

Monday, 12 June 2023

## **INCLUSION AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2023-26**

Purpose of report:

To provide an update on progress finalising and then implementing the Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy 2023-26, and the recommendations agreed by the Committee in December 2022.

### **Introduction:**

1. This report provides a further update on the December 2022 Committee recommendations and the status of the work to implement the Surrey Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy 2023-26.

### **Update on development and implementation of the strategy**

2. Throughout 2022 a refresh of the Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy was co-produced with partners, as detailed in the December 2022 Select Committee report. The approach was overseen by the Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy steering group; the membership of the group includes key stakeholders from education, health and social care alongside the voluntary sector and representatives of families and children and young people with additional needs and disabilities.
3. In November 2022 the Additional Needs and Disabilities ('AND') Partnership Board agreed that the strategy reflected the Surrey 'SEND' Local Area self evaluation and endorsed the strategic priorities set out in the strategy. Feedback was also provided with some specific points to strengthen or clarify.
4. In December 2022 the CFLLC Select Committee indicated support for the strategy and provided feedback recommending points to strengthen or clarify in the strategy document as well as associated activities to ensure that the strategy is accessible to children and families and has a positive impact.

5. The Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy 2023/26 was updated to incorporate the feedback from both the Partnership Board and the Committee and received a full endorsement from Cabinet on 31 January 2023.
6. Meanwhile, activity has been underway to support the formal adoption and publication of the strategy, and transition to the implementation and monitoring of the strategy.
7. An Easy Read version of the strategy has been developed and published on the Local Offer alongside the full version. The published versions of the Easy Read and full Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy both use the new partnership logo that was co-produced with children and young people. These have been shared with partners and communicated to families, children and young people. Further communications are being planned for the summer and autumn terms.
8. The AND Partnership Board has been planning for the effective implementation and monitoring of the strategy, including a number of co-production sessions with families and partners, and a full partnership workshop at the end of March 2023 to further develop and review the draft key performance measures and Year 1 implementation action plans. These are now being updated so that reporting can begin in the summer term.
9. The Surrey AND Partnership Board will exercise partnership accountability for the delivery of the strategy.

#### **Response to the CFLLC Select Committee recommendations**

10. At Cabinet on 31/01/2023 the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning thanked the Committee for supporting the adoption of the Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy 2023 – 2026. It was noted that the feedback and [recommendations of the Committee](#) have been carefully considered, with updates made to the strategy document to strengthen references where appropriate, and activities included in implementation planning.
11. The Director of Education and Lifelong Learning looks forward to bringing relevant data to CFLLC Select Committee meetings to demonstrate progress and impact, and to share any barriers to making progress with the delivery and impact.
12. In terms of the specific recommendations set out in Recommendation 1 (a-e), responses to these are set out below.
13. **Recommendation 1 (a):** The updates provided to the Select Committee in March 2023 were reflected in the final published versions of the strategy and

this recommendation is now considered to be complete, with ongoing monitoring to be managed through the strategy implementation action plan and key performance indicators.

14. **Recommendation 1 (b):** The updates provided to the Select Committee in March 2023 were reflected in the final published versions of the strategy and this recommendation is now considered to be complete, with ongoing monitoring to be managed through the strategy implementation action plan.
15. **Recommendation 1 (c):** As noted in paragraph 7 of this Select Committee report, the Easy Read version of the strategy has been produced and published, enabling families and children to be able to access this information and understand what it means for them. This recommendation is now considered to be complete.
16. **Recommendation 1 (d):** The clarification provided to the Select Committee in March 2023 relating to the governance and accountability of the strategy were reflected in the final published versions of the strategy and this recommendation is now considered to be complete. As noted in paragraph 9 of this report, the Surrey AND Partnership Board will exercise partnership accountability for the delivery of the strategy, with ongoing monitoring to be managed through the strategy implementation action plan and key performance indicators.
17. **Recommendation 1 (e):** Facebook live webinars have been rolled out in partnership with Family Voice Surrey to cover the following topics:
  - The role of the SEN Case Officer
  - Education health and care needs assessment process
  - Draft plan
  - Final plan
  - Early Years and Education System ('EYES') demonstration to families
  - Annual and interim review
  - Tribunals
  - Ordinarily Available Provision
  - Personal Budgets and Direct Payments
  - Transition
  - Annual Review paperwork – changes and reasons
18. In addition to the webinar series, the county-wide SENCo Network has been re-established in partnership with Schools Alliance for Excellence ('SAfE'), who have also been commissioned to develop and deliver a programme of Inclusion and SEN professional development to school staff.
19. Development of a further programme of short videos and webinars is underway and these will be published on the Local Offer website on a rolling basis starting in the summer term.

20. Following the March 2023 Select Committee it has been agreed that the Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership strategy key performance indicators and an update on improvements to Education Health and Care Needs Assessment timeliness will be provided to the Performance Sub Committee on a regular basis. It has also been agreed that an update on Capital investment related to the delivery of the Safety Valve agreement will be considered by the Budget Task Group in the summer.

#### **Conclusions:**

21. The recommendations from the Select Committee have been fully considered and are being implemented. Progress on delivering the recommendations will be brought to future Select Committee meetings, noting that good progress has been made and focus will start to transition to the implementation action plan and key performance indicators.

#### **Recommendations:**

22. It is recommended that the CFLLC Select Committee notes the updates that were made to the Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy 2023/26 and the progress made in addressing the recommendations made by the Committee in December 2022.
23. It is recommended that the CFLLC Select Committee receives a further update on progress and impact in relation to the Select Committee recommendations from December 2022, and that the Performance Sub Committee receives regular updates on the key performance indicators.

#### **Next steps:**

Surrey's Inclusion and Additional Needs Partnership Strategy 2023-26 will continue to be communicated to partners and families, with regular opportunities for co-production and feedback.

Surrey's Additional Needs and Disabilities Partnership will finalise the strategy implementation action plan and key performance indicators so that delivery and monitoring of impact can begin.

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#### **Report contact**

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#### **Contact details**

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**Sources/background papers**

[CFLLC Select Committee recommendations relating to the Inclusion and Additional Needs draft strategy, December 2022](#)

[SCC Cabinet response to the Select Committee recommendations, January 2023](#)

[SCC Cabinet report, January 2023: Surrey Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy](#)

[SCC Cabinet report Appendix 1, January 2023: Surrey Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy](#)

[Surrey Safety Valve Agreement with the DfE](#)

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