

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE
Executive Members

1st May 2018

**The North Yorkshire Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision
0-25**

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Update Executive Members on the Strategic Plan for SEND Education provision 0-25 (the Strategic Plan)
- Explain the proposal to have a phased approach to formal consultation and implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- Seek agreement from Executive Members for the Strategic Plan to go to formal consultation.

2. Background

2.1 The LA has a statutory responsibility under the Children and Families Act 2014 to keep its special educational provision under review, to ensure sufficiency in placements to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), working with parents/carers, young people and providers

2.2 In order to meet this responsibility, the LA has been developing the Strategic Plan to address the needs of children and young people with SEND in North Yorkshire. The approach taken has been to consider SEND provision in its widest sense across the continuum of universal, specialist and targeted provision and across the full range of needs. The Strategic Plan will be a longer term strategy document and will need to include capital planning to support the actions to be delivered by the plan.

2.3 The LA has the high needs budget of £44.8 million to spend on special educational provision. There is significant pressure on this budget – this amount allocated by central government is insufficient to meet current and expected demand. At the moment the LA expects to spend £48.6 million on SEND provision in 2018/19 and this includes an underlying overspend of around £4 million. Work on the strategic plan includes reviewing how the high needs budget is spent to make sure it has the most positive impact on outcomes for children and young people and considering how we can sustainably make the best provision we can using the funding we have.

2.4 The Strategic Plan will feed into the overarching SEND strategy which will also draw on ongoing work in respect of the Disabled Children's Service and SEND Transport. The proposed overarching strategy will require approval by full Council in due course.

3. Developing the Strategic Plan

3.1 The original intention was to publish the Strategic Plan in March 2018, following a period of formal consultation. However the decision was taken in December 2017 to delay formal consultation and publication of the plan to ensure feedback from informal consultation could be incorporated and pending the completion of further specific areas of work. This would ensure a more robust plan overall.

3.2 The resulting draft Strategic Plan has been discussed by both CYPLT and Management Board on two occasions prior to being presented to Executive Members.

3.3 Ongoing discussions at the Strategic Plan Project Board, CYPLT and Management Board have highlighted the need for significant capital investment to secure a number of the proposals and benefits from the strategic plan. It is recognised that further work is required in respect of capital investment. There is a pressing need, however, to make as much progress as possible with the plan in order to:

- Develop more local provision for children and young people with SEND across the County in order to reduce the number of more expensive out of area placements as well as transport costs.
- Reshape the existing continuum of provision to better meet needs and address gaps in provision – especially at the targeted level.
- Maximise the use of the High Needs Budget and reduce the significant overspend.
- Mitigate the reputational risk of not progressing with the plan following the high profile ISOS review and extensive engagement and informal consultation around draft proposals in the summer and autumn of 2017.
- Uphold and deliver the principles and outcomes identified for the plan.

3.4 It is therefore proposed to take forward the plan in two phases as follows:

Phase 1

Phase 1 will cover the majority of the proposals in the plan, which should be delivered through existing resources across staffing, High Needs Budget and capital funding (including the Special Provision Capital Funding.)

Following the recent publication of the DfE document 'Creating opportunity for all: Our vision for alternative provision' which sets out key milestones for reform of alternative provision, it will also include:

- A bid to the Alternative Provision (AP) Innovation fund in respect of improving transition between Key Stages 1 and 2 (erratum:KS4/5 explained to PH's at time)
- An application for a special/AP free school in the Selby area

Phase 2

Phase 2 will cover proposals where additional capital or other funding is required, or where further work needs to be completed before more detailed consultation takes place.

3.5 The first formal consultation would cover the detailed proposals for Phase 1, and broad proposals for Phase 2. There would then be further detailed work to develop proposals for Phase 2 alongside Phase 1 implementation. This would include work on capital funding, targeted provision and early years provision. There would then be a further formal consultation on phase 2 proposals before implementation.

4. The draft Strategic Plan

4.1 The draft Strategic Plan is at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 shows the proposed implementation plan. The Equality Impact Assessment is at Appendix 3.

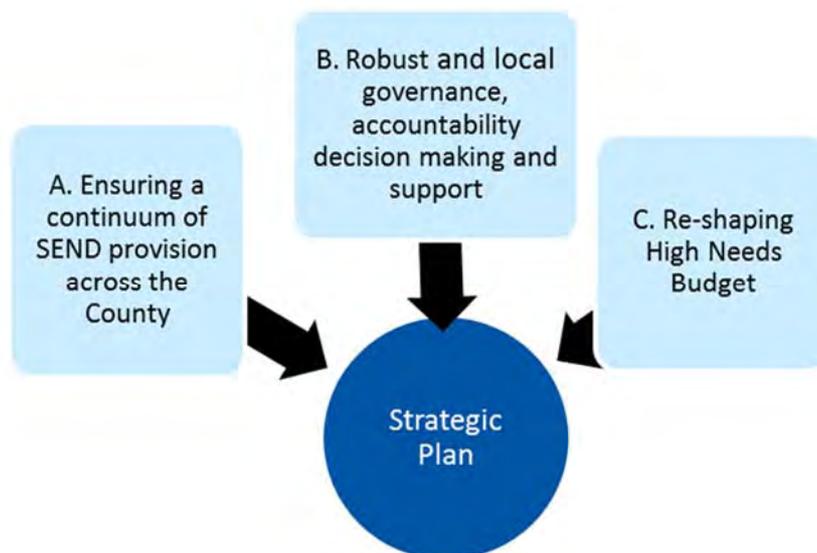
4.2 The draft Strategic Plan covers the following areas:

- A background section about the plan
- Our vision for the plan including the principles and outcomes we will be working to
- Plan on a page – an overarching summary of the plan
- The North Yorkshire context – data, information and implications
- The locality context – the report uses the 5 locality areas as in the ISOS reviews:

- Craven
- Hambleton/Richmondshire
- Harrogate/Knaresborough/Ripon
- Scarborough/Whitby/Ryedale
- Selby

This sets out data/information and implications for each locality, as well as information about the continuum of need, the current special school offer and the current central service offer.

- Information from informal engagement, consultation and feedback
- The proposed actions for the plan. These are set out in three areas as follows:



The section also indicates the impact of the proposed actions for each locality.

- The proposed implementation plan
- Monitoring of the plan and performance indicators.

4.3 The layout and design are in draft format and both will be developed further for formal consultation.

5. Timescales for the Strategic Plan

5.1 The timescales currently being worked towards (subject to democratic process) are:

- Approval to go to formal consultation by Executive Members 1st May 2018
- Formal consultation period 18th May 2018 – 28th June 2018.
- Approval of plan by The Executive 4th September 2018
- Publication of the plan before the October half term holiday 2018.

A full timeline is included at Appendix 4.

5.2 This timescale allows for the six week formal consultation to be completed prior to the school summer holidays.

6. Recommendations

6.1 Executive Members note the update on the Strategic Plan.

6.2 Executive Members consider the content and proposals in the draft Strategic Plan including the proposals for a phased approach.

6.3 Executive Members approve the timescales for the Strategic Plan.

6.4 Executive Members' approve the draft Strategic Plan including the phased approach for formal consultation.

Jane Harvey

Strategic Planning and Development Officer (SEND)

24th April 2018