

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

Health and Wellbeing Board

SEND ANNUAL REPORT

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To present the SEND Annual Report, which summarises the implementation and captures the impact of the North Lincolnshire Special Educational Needs (SEND) and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020.
- 1.2 To present the successful outcome of the North Lincolnshire Ofsted/CQC SEND Local Area inspection.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SEND Annual Report

- 2.1 The SEND Annual Report is published retrospectively when headline data is available from the Department of Education. The 2020-2021 report is currently in draft and will be shared at the next meetings of the SEND & Inclusion Partnership, the SEND Standards Board, and the Health & Wellbeing Board.
- 2.2 This 2019-2020 SEND Annual Report describes progress made against the priorities and commissioning intentions of the SEND and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020. This includes the first school based secondary phase Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) inclusion support provision – ‘Headway’ – at Baysgarth School in Barton-upon Humber; and the successful bid to the Department for Education for a new SEND Free School for students over the age of 16 who have severe learning disability, profound and multiple learning disability, speech and language communication needs, Autism Spectrum Disorder and/or potentially challenging and complex behaviours.
- 2.3 Headline strengths include well established integrated partnership working across the local authority, successful completion and compliance with SEND reforms and rollout of a new digital Education, Health and Care (EHC) Hub to enable children, young people and families to participate more effectively in the statutory special educational needs assessment process.
- 2.4 The report sets out the governance through the collective accountability of the SEND Standards Board, a forum of partners and agencies for supporting children and young people with SEND to achieve outstanding outcomes. It has

ensured a clear line of sight for holders of statutory responsibilities on the duties of the local area for children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEND.

Local Area SEND Inspection

- 2.6 Between 6 December and 10 December 2021, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) conducted a joint inspection of the local area of North Lincolnshire to judge the effectiveness of the area in implementing the SEND reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014.
- 2.7 Under the local area SEND inspection framework, inspectors look for evidence of how children and young people (from birth to age 25) with SEND are identified, how their needs are assessed and met, and how they are supported to move on to their next stage of education, the world of work and wider preparation for adulthood. Inspectors also look at the way in which local areas are meeting their duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- 2.8 During the inspection week, inspectors spoke with children and young people, parents and carers, local authority and NHS officers. They visited a range of providers, schools and settings, and spoke to leaders, staff and governors about how they were implementing the special educational needs reforms.
- 2.9 Inspectors looked at a range of information about the performance of the local area, including the local area's self-evaluation. They met with leaders from the local area for health, social care and education and reviewed performance data and evidence about the local offer and joint commissioning.
- 2.10 The Care Quality Commission and Ofsted publish a letter with judgements in narrative form, this does not contain graded judgements. The letter outlines areas of strength and key priorities for improvement. Where inspectors have significant concerns in how a local area is meeting its duty to children and young people with SEND, a Written Statement of Action is required. This could be a single Statement or up to around six Statements of Action for a local area, where Ofsted and the CQC have significant concerns.
- 2.11 Notably, North Lincolnshire did not receive any written Statements of Action. At the time of the North Lincolnshire local area inspection, of the 11 local areas inspected since the resumption of inspections in June 2021, 10 (91%) had received a Written Statement of Action. The inspection letter sets out the many strengths in the local area approach to SEND and recognises the areas of further development that local self-evaluation had already recognised (see **APPENDIX**)

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To note the SEND Annual Report as submitted
- 3.2 To note and celebrate the excellent inspection outcome.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**
 - 5.1 There are no financial or other resource implications.
6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**
 - 6.1 There are no other relevant implications
 - 6.2 Equalities issues under the Equalities Act 2010 have been considered and included in the SEND and Inclusion Annual Report.
 - 6.3 This report is linked via the SEND and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020 to the Council Plan, supporting its aspiration and ambition to be the #BestPlace for our residents and the #BestCouncil we can be.
7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**
 - 7.1 Not Applicable
8. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**
 - 8.1 Consultation has not been required.
 - 8.2 There are no conflicts of interest.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**
 - 9.1 To note the SEND Annual Report
 - 9.2 To note and celebrate the excellent outcome of the Ofsted CQC Local Area SEND inspection, which recognises how strong and effective partnership arrangements are meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND in North Lincolnshire, and the hard work and dedication of the organisations and people involved.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –

The Council Plan
SEND and Inclusion Plan 2017-2020
The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (SEND) 2019
The SEND Code of Practice 2014
Ofsted/CQC inspection outcome letter for North Lincolnshire, dated 3rd March 2022

APPENDIX

