

## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Scrutiny Task Group

The process for establishing a task and finish group is:

1. The Scrutiny Board identifies a potential topic for a task and finish group
2. The Scrutiny Board Chairman and the Scrutiny Officer complete the scoping template.
3. The Council Overview and Scrutiny Board reviews the scoping document
4. The Scrutiny Board agrees membership of the task and finish group.

<b>Review Topic:</b> Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy
<b>Select Committee:</b> Education and Skills Board, Resident Experience Board & Social Care Services Board
<b>Relevant background</b>  <i>Detail the background to the issue, and consider some of the following questions: What is the service we are providing? What is the Council responsible for? What is the legislative framework?</i>  The SEND Partnership Board published their SEND Development Plan in Spring 2016, setting out their aims and ambitions for transforming the statutory provision and offer for children and young people with SEND in Surrey by 2020.  SEND spans a wide range of services within Surrey County Council and as a result would benefit from additional coordination across the scrutiny boards.  Four scrutiny boards have elements of SEND services within their remits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education and Skills Board</li><li>• Social Care Services Board</li><li>• Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Board</li><li>• Resident Experience Board</li></ul> All four have undertaken scrutiny of specific elements related to SEND services (a summary of work to date is provided in <b>Annex A</b> ).  It is proposed that a sub-group is established to undertake a programme of scrutiny of the Development Plan. A joint approach for 2016/17 would have the benefit of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• improved oversight and assurance on the progress of the SEND Development Plan;</li><li>• a greater emphasis on how the Development Plan will support children, young people and their families, rather than how isolated elements work; and</li><li>• reduced risk of duplication in reporting to Scrutiny and added value from multiple perspectives.</li></ul>
<b>Why this is a scrutiny item</b>  <i>Why look at this issue now? What has changed that needs investigating? (e.g. the budget is overspent or a KPI is failing).</i>  The total budget for SEND services to children and young people aged 0-25 in 2016/17 is £237m <sup>1</sup> and although there are planned savings for SEND in the Medium Term Financial Plan, SEND will remain a significant expenditure for Children, Schools and Families for some time to come.

<sup>1</sup> Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Development Plan 2016-2020, (page 14), Surrey County Council, published Spring 2016

## Annex 2

Surrey's SEND services are under significant pressure and in high demand due to an underlying increase the population, an increase in the number of statements and education, health and care plans (EHCPs) and legislation changes around requirements for SEND services.

The SEND Development Plan aims to transform and rebuild the SEND local offer around the customer. The Plan also outlines a timeline of objectives and targets required to complete the transformation process.

### **What question is the task group aiming to answer?**

*What is the basic question that the task group is trying to answer? It will be a 'what' or 'how' question, not 'why'.*

How has the SEND Development Plan been successful to date in delivering the key objectives and targets within the SEND Development Plan, and is the SEND Development Plan on course to successfully transform the SEND offer in Surrey?

### **Aim**

*Detail the change (outcome) across Surrey that the task and finish group aims to deliver.*

To provide Member-led support to the SEND Development Plan to help achieve the target transformation of the SEND services in Surrey.

### **Objectives**

*Break the aim of the project out into specific objectives (Specific, Measurable, Attributable, Realistic and Timely), e.g. to reduce the average cost of services provided to the elderly by £xx by April 2008.*

The objective of this work would be:

- to gain an overview of the achievement to date against the four strategic goals set out within the SEND Development Plan:
  1. Transform the customer experience
  2. Re-build the system around the customer
  3. Reshape the SEND local offer
  4. Develop inclusive practice
- to consult key SEND partners and stakeholders on progress made and gain assurances in this regard.
- to set the foundations for a further piece of work on young people with SEND, their families, and their experiences with Surrey's SEND services.
- to reduce a duplication of work amongst the scrutiny boards, and to increase coordination to effectively scrutinise the SEND strategy from 2016-2020.

### **Scope (within / out of)**

*For clarity also define work that is out of scope, e.g. the review is to cover all SCC owned Property, but will exclude schools property.*

#### **In scope**

- SEND Development Plan

#### **Out of scope**

- Scrutiny of individual and specific service changes

## Annex 2

### Outcomes for Surrey / Benefits

*Which corporate priority will this review support or deliver? Which failing KPI's will this review look to address?*

Surrey County Council's Corporate Strategy sets out strategic goals to improve resident wellbeing, experience and the county's economic prosperity. This task group would support the delivery of two corporate goals:

1. Improve outcomes for children in need of support and protection (Wellbeing)
2. Support young people to participate in education, training or employment (Economic Prosperity)
3. Enhance opportunities for residents to influence and shape council services (Resident Experience)
4. Improve the satisfaction of families of children with special educational needs and disabilities with the support they receive. (Resident Experience)

At the end of the initial work plan (September 2016 - March 2017) the Group will report a summary of findings to the Council Overview Board, including a new work plan covering the next stage in the SEND Development Plan, to be commenced in the new Council year.

### Proposed work plan

*It is important to clearly allocate who is responsible for the work, to ensure that Members and officers can plan the resources needed to support the task group.*

Timescale	Task	Responsible
October 2016	<b>Session 1</b> To discuss and evaluate progress made against the following development objectives within the SEND Development Plan: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transform the customer experience</li> <li>2. Re-build the system around the customer</li> </ol>	Andy Spragg Dominic Mackie Liz Mills Gabrielle Close <i>Others</i>
December 2016	<b>Session 2</b> To discuss and evaluate progress made against the remaining development objectives within the SEND Development Plan: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Reshape the SEND local offer</li> <li>4. Develop inclusive practice</li> </ol>	Andy Spragg Dominic Mackie Liz Mills Gabrielle Close <i>Others</i>
February 2016	<b>Session 3</b> Plenary session to draw together the findings from Sessions 1&2 and prepare the report for Council Overview Board.	Andy Spragg Dominic Mackie Liz Mills Gabrielle Close <i>Others</i>

## Annex 2

<p><b>Possible witnesses</b></p> <p>The Task Group is mindful that a robust assessment and appeal process exists around decisions relating to individual SEND provision, based on the opinion of social care, health and education professionals. It also recognises the decisions taken have a real impact on the lives of children and families,</p> <p>In order to facilitate positive, outcome-focussed discussions, care will be taken to ensure that the Task Group's work remains centred on the development and delivery of the SEND strategy, and the experience of children and their families in that respect - rather than examining individual decisions.</p> <p>Possible witness groups include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children and young people with SEND</li><li>• Parents</li><li>• Family Voice</li><li>• Cabinet Members</li><li>• Senior Management Officers</li><li>• Service Commissioners</li><li>• Transport providers</li><li>• Teachers</li><li>• Schools/Schools Forum/Phase Councils</li><li>• Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services</li><li>• SEND Partnership Board</li></ul>
<p><b>Useful Documents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SEND Development Plan</li></ul>
<p><b>Potential barriers to success (Risks / Dependencies)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information availability</li><li>• Officer time</li></ul>
<p><b>Equalities implications</b></p> <p>Equalities implications will be considered as the strategies are developed to ensure it does not negatively impact on any protected group.</p>

<p><b>Task Group Members</b></p> <p>It is proposed that the membership of this task group will be formed from Members of the Education &amp; Skills, Social Care Services, Resident Experience and Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Boards.</p>	
<b>Co-opted Members</b>	TBC
<b>Spokesman for the Group</b>	TBC
<b>Scrutiny Officer/s</b>	Andrew Spragg & Dominic Mackie

### SEND Scrutiny

#### Education and Skills Board

March 2016

- SEND 2020 Development Plan - the Board reviewed the development of the SEND 2020 development plan, and the new Ofsted inspection framework for SEND (taking effect in May 2016)
- SEND Transport - the Board reviewed the new two SEND policies for pre and post-16 transport that were out for consultation earlier this year.
- SEND Finances - Finance Officers gave the Board an overview of the spending and future pressures for SEND.

April 2016

- SEND Transport - the Board received a paper on the results of the SEND Transport consultation. Concerns were raised about the effectiveness of the consultation due to a very low response rate. From this discussion a second paper on SEND Transport was requested. Further clarification on SEND Transport spending was asked for in a future paper

June 2016

- SEND Contract Procurement - this paper will be the follow up report from the April meeting. Officers will provide further detail on how SEND Transport contracts are tendered; the differences in contract type; and processes around Transport contract procurement and pricing.

September 2016

- Officers are aiming to write and publish a Parent Guide for SEND Transport in collaboration with parents and transport customers. The Board plan to review the Guide and the consultation around the document.

November 2016

- The Board are planning to request another paper on SEND engagement with customers at their November meeting.

2017

- It is planned to request a paper reviewing the successes achieved in relation to targets set by Officers in the SEND 2020 Development Plan for the first meeting of 2017

#### Social Care Services Board

March 2016

- Children's Improvement Plan - the Board queried whether capacity building was underway to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND

May 2016

- This meeting will have two reports that link to the topic of SEND, covering the work of the Transition Team and the Learning Disabilities Commissioning Strategy respectively.

#### Resident Experience Board

Discussing the timing of reviewing the SEND services Customer Service Excellence journey.

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