



## CHILDREN AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE 26 NOVEMBER 2019

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	OFSTED Progress report on SEND
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<b>Policy context:</b>	The council has statutory responsibilities to deliver support to Children and young people with SEND
<b>Financial summary:</b>	No financial decisions/implications included in this update report.

### The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

### SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the actions required following the Ofsted/Care Quality Commission inspection of SEND of the local area, in March 2018.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to note the progress made to implement the detailed SEND action plan following the CQC/Ofsted inspection of March 2018

## REPORT DETAIL

A report of the Local Area Inspection of support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) was published on 23rd July 2018. The report followed inspection by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in March 2018. The inspection assessed how well we identify, meet the needs, and improve outcomes for children with SEND.

Following the inspection a detailed action plan was produced and has been monitored by the SEND Executive Board, comprising of partners, parent representatives, schools in addition to local health and local council representation. A SEND Strategy was signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2018 and an update was provided to a meeting of the OSSC in November 2019. This incorporated all of the priorities not only from inspection but also areas of improvement already identified by LB Havering and its partners.

In summary, our headline priorities, areas for improvement and progress on implementation are as follows:

- Task the SEND Executive Board (referred to above) to manage and monitor implementation of SEND reforms, putting children and young people at the centre of planning and to develop “co-production”. This Board is fully operational, including parents and partners on the board and all are engaged.
- Implement Havering’s High Needs strategy. This strategy was approved in 2017, runs to 2022 and was subject to a two year review earlier this year. The review involved consultation with all partners including schools, early year’s providers, parents and carers. The outcome of the review was that the local priorities remain similar and progress is being made. The main theme of the Strategy remains to ensure Havering has quality and inclusive education for our children with SEND. The provision should be local and reduce the need for children to travel out of Borough to school.
- The strategy guides our development of new provision - plans to build a new £8.5 million free school for children with SEND have been approved by the Dept for Education and the local authority. The school is planned for the St Edward’s Church of England Academy site in London Road, Romford, and will cater for 60 children aged three to 16 years. The purpose-built school will be run by Unity Schools Partnership Trust, which currently runs St Edward’s. The

school will support children and young people with an EHCP, who have Autism and or Social Emotional and Mental Health issues with complex behaviour.

- The strategy indicates the need to deliver a programme of new provision to see a better distribution across the borough and throughout both primary and secondary schools. Progress has been made in this area with 1 new ARP opening in May 2019 at Mead School and building works commencing on a second at Nelves Primary School. Further to this the Council's cabinet (September 2019) approved expansion for nursery, primary, secondary and special school places for SEND children and young people, as follows:
  - 20 place nursery provision at Forest Approach Academy for 2, 3 and 4 year old pupils with SEND
  - One Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) for primary children with Communication and Interaction Needs with 12 places.
  - One Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) for primary children with SEMH (Social, Emotional, Mental and Health) needs with 12 places.
  - An ARP for 12 places (4-11) for pupils with ASD/SEMH on Beam Park School for 2021/22
  - An ARP for 18 places – 6 places (2-4) and 12 places (4-11) for pupils with ASD and SEMH for 2023/24 as part of the Bridge Close development
  - Agree to establish two ARPs containing 20 places each in secondary schools to meet the needs of secondary pupils with Communication and Interaction (mainly ASD) and SEMH needs. One to be delivered in 2020/21 and one to be delivered in 2021/22
  - Agree to expand Corbets Tey School from 155 to 170 places for 2021/22
  - New special free school (3-16) with 60 places for ASD and SEMH in 2022/23
  - Agree for the authority to submit bids for a new special school when the DfE announces another Wave of special (SEND) and alternative provision (AP) free school applications round.
- Local Offer – to continue to develop, maintain and keep the local offer up to date, including children, young people and their families to ensure it is responsive to their needs. This work is in progress and the offer is reviewed regularly.
- EHC Hub - establish the EHC hub, which is an interactive web-based platform to make our EHC assessment and planning process more efficient and transparent, supporting inclusion of all partners including children/young people and parents. The hub is now implemented and being used by parents and carers for new EHC plans from September 2019.
- Review of EHC planning and processes, to improve the quality of Education, Health and Care needs assessments and plans, ensuring that they paint an

accurate picture and are produced in a timely way to ensure need is met at the earliest opportunity. The borough now has approximately 1,600 children with EHC plans, up from 800 former statements of SEN in 2014. New EHC plans are up from 133 in 2016 to 195 in 2018. At January 2019 (the latest published data) 70% of EHCPs in the borough meet statutory timescales, compared with 58% across London boroughs. Quality of EHCPs is still variable and work is underway to establish a quality assurance process.

- Jointly Commissioned Services – develop a single joint commissioning process which will inform the commissioning of services for those children and young people with SEND. This work is maturing; a complex needs panel was established early in 2019 to ensure children with the most complex health and educational needs are considered earlier in the process. The revised panel incorporates budget-holders and commissioners as part of the panel, generates creative solutions to meet the needs, in borough, of the majority of our children and young people and has led to more consistent and transparent decision-making.
- We have progressed ‘co-production’ at a strategic level by continuing to work with parents and partners to determine the future commissioning of short breaks and Transport provision. A series of workshops and events have been held with parents and carers, to develop an outcome-focused joint commissioning model and framework for Short Breaks focused on young people with complex and multiple needs.
- Improve transition into adulthood - Provide a timely and joined up transition to ensure that young people with SEND (age 13 up to age 25) and their parents/carers have a smooth and positive experience of transition. Corbets Tey at The Avelon now deliver post-16 provision (and Routes4Life for post 19 year olds) courses for 19-25 year olds focused on year-long preparation for adulthood pathways. We have undertaken a review of supported internships across the borough and established three training programmes for staff (from schools, colleges and LA) to develop skills, knowledge and confidence in delivering employment opportunities for young people with SEND.
- Improve the Social Care offer – work is underway to develop a 6 bed residential facility to provide long term and short break support for children in Havering. This will mean that children needing to access overnight short breaks can do so locally and should the need arise for longer periods of accommodation again this will be able to be delivered in Havering, meaning greater continuity of support as children can remain in their local school.

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

### **Financial implications and risks:**

There are no financial decisions/implications included in this update report.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

There are no apparent legal implications in noting the progress in implementing the SEND action plan.

However, as stated, action appears necessary to ensure that EHC Plans are finalised within statutory timescales and that the local offer is updated for publication as required by legislation.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

There are no direct HR implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

Note here the equalities and social implications of, and risks relating to, the proposed decision.

An Equalities Assessment (EA) will normally be required. Where the EA suggests that there is a significant impact upon ANY of the “protected characteristics”, the EA must be an appendix to the report. In all other cases, the EA must be treated as a background paper.

If it is considered that an EA is not necessary, the reason for that MUST be stated here.

If in doubt, please seek advice from the Council's Diversity Programme Team or Committee Administration.