

## **Review of High Needs Funding Block – Phase 2**

### **Proposal to undertake a townwide review of all**

#### **Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP)**

### **Background**

A review of SEND provision across the town was undertaken in the last academic year (2016-17) to address the growing overspend of the High Needs Block of funding.

The second phase of the SEND review will ensure that the current commissioned places for ARP's meet the needs of young people both now and in future years. The Authority will review the needs of each cohort taking into consideration the recent Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) reviews in order to further improve outcomes for children with special needs and build capacity in identified areas of need across the town. This will involve the reshaping of services to allow earlier support and intervention for children when they first present with special needs, it is hoped this will increase the number of young people transitioning from an ARP back into a mainstream school and reduce demand for specialist placements both in and out of area. The provision which is commissioned from schools, presently in Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs), will be considered against the needs of the existing cohort, future demand and geographical split across the town to ensure young people are attending when possible and appropriate a support school near to where they live, this would also minimise the need for transport across the town. Any changes would be phased in and transitional arrangements would be put in place to accommodate children in their placement until the end of the key stage.

### **Proposal**

It is proposed to move to a model with the following principles:

- Provision to match the four areas of need as defined in the SEN code of practice in proportion to the cohorts in Hartlepool - Communication and Interaction, Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH), Physical and Medical, Cognition and Learning.
- Provision to provide an early transition from primary to secondary provision.
- Provision to be located in geographical locations spread across the town.

## **Next Steps**

- To allow schools an opportunity to comment on the current provision and possible future models, a questionnaire will be issued to schools and the Parent/Carer Forum in September 2017. The feedback from this consultation will be shared with Children's Services Committee and used to model the provision moving forwards.
- A report will be presented to Children's Services Committee in October 2017, outlining the proposals for a more responsive and flexible provision model.
- A further detailed analysis of current need against current provision will be undertaken in the autumn term to ensure that future provision is aligned to the needs of our children and young people.
- Children's Services Committee will receive a report detailing the feedback from the consultation exercise and outlining the outcome of the needs analysis.
- Following the needs analysis, schools and academies will be informed of the proposed model for future provision.
- All schools and academies will have an opportunity to submit applications to deliver the proposed provision in each of the specialist areas. These applications will be assessed against a clear specification that will be shared with schools as part of the application process.
- A further report will be taken to Children's Services Committee outlining the outcome of the application process.
- Where necessary transition arrangements will be implemented to ensure a planned transfer from one provision to another.
- All successful schools/academies will be monitored and assessed on a regular basis as part of the commissioning process.

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