

Subject:	Special Educational Needs Annual Report and Progress Report on the SEN Partnership Strategy		
Date of Meeting:	June 2014		
Report of:	Executive Director, Children's Services		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Regan Delf	Tel: 293504
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This is the report on Special Educational Needs (SEN) Performance for the academic year 2012/2013 incorporating progress on the SEN Partnership Strategy and the SEN Pathfinder Project.
- 1.2 The analysis of SEN and disabilities across the City is largely based on census information from January 2014. The January 2014 census is still on-going and national data will not be published until the autumn of 2014. However where we can, we have included more recent internal data to show a continuing trend. Pupil performance data relating to SEN and disabilities is based on national tests and public examinations in the summer of 2013.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Council agrees to the publication of the final draft of the new SEN Annual Report 2012/2013.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 This report updates the previous SEN Annual Report 2012/13 with some significant additions.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation has been undertaken as part of this audit exercise as it is not relevant to this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:Financial Implications:

- 5.1 This report is historical in looking at outcomes and outputs in relation to children and young people with SEN and disabilities across the City. However it shows a positive

trend in most key areas that has resulted in considerable on-going savings in relation to the SEN 'agency' or out of City budget. It has been possible to re-invest savings in mainstream schools and this has further improved inclusivity of our mainstream provision, such that more than half of our Statements of SEN are now in mainstream schools.

Finance Officer Consulted: Steve Williams

Date: dd/mm/yy

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Local Authority has a statutory duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure that the needs of children and young people with SEN and disabilities are met and to publish the arrangements for meeting those needs. The Authority must also ensure that it complies with the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that disabled children are not discriminated against.

Substantial SEN reforms are contained in the Children and Families Act due to be implemented from September 2014. This legislation will significantly change current SEN practice and procedure, particularly in relation to the assessment process.

Lawyer Consulted:

Name Serena Kynaston

Date: dd/mm/yy

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The LA is committed to fair, equitable and transparent processes in relation to assessment, funding and decision making for pupils with SEN and disabilities. A widely representative SEN Panel oversees all decisions about the statutory process in terms of assessment and making statements of SEN.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no specific sustainability implications

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There is no relevant data in this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Elements of the budget for SEN and disabilities are demand-led and come under sustained pressure. The SEN team has been successful to date in managing pressures and reducing spend on out of City 'agency' placements but continues to work closely with partner services and agencies to reduce risks for the future in terms of unaffordable budget demands.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 There are no public health implications in this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 The success of the City's provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities depends on the quality of the LA partnership arrangements. Support for young people with SEN and disabilities extends much beyond education. Such partnership is currently strong and effective, enabling a multi-agency approach to implementing the new SEN Partnership Strategy.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Background Documents

1. SEN Partnership Strategy.