

Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting to be held on 17 July 2018

Lancashire Local Area Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) Inspection

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

Lancashire local area SEND services were inspected by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in November 2017 to judge how effectively the special educational needs and disability (SEND) reforms had been implemented, as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014. The inspection identified areas of significant concern and required a written statement of action be developed to address these.

The Lancashire SEND Partnership has produced a written statement of action and this has been accepted and signed off by Ofsted and CQC. Actions have been organised into working groups and delivery has commenced. Activity on these actions is monitored by the Department for Education (DfE) and NHS England. An initial monitoring visit has been held and feedback received has been positive.

As part of this work a series of parent/carers engagement events are taking place across the county. To date 170 number of parents have engaged.

Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- (i) Note the detail of the written statement of action.
- (ii) Note the progress of delivery on the written statement of action.
- (iii) Receive an update to the next Board meeting.

Background

Lancashire local area SEND services were inspected by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in November 2017 to judge how effectively the special educational needs and disability (SEND) reforms had been implemented, as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014. The inspection identified areas of significant concern and required a written statement of action be developed to address these.

The Lancashire SEND Partnership Board is responsible for ensuring the delivery of the written statement of action. The Chair of the Partnership Board is John Readman, Executive Director for Children's Services and the Deputy Chair is Mark Youlton, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Chief Officer with responsibility for SEND. Mark Youlton and John Readman are the accountable officers for the SEND Partnership Board and both will

report directly into the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board in their capacity as Deputy Chair and Board member respectively.

To date the Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board has received a report detailing the findings of the Ofsted report on 25 January 2018 and an update from John Readman on 20 March 2018. This is the first formal report to the Board of activity undertaken following the Ofsted inspection findings.

SEND is a top priority within the local authority and Lancashire County Council's Scrutiny Committee has been reviewing progress on improvement activity at the following meetings; 31 January 2018, 11 April 2018 and 4 July 2018.

Progress

The written statement of action (attached at Appendix 'A') was approved by Ofsted and CQC on 2 May 2018. The Department of Education and NHS England will monitor progress against the written statement of action until the end of March 2019. The first monitoring visit took place on 20 April 2018 and feedback received was positive. The next monitoring visit will be held on the 25 July 2018.

The County Council and the six CCG's have already invested resources to support the immediate improvement requirements; this includes recruiting a Joint Commissioner for Health pan-Lancashire, a SEND Improvement Partner and programme team, a SEND ICT Implementation team and the Commissioning Support Unit performance team from Health. Additional funding has also been provided to recruit Designated Clinical Officers, specialist teachers and to support the Lancashire Parent Carer Forum.

A SEND Partnership Board is in place, with five thematic working groups established to implement the written statement of action through more detailed action plans:

- Strategy
- Commissioning and access to provision
- Engagement
- Identifying and meeting need
- Improving outcomes

The Board includes representation from parents/carers, young people and professionals from health, education and SEND services and aims to ensure wider engagement is also taking place. Meetings have been held with leaders from all education sectors and health provider forums.

Key achievements of the working groups to date include:

- Formation of task and finish groups for all the main projects
- Workshop undertaken with key stakeholders around a Lancashire wide neuro-developmental pathway with a view to developing a single pathway Pan-Lancashire
- Appointment of a Director for Joint Commissioning for Health across Pan-Lancashire
- Appointment of three Designated Clinical Officers
- Project Lead staff in place (LCC) and Senior Manager (Health)
- Initial JSNA scoping events held for Health and the local authority to inform the SEND JSNA
- Launched a series of engagement events called 'Your Child, Your Voice' across Lancashire with a focus on building coproduction with parents/carers and families

- 96% of all parent/carers engaged in 'Your Child, Your Voice' reported that they 'felt their views were valued'
- 69% of all parent/carers engaged in 'Your Child, Your Voice' reported feeling 'more involved in shaping the future of SEND Services'
- POET survey completed and report published on Local Offer [Click here](#)
- Developing a branding for the Lancashire SEND Partnership
- Developing a “model” for a local Area Hub x 3 to support communication across Lancashire

The importance of ensuring parents/carers and young people are at the heart of SEND services was identified as a key area for improvement and the Engagement working group has begun to address this issue. The SEND Partnership team are delivering a series of parent/carer engagement events across the county. These events are providing an opportunity to hear families' experiences of SEND services, identify priority areas to be fixed and determine preferred methods for future communication and engagement. Fifteen events have been planned and to date 110 parents/carers have attended with a further 60 expected. During these events the following was asked of our parents/carers and families:

- Their experiences and feelings of the SEND services
- Their top five areas which they would like to see fixed
- How did they define great communication

Once the events are concluded during the summer break the SEND Partnership team will be focussing on the following:

- Creating a summary report with a view to sharing the findings across the Partnership and parents/carers, CYP and families
- Planning our autumn programme with the Partnership on a range of events, which will include the following:
 - 'Your Child, Your Voice' Phase 2 with an emphasis on reaching a wider audience
 - CYP engagement with POWAR to strengthen their voice
 - Practitioners to embed SEND improvements across all services

An open feedback survey and an instant feedback option as part of the Local Offer have been provided, in addition to the Annual Survey for parents/carers, CYP and practitioners which has received over a thousand responses to date.

The SEND Partnership is supporting the formation of a Lancashire Parent/Carer Forum. Potential members of this group have been regularly attending engagement events.

The SEND Partnership is working with POWAR young people's group to identify their views. Further engagement events will be planned during the autumn term to gain feedback.

List of background papers

N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A