

## **Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board**

Meeting to be held on 23 July 2019

### **Lancashire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Partnership – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Plan (Updated Written Statement of Action)**

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refers)

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#### **Executive Summary**

Lancashire local area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 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 two fundamental failings and twelve areas of significant concern.

Partners in Lancashire were required to produce a Written Statement of Action, setting out the immediate priorities for action. Progress on the implementation of these actions has been monitored by the Department for Education (DfE) and NHS England. Formal review visits by the DfE and NHS England have taken place since April 2018 to consider the progress being made in line with the Written Statement of Action. The Written Statement of Action has been updated and any ongoing actions included in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Improvement Plan for the period April 2019 to December 2020.

#### **Recommendations**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- (i) Receive and consider the SEND Improvement Plan attached at Appendix A, noting that this will continue to drive forward improvement over the next two years;
- (ii) Consider the first assessment of progress attached at Appendix B on the newly implemented plan and expect to receive regular updates at future meetings.

## **1. Background**

1.1 The Lancashire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board is responsible for ensuring the delivery of the Written Statement of Action and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Improvement Plan and for reporting on progress bi-monthly to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Edwina Grant OBE, Executive Director for Education and Children's Services and Dr Julie Higgins, Clinical Commissioning Group Chief Officer are the accountable officers for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board respectively.

1.2 The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board agreed a vision and strategy in November 2018 following consultation throughout 2018 and in response to the Ofsted inspection findings.

1.3 The draft Improvement Plan was considered by the partnership stakeholders between 29 January and 22 February, following which a revised plan was presented to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board for approval at their meeting on 1 April 2019.

## **2. Planning for improvement from 2019 to 2020**

2.1 The Plan includes a description of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership governance arrangements and a brief summary of progress on the implementation of the Written Statement of Action. It is set out in four priority areas i.e. Meeting Need; Equal Partners; Accessible Services; Achieving Success, with clear actions and sub-actions and key performance indicators for each priority.

2.2 Each of the priority areas is led by a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board Member, as indicated in the Plan, with progress monitored monthly.

2.3 Work to implement the Written Statement of Action and the Plan has been taking place, to ensure continued improvement. The attached plan includes a progress assessment, using a Red, Amber, Green rating, which has the addition of actions completed or not yet started. This was completed on 25 June 2019.

2.4 The following action has been completed since the last report to the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- ✓ Developed local resource maps to signpost specialist support and advice
- ✓ Trained health provider Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Champions
- ✓ Co-produced clear and transparent information about a graduated response
- ✓ Completed a multi-agency audit of Education, Health and Care Plans and reported the outcomes to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board
- ✓ Summarised the outcomes of the Personal Online Evaluation Tool and reported these to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board
- ✓ Reviewed the approach to and operation of support and alternative provision in both the primary and secondary sectors
- ✓ Implemented a strategy to develop a more sustainable model for independent living for young people.

## **3. Re- Inspection of the local area**

3.1 Preparation for the forthcoming inspection re-visit to the Lancashire local area has also been taking place; the visit will assess the progress made in addressing the 12 areas of significant weakness detailed in the original report.

3.2 The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Partnership Board considered the necessary preparation for inspection at their meeting on 1 April 2019.

3.3 A summary of progress against the initial Ofsted findings and recommendations is being prepared and will be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board at the next meeting.