

Subject:	The outcome of the Ofsted/Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in May 2016
Date of Meeting:	3 October 2016
Report of:	Pinaki Ghoshal, Executive Director, Families, Children and Learning
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Ward(s) affected:	All

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the outcome of the recent joint inspection by Ofsted and the CQC of the local area's effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note the positive contents of the letter from Matthew Barnes, Her Majesty's Inspector, and be assured there is a plan to take forward the small number of areas for further development as identified in the attached action plan.

3. CONTEXT/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The inspection took place between 23 and 27 May 2016, led by one of her Majesty's Inspectors from Ofsted, with team inspectors including an Ofsted inspector and two children's services inspectors from the CQC.
- 3.2 The purpose of the inspection was to:
- assess how well the local area is meeting the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and how well service providers work together to deliver positive outcomes
 - evaluate how well the local area is performing its role in line with its statutory responsibilities and the Code of Practice
 - promote improvement
 - consider action necessary to address any issues identified
- 3.3 The inspection evaluates the effectiveness of the local area as a whole. The local area includes the local authority, clinical commissioning group and NHS England (for special services), early years settings, schools and the further education

sector.

- 3.4 This was the first inspection of its kind nationally. Two local areas were in the first tranche: Brighton and Hove and Bolton.
- 3.5 Inspectors spoke with children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, and their parents and carers. They visited a range of providers (schools, nurseries and health settings) and spoke with leaders, staff and governors about how they are implementing the special educational needs reforms. Inspectors looked at a range of information about the performance of the local area, including the local area's self-evaluation. Inspectors reviewed performance information and evidence relating to the local offer and joint commissioning arrangements, and met with leaders for health, social care and education.
- 3.6 Whilst no formal Ofsted style judgements are made, the outcome of the inspection was very positive. See attached letter.
- 3.7 The findings of the inspection identify a significant number of strengths across health, education, social care and the voluntary sector in how Brighton and Hove identifies and meets the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 3.8 The quality of leadership and the effective planning, commissioning and the delivery of services, is highlighted, alongside the commitment to put children and young people and their families at the centre of the vision to improve services.
- 3.9 The inspection noted that leaders in Brighton and Hove know what is going well and where further improvement is needed. Many of the areas for development identified in the inspection feedback are already built into existing planning documentation. Steps are being taken to address those issues where further work is needed, for example, extending the reach of support to those families currently below the threshold for services via links with the Parent and Carer Council. See attached Statement of Action.

4. **FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of the outcome of the inspection. Provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will continue to be met from available resources.

Finance Officer Consulted: Steve Williams

Date: 05/08/16

Legal Implications:

- 4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston

Date: 16/08/16

Equalities Implications:

- 4.3 Making appropriate provision for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities is key to enabling them to achieve their potential.

Sustainability Implications:

- 4.4 Improving provision across health, social care and education will help build more sustainable communities and will boost health and wellbeing amongst children and young people and their families. Parent/carers who are more aware of services on offer, can play a role in their development and review, and can ensure that their children access the services that they need. Budget pressures create challenges, but the objective of the ongoing SEND review is to ensure that services provided are effective, offer value for money and are sustainable into the future.

Health, social care, children's services and public health:

- 4.5 The CCG and Public Health Directorate worked in partnership with Children's Services throughout the inspection and development of the action plan, and will continue to monitor progress against the relevant actions in the plan with along with health providers.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix 1 – Joint Local Area SEND Inspection in Brighton & Hove, 23 – 27 May 2016
2. Appendix 2 – Post SEND Inspection Statement of Action

