

# SEND Reforms Meeting

## 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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# Agenda for Meeting

1. Update EHC conversions and timescales
2. SEND thresholds for services - Disabled Children's Social Work Team threshold document
3. Local Offer Action Plan
4. Direct Payments - feedback from adults direct payments user group meeting
5. Capital Bid Return - published by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018
6. Consulting with parents and young people - communication strategy update
7. Note for group - SEMH pathway and transitions working group

# 1. EHC Timescales and Conversions

- ▶ 502 to complete
- ▶ 80 in draft
- ▶ 250 in working document form
- ▶ 70 - young people over 24 or not in education
- ▶ All other plans started and parents have letter

## 2. Thresholds Document Discussion

Is the offer from Early Help clear?

Is the offer from social care clear - do you know how a families needs will be met?

Do you understand what the services are from the DCT?

Do you understand what the services are for children who do not meet the criteria for the DCT?

You Said	We did	By When?
You wanted more on education options for the over 16's and how this is funded	We will add this to the transition and post 16 section	March 2018
You wanted information on housing for the over 18's	We have added this to the 'where to live' section	February 2018
You wanted information on transition to adulthood	We will develop the transition to adulthood section in consultation with the 'Moving On' group	December 2018
You could not find the information on employment advice easily	We will make the section easier to find	June 2018
You wanted more information on direct payments and short breaks, including the eligibility	We will add information to the site including 'frequently asked questions'. We will develop this section in consultation with adult services	December 2018
You wanted more information on transport, including the eligibility	We will add this to the site	March 2018
You wanted information on leisure and charities for children and young people	We will develop this aspect of the site in consultation with Local User groups and Disabled Go	December 2018
You wanted information on frequently asked questions for reception or secondary school transition	We will review how this information is presented on the site	June 2018
You wanted to be able to find more condition specific information	We will develop more condition specific information and links to relevant sites . This will include courses for parents	December 2018
You wanted to know more about how children without EHC's should be supported in school	We will work on this with our school improvement colleges and in consultation with local schools	December 2018

## 4. Direct Payments

- ▶ Parents who receive direct payments say the system is not easy to navigate
- ▶ Some parents give the direct payment back and ask for a managed service
- ▶ The budgets for direct payments in health and social care have to be held in different bank accounts
- ▶ We only have one staff member who supports families with setting up and managing direct payments
- ▶ There is not a wide range of services at the moment that can be bought with direct payments
- ▶ There is a direct payments user group in adult services who recently invited some parent reps to a meeting
- ▶ We are trying to work with adult services to improve our processes including online information/forms and booking

# 5. Capital Bid Return

- ▶ SEND reforms group in June considered the return and recommended:
  - ▶ Investments in Autism school and college places
  - ▶ Investment in Early Years Settings
  - ▶ Investment in public access
- ▶ We have:
  - ▶ Extended Riverside to include a post 16
  - ▶ Opening 2 classes of The Grove early
  - ▶ Commissioned 'Disabled Go'
  - ▶ Initiated the Disability Access Fund and Inclusion top up

## 6. Communication Strategy Update

- ▶ Parents have feedback that they are not getting access to information
- ▶ The Local Offer Event was well attended and positive
- ▶ The new letters are fairly recent and are sent by email to parents groups but do not seem to be disseminated
- ▶ The online activity about the borough's communication of information is quite negative

**How can this be improved ?**





Thank you!!!