

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 JUNE 2018
SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY UPDATE
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To receive an update on work taking place in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to review how the local authority is fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to supporting children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities; and identify if further, more in-depth scrutiny is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Many children will experience some kind of difficulty in learning at some time during their school life. Most will receive the help they need from their nursery, school or college. Some children may need extra or more specialised help. A child has Special Educational Needs (SEN) if they have learning difficulties or disability that needs special educational provision. In most cases the special provision that is needed can be made within a mainstream school, but for some children and young people it may be agreed that a special school would be most appropriate for their needs.
- 3.2 The Children and Families Act 2014 introduced changes to support for children with special educational needs and disabilities, extending provision from birth to 25 years of age, and replacing statements and Learning Disability Assessments with Education Health and Care Plans. The Department for Education produces statutory guidance called the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice that must be followed by local authorities, schools, health partners and other organisations when working with children and young people.
- 3.3 Nottingham City Council's SEN Service is available for children and young people aged 0-19 years with special educational needs and their families who live in the City and/or attend a City school; children with special educational needs who are looked after by Nottingham City Council but live elsewhere; schools; colleges; early years providers and other educational establishments. The Service aims to support children and young people with special educational needs to get the most out of school life by:

- administering the statutory assessment and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) process for children and young people with special educational needs;
 - providing advice to schools on statutory requirements in relation to special educational needs and transport;
 - managing all placements at specialist provision in the City;
 - monitoring annual reviews of EHCP and statements of SEN and ensuring that they are kept up to date;
 - providing advice to parents about adapted schools and support available for their child's specific difficulty;
 - identifying and developing appropriate provision for pupils with special educational needs;
 - devising and assisting schools in implementing individual programmes for pupils;
 - providing schools with advice on where to obtain specialist training and support; and
 - administering SEN support funding to schools
- 3.4 Four years after changes to the SEND system, the House of Commons Education Select Committee is reviewing support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. It is also timely for this Committee to be reviewing provision locally.

4 List of attached information

4.1 None

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Children and Families Act 2014

Department for Education Special Educational Needs and Disability
Code of Practice

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Jane Garrard, Senior Governance Officer
Jane.garrard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
0115 8764315