
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BILL- SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

1.0 Matter for consideration

- 1.1 The new Children and Families Bill has implications in relation to Special Educational Needs for both Health and Local Authority services. The requirements within the legislation currently progressing through parliament need joined up discussions and implementation. A briefing paper is attached at Appendix 7a outlining the key changes.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To note duties within the Children and Families Bill, the implications for Blackpool and work to date preparing for the implementation of the Bill. The key issues including to provide education, health and care provision outlined in an integrated Education, Health and Care Plan, and to jointly commission the provision required to meet identified needs.
- 2.2 To note in particular the duties to cooperate and provide joint assessments for children and young people aged 0-25 with SEN and the requirement for both health and the local authority to outline the services provided for SEN as part of a Local Offer.
- 2.3 To receive regular updates in relation to SEN and Disability provision to support the Board's strategic leadership and decision making role in improving overall well being and ensuring effective integrated delivery between Health and Local Authority.
- 2.4 To support the joint work required between the partners (statutory, non statutory including parents/ young people) on the implementation of the Bill as it becomes law to ensure that duties are fully met.
- 2.5 To support the development of mechanisms to be able to respond quickly to any changes in provision that may be required following children/ young people and or parent feedback.

3.0 Information

A briefing note regarding the implications of the main proposed changes regarding SEN and actions taken within Blackpool to date is attached at Appendix 7a.

4.0 Financial considerations

The needs of children and young people with SEN up to the age of 25 will have to be met within financial guidelines.

However, as the work progresses to implement the new legislation it is likely that there will be financial implications. There are many demands on agencies to plan and adapt to the changes. Papers will be placed on the agenda of the relevant boards as required.

5.0 Legal considerations

5.1 None

Relevant officer:

Kathryn Boulton, Head of Service Learning, Access and Inclusion
Dr Simon Jenner, Principal Educational Psychologist and SEND Manager

Appendices attached:

Appendix 7a- Briefing Note

Background papers:

None

Websites and e-mail links for further information:

1. Children and Family Bill
<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/childrenandfamilies.html>
2. Indicative Code of Practice
<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/s/sen%20code%20of%20practice%20indicative%20draft%20for%20committee.pdf>
3. Illustrate Regulations
<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/c/clause%2064%20draft%20regulations%20sen%20information.pdf>

Glossary:

None