

High Needs Strategy: Two Year Review Consultation with parent carers

May 2019

1. Background

In 2017, Havering undertook to review its provision for children and young people with high needs.

2. Havering's vision

In Havering's High Needs Strategy 2017 – 2022, we set out our commitment to developing the most inclusive communities which are welcoming and supportive of all. Our aspiration is that all our children and young people have the best opportunities to achieve and fulfil their potential. We want children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to enjoy their education in the most inclusive environment possible and be supported in participating as fully as they can in the lives of their schools and local community.

Our commitment to this vision still holds true and, two years into the implementation of the new strategy, we wanted to take time to reflect on our achievements and review our aims so that we can set out our priorities for the next two years.

3. Reviewing the High Needs Strategy Two Years On

The High Needs Review and Strategy in 2017, involved all our stakeholders from parent carers to young people to schools, Early Years and post-16 providers. We want to continue to build on this with our two-year review, to give stakeholders another opportunity to reflect on progress, achievements and challenges so that the Strategy remains current and relevant.

The Two-Year Review will consider how well we have achieved the aims set out in the Strategy and what actions still need to be achieved.

We will also look at the next steps to address any gaps in provision identified by the review and develop a new action plan to take these forward.

4. How we are seeking consultation/ involvement in the review

We will be following a similar process to the original High Needs Review in 2017. That is, setting up focus groups for different stakeholders and requesting responses to key questions by email.

The Review will take place over the summer term 2019 and a revised action plan will be issued in autumn 2019.

We are hosting a one-off consultation meeting for parent carers on:

**Wednesday 3rd July at 10.00am – 12noon, First Steps, Tangmere Crescent,
Hornchurch RM12**

**To give feedback via email or to request a place at the meeting, please contact
Emma Ferrey, SEND Project Manager at emma.ferrey@haverling.gov.uk**

Progress since the High Needs Review in 2017

You said:

During the review we sought the views of parents and carers alongside those of other stakeholders. We held a workshop on 17 May 2017 and carried out an online survey. 83 parents responded and told us:

Parent carers were generally happy with:

- How well their child is supported in school
- The process of EHCPs
- The quality of support for their child
- How well their child's school supported their child's learning, progress, emotional wellbeing, sensory issues and behaviour

Parent carers reported they were less satisfied with:

- How schools coordinated health provision and social care services
- How well their child's school was preparing them for adulthood, in terms of offering work experience, learning to look after themselves (such as, personal hygiene and cooking) and becoming more independent
- How well the local authority (Havering) supports their needs and the needs of their child(ren)
- How the local authority coordinates health provision and social care services
- The degree of choice and control they had about their child's provision (about half of parents thought this was acceptable and half not acceptable).

We did:

- Four primary school Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) are in development, and approaches have been made to secondary schools to help provide the right support in the right place. Work is ongoing to continue to increase the number of ARPs meeting needs in ASD and SEMH.
- We have implemented our new system for operating the EHC and complex needs panel, which incorporates:
 - Budget-holders and commissioners as part of the panel
 - Developing creative solutions to meet the needs, in borough, of the majority of our children and young people
 - Consistent and transparent decision-making
- The EHC Hub has been piloted, allowing everyone involved in the EHCP to make their contribution, see the contributions of others and all work towards a positive outcome. This new process is to be rolled out across all settings in the autumn term 2019. The EHC hub will help to make us more efficient by enabling simple ways to check progress and to identify quickly any potential delays
- We continue to work with providers to improve the offer and range of short breaks and support in the home and to ensure that they can support young people to move into an independent adulthood as possible. There is also a review of the short break offer and a series of workshops is taking place to ensure the review and recommendations are co-produced with parents and carers.
- Work is underway to expand the shared lives offer to help meet the demand for young people remaining in the community, with support in the short, or longer, term

- Additional funding has been allocated to Early Years providers and schools to improve identification and support of children with high needs.
- The Therapies Operational Group has been re-established to improve communication between the LA and therapy providers and seek to coordinate support to children and young people.
- A clear process has been introduced to commission additional provisions such as specialist therapies so that provision can be in place faster and with quality monitoring checks in place.

Over to you...

QUESTION: What would you like to see us focus on for the next 2-3 years?