

High Needs Strategic Planning Review Group

Friday 21st June 2019

11:15am, Smithills

Present:	Tony Birch (Chair)	Bolton Council
	Sue Cornwell	Educational Psychology Service
	Julie Edwards	Schools Finance Manager
	Lisa Butcher	Head of Finance
	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
	Bernie Brown	Interim Director of People Services
	Pauline Lewis	Governor
	Geraldine Whitehead	11-25 Team Manager
	Nan Cooper	Representative from the Parents Group
	Victor Roman	Project worker for SEND and CwDT
	Sophie Patton (Minutes)	SEND Assessment Service

Apologies:	Anita Jackson	Inclusion Manager
	Dawn France	Early Years
	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. SEND projections (Rebecca Godar's work) – reflections, feedback on actions to date and next steps
SC explained that a meeting had been held to help plan regarding projections around the number of children going from early years placements in to special schools in Reception. There were 3 main points raised that could help plan:
 - Analysis of inclusion fund around destination of child.
 - Whether data around health visitors will flag speech and language/ASD needs.
 - To understand factors/influences around parents making special school preferences.

It was suggested NC could help create a focus group which would enable the LA to gather information around parent's decision making. SC confirmed that Rebecca Godar was in the process of writing this up as a plan.

TB presented a deep dive proposal document for Bolton special schools. It identifies 3 cohorts of pupils in special schools that appear to have disproportionate effects on the demand for special school places.

1. Progression from early years to primary schools – DF will take the lead on this.
2. Pupils moving in and out of Bolton, either Bolton pupils in out of borough placements or non-Bolton pupils moving into the borough's special schools – JE will take the lead on this. It was agreed that if the growth locally is planned and costed then it will decrease the

pressure for the demand which in turn will contribute to paying back the overspend in Bolton.

3. Teenagers with social, emotional and mental health needs – AJ will take the lead on this. TB explained that exclusions are high in Years 8 and 9. There was discussion around whether schools should become more involved in taking responsibility for commissioning provision after an exclusion. Schools should be supported by health professionals/CAMHS earlier, so they are providing service at the point of need which in turn would prevent the need for EHCP referrals.

Action: Look at a health professional being invited to the next meeting. A conversation is needed with commissioners in CCG.

5. SEND Strategy 2019-2023

SC presented a 2030 vision wheel to the panel. It has been created by identifying the priorities from the analysis of the SEF. It details SEND priorities and the desired outcomes which support the Bolton 2030 vision. TB highlighted that a financial plan is needed to support this document.

Action: LB to create a financial plan against this piece of work and bring back to the next meeting.

6. Secondary SEMH update

TB stated that there is a new group leadership in the BLA with a new executive. TB confirmed that there is a remit that has been put together for High Needs which will be discussed.

7. Primary SEMH update

TB confirmed that expressions of interest have been collated for the nurture provision. There have been no expressions for KS2 provision. It was suggested that it may be useful for those who are interested to meet to discuss what their blocks are for applying to get clarification. A stumbling block may be that there is a view that they will be labelled as a 'special school' if they have a nurture provision, when this is not the case.

Action: Revisit KS2 provision and finance the proposal.

8. Primary exclusions working group update

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

9. SEN call for evidence update

JE confirmed that all of the groups got together to help gather the evidence. JE will be attending a workshop in Leeds on 24th June which is a DFE event on the SEN call for evidence.

10. Special schools formula update

LB stated that a meeting was held in December around special schools. The finances have now been done around this and around 800 children/young people are to be put in to 1, 2 and 3 band fundings.

Action: LB, GM and SC are to meet to see who falls into the new band fundings – the need of the child is dependent on which band funding they come under.

11. Notional SEN in schools

JE stated that this item links to item 9.

12. AOB

SMc raised the special school capacity issue. In regards to special school places for September SMC was concerned that families need to know decisions that had been made so then schools can plan for September. TB confirmed that there has been short, medium and long term planning put into the proposal and this will be brought back to the next meeting.

Action: GM to cross reference lists with SMC regarding who can and cannot be contacted in regards to special school allocations for September.

13. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.