

High Needs Strategic Planning Review Group

Friday 22nd March 2019

11:15am, Smithills

Present:	Tony Birch (Chair)	Bolton Council
	Sue Cornwell	Educational Psychology Service
	Julie Edwards	Schools Finance Manager
	Gill Murphy	SEND Assessment Service
	Michelle Patton	SEND Assessment Service
	Georgina Ryding	St Matthew's (Little Lever) Primary School
	Sarah Curley	Leverhulme Primary School
	Gary Johnson	Rumworth School
	Sally McFarlane	Ladywood School
	Pauline Lewis	Governor
	Geraldine Whitehead	11-25 Team Manager
	Nan Cooper	Representative from the Parents Group
	Dawn France	Early Years
	Sophie Patton (Minutes)	SEND Assessment Service

Apologies:	Lisa Butcher	Head of Finance
	Anita Jackson	Inclusion Manager
	Phil Hart	Westhoughton High School

1. Welcome and Apologies
TB welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting
These were agreed as a true record.
3. Matters Arising
None were raised.
4. Review of action plan
The High Needs Action Plan was presented to the meeting.

An update on the Secondary SEMH project is required at the next meeting

TB confirmed that there have been 70+ permanent exclusions since September, most of these children need an alternative provision.

JE confirmed that she will bring the 19/20 start position to the next meeting.

5. AP tender dynamic purchasing
The alternative provision proposal went live on 22nd March – it has now been put on the chest so providers can start to prepare their bids. TB confirmed that there has been a lot of interest in this from various providers and that it will help to create a framework of providers who we can use flexibly and help to manage price and quality effectively over time.
6. Primary/Secondary SEMH update
The proposal has now been approved by Committee and expressions of interest have been collated – 6 providers have come forward to apply. The next steps would be to look at individuals to sit on the interview panel.

7. SEND demand strategy

TB explained that a consultant named Rebecca Godar visited the LA to talk about demand around special school places. Rebecca has been commissioned to do some work around this. There are 2 points specifically that she is working on:

- What we need to do as a Local Authority to meet need in the future?
- What strategy are we going to take to address demand?

Action: Rebecca will attend the next meeting to discuss the work she is doing in more detail.

8. Pre EHCP funding for children with significant needs

DF presented an updated proposal for pre EHCP funding to the panel following the previous meeting. The proposal utilises the resources and expertise within the High Needs Bases

Action: DF to run the proposal through HR and present it at the next Inclusion and Engagement meeting and DLT. DF to find out more about the skill set which the outreach member of staff will require and approach head teachers discuss the proposal along with JE.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Friday 26th April 2019 at 11:15am.