

Overview & Scrutiny

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 27th February 2023
Title of report: Hackney SEND Local Area Action Plan 2022-25
Report author: Nick Wilson, Assistant Director High Needs and School Places Joe Wilson, Head of SEND
Authorised by: Paul Senior, Director of Education & Inclusion
Brief: This report is to provide the Commission with the opportunity to review the work of the SEND Local Area Action Plan 2022-25. The Action plan brings together 10 key priority areas for SEND Services in Hackney 2022 -25. This underpins the implementation of the local area SEND Strategy, The SEND Partnership Board has set an ambitious programme to transform the experience of families and the delivery of high-quality services to achieve the best outcomes for our children and young people.

Report to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission

Report title: SEND Local Area Action Plan 2022 - 2025

Meeting date: 27th February 2023

Report originator: Nick Wilson, Assistant Director High Needs and School Places
Joe Wilson, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. This report will provide Councillors with an overview of the SEND Local Area Action Plan 2022-25 the ("Action Plan").
- 1.2. A review of the local area's SEND provision was commissioned in 2022 by the Group Director of Children and Education, to support the process of scrutiny and evaluation of SEND and the current strengths and areas for development since the Local Area SEND inspection in November 2017. The review recognised the progress that had been made and highlighted SEND system current strengths. It also identifies what remains to be done to secure a strong and effective service for children and young people with SEND across education, health and care partners. The report acknowledges the recently published SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper (29th March 2022), aligns what remains to be done with some of the key Green Paper proposals. The review acknowledges *"There is a lot of activity and willingness to improve the situation but there is no overall strategy. There are 'too many spinning plates' without a coherent, RAG rated, costed strategic plan with clear timescales and measures of success". It also recognises the "The progress towards addressing the areas for improvement identified in the SEND area review in 2017, has been too slow"*.
- 1.3. The strategic three year Action Plan contains 10 essential workstreams for SEND and brings a coherent and structured programme approach to the changes required to secure strong and effective services for children and young people across Hackney.
- 1.4. The Action Plan is linked to the SEND Strategy (2022-25) that has previously been shared with the Scrutiny Commission. We want all our children and young people to have access to the right support at the right time from local services and to be able to travel easily to a great inclusive local school, which engages with their neighbourhood parent/carer community. We want all our children and young people to be in schools and to access services which fairly reflect the diversity of the Hackney community.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Commission members are asked to note the contents of this report.

3. Background

- 3.1. In 2022 Hackney launched its SEND Strategy 2022 - 25. The workstreams and outcomes are linked to the underpinning principles of the SEND Strategy:
 - Listening to our children and young people
 - Co-production
 - Outstanding communication

- Transparency
- Multi-agency working
- Data quality
- Excellence and ambition

3.2. The Action Plan has identified 10 workstreams with desired outcomes, linked to the SEND Strategy:

Workstream 1 - Establish and implement the use of a comprehensive performance dataset.

Outcome 1 - Management information, comparative data and analytic techniques used to identify need and commission services and support.

Workstream 2 - Align systems, processes and teams for early help, EHCP referral and Assessment

Outcome 2 - systems and processes designed and aligned from initial engagement to assessment and support to achieve high level of user satisfaction.

Workstream 3 - Review and refresh service standards across Education, Health and Social Care.

Outcome 3 - performance standards are quantified, monitored and met. Statutory and user satisfaction targets achieved.

Workstream 4 - Continue to implement the Estate Strategy

Outcome 4 - Children and young people with EHC Plans are supported and educated locally by the provision of 300 additional specialist placements.

Workstream 5 - Align systems and processes for transition to adulthood

Outcome 5 - Seamless transition along well designed outcome focused pathways for adulthood.

Workstream 6 - Review and refresh the parent carer forum

Outcome 6 - Parent Carer Forum embedded in the co-production of strategies and plans.

Workstream 7 - Strengthen and diversify the Continued Professionals Development Plans for all staff.

Outcome 7 - Appropriately tiered CPD offer available for all staff.

Workstream 8 - Design and implement a joint commissioning strategy between education, health and care.

Outcome 8 - Effective outcome focused services and support jointly commissioned by all partners

Workstream 9 - Develop and implement an ARP Strategy

Outcome 9 - ARP Strategy and Plan delivering high quality education and support for children with EHC Plans.

Workstream 10 - Review the funding model for SEND

Outcome 10 - Funding model based on national research and affordability that demonstrates improved outcomes for children and young people.

3.3. Partners across Education, Health and Care and local parents, carers and young people have been involved in the development of the Action Plan to ensure that services for children and families with SEND are designed and working in a coherent way, that leads to positive change.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Hackney SEND Local Area Action Plan 2022-25

Report originator: Joe Wilson, Head of SEND

Date: 14 February 2023

Cleared by: Paul Senior, Director of Education and inclusion