



READING HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

DATE OF MEETING:	8 October 2021		
REPORT TITLE:	SEND STRATEGY AND INSPECTION UPDATE		
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides a brief update regarding the updated SEND Strategy 2022-2027 which incorporates findings from the recent local area inspection of SEND in Reading, and shares a copy of the letter from Ofsted regarding this inspection.
- 1.2 The SEND strategy is included in Appendix 1, and inspection letter is included in Appendix 2 of this report.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 *For Members of the HWB Board to note the contents of this report.*

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The company's SEND strategy sets out how the local area partnership will deliver support and services in collaboration with children, young people, families, carers to meet local needs and national responsibilities.
- 3.2 The SEND local inspection report assesses the extent to which those needs and responsibilities are being met for children and young people with SEND in Reading.

4. DETAILS

4.1 SEND Strategy Update

- 4.2 There has been considerable work undertaken to update the next version of the SEND Strategy which covers 2022-2027. We had anticipated the government publishing its review of SEND reforms earlier this year however, there has been a third delay in the publishing. It is anticipated that this will now be available sometime in 2022, however there is no specified date agreed. The SEND Strategy will be updated to incorporate the changes once the reforms have been published.

- 4.3 In response to the SEND local area inspection, we have added two more strands to the five existing ones - strands 6 and 7.

- Strand 1: Improving communication
- Strand 2: Early intervention through to specialist provision

- Strand 3: Consistent approaches to emotional wellbeing
- Strand 4: Preparing for adulthood
- Strand 5: Support for families / short breaks
- Strand 6: Capital and School places
- Strand 7: Revenue and funding

4.4 SEND Local Area Inspection

4.5 The joint local area inspection of SEND was conducted by Ofsted and CQC in June 2021 and concluded that arrangements are sufficiently robust and effective so that no action of written statement was required for Reading. There has been a very positive response to the inspection outcome and findings from stakeholders. Whilst being confident about what has been achieved, we are continuing to focus on key areas that need to be strengthened. The actions have been outlined under the strands detailed in section 4.3 and will be overseen through the SEND Strategy Group.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO READING'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 The information contained in this report and its appendices are in line with the overall direction of the Reading Health and Wellbeing Strategy, contributing to the following strategy priorities:

- *Priority 2: Reducing loneliness and social isolation*
- *Priority 3: Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing in children and young people*

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not applicable for this report

7. COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

7.1 Not applicable for this report

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Not applicable for this report

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Not applicable for this report

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Not applicable for this report

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 Not applicable for this report