

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Children and Families)

Date: 15 October 2015

Subject: Preparing for the Future, Supporting Special Educational Needs and Disabled Young People

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1.0 Purpose of this report

1.1 At its meeting on the 18th of June 2015, the Scrutiny Board considered potential sources of work for the 2015/16 municipal year. Following discussion with the Executive Board Member (Children and Families) and representatives from Childrens Services the Board expressed a desire to undertake an inquiry which would consider what it is like to grow up in Leeds if you are a child with special educational needs and/or a disability. Terms of reference were agreed by the Scrutiny Board on the 10th of September 2015. The Board resolved to initially scrutinise the needs of young people from year 9 onwards.

1.2 The purpose of the inquiry is to make an assessment of and, where appropriate, make recommendations on the following areas:

- The voice of the Child and their families and the extent to which Children, Young People and their families feel informed and involved in decisions affecting their lives particularly in preparing for adulthood.
- Learning and achievement from year 9 onwards. Education settings and the educational pathways available to generate opportunities for Children and Young people to obtain skills for life and/or qualifications.
- Promoting good school attendance.
- Increasing the number of SEND young people in education, employment or training
- Preparation for adulthood and transition support.

2.0 Submission of evidence – October 2015 Meeting

2.1 In accordance with the terms of reference the Scrutiny Board has requested information on the following areas at this meeting:

Introduction, Aspirations and where are we now

- Legislation and Every Disabled Child Matters
- Leeds SEND Strategy 2014-17 and the Complex Needs Partnership Board
- The Leeds Local Offer
- Voice and Influence
- Known challenges for Children and Young People year 9 to adulthood (25).

What do we know

- Communication with young people and their families and the communication and feedback structures in place
- Identifying the needs of SEND Children and Young People in Leeds
- The main concerns for SEND young people and their siblings, parents/carers in Leeds and how we are responding to this
- The involvement of SEND young people in the design, development and review of services

2.2 In addition to information attached evidence will also be submitted verbally to the Board.

2.3 In accordance with the inquiry terms of reference the following is scheduled to be subject to further scrutiny in November and December 2015.

Improving Outcomes and Opportunities

- Educational settings for SEND children and young people including SILC's, SILC partnerships, resourced provision and mainstream schools.
- The SEND Ofsted framework
- Training of educational staff on SEN and Disability
- Sufficiency of educational places and quality of curriculum for SEND young people to meet their needs and aspirations.
- SEND attainment data at Key Stage 4 and beyond and the strategy for narrowing the attainment gap.
- The use of data to identify success in the various educational settings and the sharing of good practice.
- Suitable educational pathways for key stage 4 and post 16 learners to provide skills for life and independence and qualifications for employment.
- SILC Cluster – aspirations and development plan
- Cluster Partnerships – identification of need in their geographical areas and the support provided to educational settings to meet the needs of SEND children and their siblings.
- Promoting good attendance of SEND children and young people in educational settings.

Looking forward to adult life

- The Transitions Team and Specialist Transitions Advisors

- Transition planning, advice, support and challenges
- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance
- Leaving school, positive destinations and preventing NEET
- Support to access work experience and meaningful employment

3.0 Recommendations

The Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) is recommended to:

- a) Note and consider the documented information provided and presented verbally to the Board on the 15th October 2015.
- b) Make recommendations as deemed appropriate.
- c) Note that the terms of reference may incorporate additional information to extend the inquiry should the Children's Scrutiny Board identify any further scope for inquiry or request further witness or evidence during this session.

4.0 Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.