield's response to the local area SEND inspection conducted in November 2018.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	X
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

consider the proposals and provide' views, comments and recommendations

Background Papers:

List any background documents (e.g. research studies, reports) used to write the report. Remember that by listing documents people could request a copy.

Category of Report: OPEN

Report of the Director of Commissioning, Inclusion & Learning – Development of a citywide SEND & Inclusion Strategy

1. Introduction

To provide scrutiny committee an update on the development of the Sheffield SEND & Inclusion Strategy including an update on the progress being made to date on Sheffield's response to the local area SEND inspection conducted in November 2018.

2. Main body of report, matters for consideration, etc

Why have a SEND and Inclusion Strategy?

An area of significant weakness identified in the local area SEND inspection was the lack of a co-produced, coherent vision and strategy for SEND in Sheffield. This work will ensure that we address this area of significant weakness in line with the required response to the inspection recorded in the written statement of action.

In addition it is right that we have a clear vision and direction for how we will work to identify, assess and meet the needs of children and young people with SEND in the city that is co-produced and jointly owned by all key partners. The strategy will set a clear vision and priorities for the next 5 years.

Where are we up to with its development?

We aim to co-produce a strategy that captures the priorities for children and young people with SEND and their families. OFSTED define co-production as a way of working where children, young people, families and those that provide the services work together to create a decision or service which works for all.

To date we have a wide range of views and information about SEND and Inclusion in the city and how they are being met across Education, Health and Care services. These are all being collated and analysed in order to inform our strategy development.

A core group has been established to drive forward the development of the strategy, meeting on a weekly basis. This includes representatives from Sheffield City Council (SCC), Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG) and Sheffield Parent Carer Forum (SPCF). Invites have also been sent to groups representing and supporting young people.

What is the approach to the development of the strategy?

1. Stage 1 – Consultation

We want a full range of voices to feed into the development of our priorities for the strategy. We have already captured a lot of feedback from various events and conferences. We have collated what we know and are focussing on gathering the voice of those which are not yet captured.

There are four key stakeholders we are consulting with:

- Young People

We already have information from young people consultation work that has been carried out in some schools. We have been working with partners such as Healthwatch and Sheffield Futures to inform and carry out consultation over the summer. We have created a questionnaire for young people to complete which will be open until 22nd September.

- Parents, Carers and families

We have a lot of information already from previous consultations with parents and carers. In particular we have the Sheffield parent carer forum ‘State of Sheffield’ survey. We have attended events over the summer including the Sheffield parent carer forum summer event to gather feedback based on questions around aspirations, what people want for Sheffield young people with SEND and the little changes that will make a big difference. We have also created a further questionnaire to gather this feedback which to date has been completed over 200 times. This will be open until 22nd September. Information about this has been pushed out on social media and to parent groups in the city.

- Frontline staff

We will carry this piece of consultation out internally over the summer, finishing mid-September. This piece of consultation will focus on ‘what is working well?’, ‘what do we need to change?’ and ‘what would make work with young people better?’ Focus groups will be conducted with a range of teams and services from across education, health and care, including staff in schools.

- Leaders

We have completed significant consultation with leaders already. Briefings with school leaders were carried out in June 2019; Lots of consultation with leaders took place when developing the written statement of action – including with the Inclusion and SEND Improvement Board and Health and Wellbeing Board. Members of the Inclusion improvement board have been asked to complete the same questionnaire as parents on behalf of their organisation.

2. Stage 2 – Co-production

The information we already have, as well as from the consultation over the summer, along with feedback given to other organisations will be collated and analysed.

This will then be used to inform the development of strategic priorities and our overarching vision.

This development will take place through a co-production session – to include young people with SEND, parents/carers, frontline professionals and leaders. We are commissioning someone with experience of co-production and strategic development to lead this session. This will take place in late September/early October 2019.

3. Stage 3 – Drafting and agreeing the strategy

The co-production session will be the start of drafting the strategy. This will then be drafted by the core strategy development group that includes SCC, SCCG and SPCF as well as representatives to support the young person voice.

Following approval by the Inclusion improvement board, the draft strategy will be consulted on across the city – with a consultation period lasting no less than four weeks. Feedback will be used to inform the content of the final strategy. This consultation will be shared widely using social media and parent/young people groups as well as discussion at appropriate oversight boards.

Following consultation and further drafting, the strategy will be agreed by all appropriate groups, with an expectation of finalisation at SCC cabinet and SCCG governing body in February 2020.

Timeline for conclusion of the work

The timeline for the strategy development is as follows:

- Until 22nd September 2019 – gathering of information and consultation
- Late September / Early October 2019 – co-production of content
- November 2019 – Consultation on first draft
- December 2019 to February 2020 – update to strategy and formalisation through governance systems, including CCG governance and SCC cabinet

Update on progress of the written statement of action

The written statement of action (WSOA) was published following approval by OFSTED and the CQC in May 2019. Progress is monitored by the Inclusion improvement board on a monthly basis through a highlight report. Sheffield will be supported by the Department for Education and NHS England through 4 monitoring visits prior to inspectors returning in or around October 2020. The first of these monitoring visits is in late September 2019 and will be held with the Inclusion improvement board.

Substantial progress to date has been made on the 89 actions in the WSOA. All actions have clearly defined start and end dates. As of the end of August 5 actions have been completed and 20 actions are not yet scheduled to start. All open actions are RAG rated on a monthly basis and progressed through an extensive programme or improvement work across the city.

The WSOA can be viewed at:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare/send-inspection>

3 What does this mean for the young people of Sheffield?

Sheffield will have a co-produced and citywide SEND & Inclusion Strategy that clearly states work that will be completed over the next 5 years to improve identification, assessment and meeting needs for children and young people with SEND and ensures that there is a clear focus on improving outcomes as

they move to adult life. This will ensure that needs are met across Education, Health and Care.

4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to consider the proposals and provide views and comments

This page is intentionally left blank