

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) – Update on Progress Against Written Statement of Action

Governing Body meeting

Item 19I

4 July 2019

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Sponsor Director	Mandy Philbin, Chief Nurse
Purpose of Paper	
To update Governing Body on progress against the SEND Written Statement of Action (WSOA) which was produced in response to the joint CQC and Ofsted SEND Inspection carried out in November 2018.	
Key Issues	
<p>The SEND WSOA was submitted to and approved by the CQC and Ofsted in May 2019. The CCG and LA are now developing appropriate governance and reporting processes to provide assurance around the SEND Improvement Programme.</p> <p>Some actions are already completed, several are on track but it should be noted that there are still a number of areas which are potentially at risk and/or delayed. These include issues around waiting times for services, patient engagement work and development of a data dashboard.</p> <p>A further, more detailed highlight report with an additional explanation of risks and mitigations will be brought to Governing Body in September.</p>	
Is your report for Approval / Consideration / Noting	
Noting	
Recommendations / Action Required by Governing Body	
The Governing Body is asked to: note the contents of the paper and continue to support delivery of required areas of improvement.	
What assurance does this report provide to the Governing Body in relation to Governing Body Assurance Framework (GBAF) objectives?	
<p>Which of the CCG’s Objectives does this paper support?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To improve patient experience and access to care 2. To improve the quality and equality of healthcare in Sheffield 3. To work with Sheffield City Council and other organisations to reduce health inequalities in Sheffield 	
Description of Assurances for Governing Body	
1.1 Will ensure patients and the public are consulted with as part of development of the	

<p>SEND strategy and delivery of the action plan</p> <p>2.1 Will support delivery of high quality, equitable services</p> <p>3.1 Will support joint working between SCC and SCCG to deliver required improvements</p>
<p>Are there any Resource Implications (including Financial, Staffing etc)?</p>
<p>None directly as a result of this paper. Requests for any additional resources to support improvement will be requested through the appropriate processes.</p>
<p>Have you carried out an Equality Impact Assessment and is it attached?</p>
<p>N/A – not required as part of written statement of action. Will complete assessments when required as part of any improvement work to deliver the action plan.</p>
<p>Have you involved patients, carers and the public in the preparation of the report?</p>
<p>Not in the preparation of this report but patients, carers and the public have been involved with development of the statement of action and will continue to be engaged with development of the SEND strategy and improvement work.</p>

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Local Authority (LA) produced a joint Written Statement of Action (WSOA) in response to the CQC and Ofsted inspection of Special Educational Needs and Disability Services in Sheffield which took place in November 2018.
- 1.2. The WSOA was submitted to and approved by the CQC and Ofsted in May 2019.
- 1.3. The CCG and LA are now developing appropriate governance and reporting processes around the WSOA to provide assurance that required actions are being progressed, highlight risks where they occur and seek assistance to unblock any challenging issues.

2. Highlight Reporting

- 2.1. A monthly highlight report is being developed jointly between the CCG and LA to document the progress of the Inclusion and SEND Improvement Programme – including all actions within the WSOA.
- 2.2. This report will be shared system wide via the Sheffield Inclusion Board and also shared with Governing Body on a bi-monthly basis.
- 2.3. The proposed highlight report is going to the Inclusion Board at the beginning of July 2019 for sign off.

3. Progress to date

- 3.1. As the action plan is still at quite an early stage, only a small number of actions have been completed to date. For the CCG, these include:
 - A gap analysis against the NHS SEND quick guides for commissioners has been completed and used to help develop a recovery plan.
 - A Designated Clinical Officer (DCO) has been appointed to and the individual has been in post since April 2019. The DCO has already started delivering SEND training and awareness-raising sessions to groups of professionals, including GPs.
 - The health single point of access (SPA) has been embedded into the SEND Assessment and Review Service (SENDSAR) at the Local Authority, which has streamlined the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) process and will improve data sharing going forward.

- 3.2. Several actions are in progress and on track to be completed by the planned end date. For the CCG, these include:
- Developing a business case to roll out a sensory processing service offer to schools across Sheffield
 - Starting work to review service offers and put in place specifications for community therapy and community nursing
 - Creating a proposal to scope and test some pilot models for post-16 therapy provision across the city
- 3.3. There are a number of actions which are either behind target or at risk. For the CCG, these include:
- Engagement with children and young people regarding development of the SEND strategy – this work is behind target and with school summer holidays approaching, likely to be at risk of further delay. Options are being explored to involve third sector organisations such as CHILYPEP to help support and expedite this work.
 - Work to develop a joint data dashboard between the CCG and LA has been slower than anticipated, which is exacerbated by the number of different IT systems in use by different organisations.
 - Work with providers to reduce waiting times for key services continues to be challenging. The contracting team are helping to support these conversations.

4. Risks and Issues

- 4.1. The scale and pace of the improvements required is significant and will require commitment from all partners to deliver.
- 4.2. Capacity within the system to deliver improvements is a challenge. This includes both officers from CCG and LA, as well as front line health, education and social care professionals.
- 4.3. Local media coverage has indicated that some patient and parent groups are unhappy with the outcome of the inspection and the WSOA. Relevant communication teams at the CCG and LA have been involved in coordinating responses.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1. Work on the SEND improvement programme is progressing, however, it should be noted that there are potentially a number of areas that are at risk.

A further, more detailed highlight report with an additional explanation of risks and mitigations will be brought to Governing Body in September, following approval at the Inclusion Improvement Board

Paper prepared by Sapphire Johnson, Head of Commissioning – Children, Young People & Maternity Portfolio
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