

## **Scoping an Overview and Scrutiny Review**

### **What is the broad remit set for the review?**

- 1. To review school attendance for children with disabilities or special education needs and the support mechanisms in place to improve attendance.**
- 2. To review progress of the transition from the Statement of Special Educational Needs to the new Educational Health and Care Plans arising from the Children and Families Act 2014 Act.**

### **What is the specific focus for the review?**

- To identify if there is an issue with school attendance for this particular group of children and what the Council is doing to identify reasons for absence and to support families to encourage these children into school.
- What is the difference and implications for families between the former Statements of Special Educational Needs (or 323 assessments) and the new Educational Health and Care Plans?
- Does this change the services provided by the Council to families of children with disabilities or special education needs?
- How is the change from the Statements of Special Educational Needs (or 323 assessments) progressing?
- What are the issues for families and children arising from these changes?

### **What are we trying to influence?**

- The way that these children and their families are dealt with by schools and support services.
- Improving the outcomes for some of the most vulnerable citizens of Nottingham.
- Ensuring their Human Rights are not ignored and Equalities Act and Disability Discrimination Act are adhered to.
- Assessments are fit for purpose, timely and adequate.
- Children are accessing the most appropriate support in the most suitable educational provision.
- That schools and local authorities meet their duties under the new reforms.
- Ensuring there has been adequate training for schools to implement changes.
- Ensuring EHCs are drafted by SEN staff and not simply delegated to teachers.

- Ensuring parent, carers supported to enable them to make informed decisions regarding if the existing information on their child is sufficient or whether up to date reports are required from a paediatrician, educational psychologist, speech therapist or occupational therapist.

**Do we need any experts/ specialists to sit on the panel with us?**

Council colleagues with specialisms in SEN

Third Sector advocates

School Governor Cooptee

**What information do we need and who do we need to speak to?**

Families

Specialists for SEN

Support Service – voluntary sector

Parent advocate

School Governor

**What methods will we use to get the information needed?**

Consultation

Survey

Website

Work Shops

Telephone interviews

Visit special school parent groups

Visit voluntary sector parent support groups

**What are the timescales for the review?**

Review scheduled for 18 June 2015. Following the outcome of the review, consideration to be given as to whether further work is needed by the Panel.