

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLANS

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a response to the Children and Families Select Committee recommendations arising from the committee's review of Education, Health, and Care Plans.

Information

2. The Children and Families Select Committee previously agreed to prioritise a review of Education, Health, and Care Plans within its work programme. This was partly prompted by the findings of the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Inspection in early 2023 which raised significant concerns about the experience of children and young people with SEND in Nottinghamshire and highlighted Education, Health and Care Plans as a key priority area for scrutiny.
3. The Council had previously expressed deep regret at the findings of the inspection and this scrutiny review provided a timely opportunity for additional scrutiny and review of this issue.
4. At the meeting of the Children and Families Select Committee held on 16 October 2023 members considered the report from the task and finish scrutiny review that had been carried out on Education, Health and Care Plans. The report is attached as **Appendix A**. At the meeting it was resolved:

“That the recommendations of the scrutiny task and finish review of Education, Health and Care Plans be endorsed and referred to Cabinet for consideration.”

5. In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview Committee. In providing this response the Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take in response to each recommendation.
6. It should be noted that subsequent to the Review outcomes being presented to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families for response in October 2023, the Leader has changed the remit of certain Cabinet Member portfolios. One of the changes implemented by the Leader was to establish a new Cabinet Member position specifically to deal with Education and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), in recognition of the importance of such issues. Councillor Sam Smith, who as Chairman of the Children and Families Select

Committee led the Review, will be responsible for the implementation of the outcomes agreed by Cabinet in his new role of Cabinet Member – Education and SEND.

7. The responses from the Cabinet Member for Children and Families to the recommendations are set out in the table at **Appendix B**.

Other Options Considered

8. None. In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. To consider for approval the response of the Cabinet Member for Children and Families on the recommendations arising from the Children and Families Select Committee's review of Education, Health, and Care Plans.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

11. There are no direct financial implications relating to the recommendations of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the recommendations from the Children and Families Select Committee review of Education, Health, and Care Plans be received.
- 2) That the response to the recommendations arising from the Children and Families Select Committee's review of Education, Health, and Care Plans be approved.

**COUNCILLOR TRACEY TAYLOR
CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

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Constitutional Comments (GMG 29/11/23)

12. The process for Cabinet to consider the recommendations from the Children and Families Select Committee are set out in Section 6, Part 2, paragraphs 40 – 44 on pages 99 and 100 of the Council's Constitution.

Financial Comments (PAA29 29/11/2023)

13. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act.

- Report to Full Council – Changes to Cabinet Member Arrangements and Appointment of Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All