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Title of meeting:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Subject:	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy
Date of meeting:	22 nd June 2016
Report from:	Alison Jeffery, Director of Children's Services
Report by:	Julia Katherine, Head of Inclusion
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

- 1.1 Portsmouth Health and Wellbeing Board have requested 6 monthly updates on the SEND Strategy and Portsmouth's readiness for local area SEND inspection.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To update the Board on the refreshed Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy for Portsmouth and the implications of this for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

3. Background

- 3.1 Portsmouth has had a strategic plan for children and families since 2004. It is currently known as the Children's Trust Plan (some areas retain the original language of Children and Young People's Plan).
- 3.2 The Trust Board agreed on 7th June 2016 to refresh the priorities within the Plan to ensure that the Plan continues to reflect the important issues in the city and provides a coherent strategic framework for governance and planning.
- 3.3 The Portsmouth SEND Strategy is now one of 4 priorities within the Children's Trust Plan, as set out below:

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Priority 1	Stronger Futures: Affordable and (even) better A transformation programme to improve safeguarding, resilience, health, wellbeing and success of families
Priority 2	Improve education outcomes for children and young people [working title]
Priority 3	Improve outcomes for Looked After Children and Care Leavers
Priority 4	Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy: A strategy to promote inclusion and improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND and their families

3.4 The SEND Strategy has been refreshed to cover the period 2016 to 2019.

3.5 The overall aim of the strategy remains the same: to promote inclusion and improve the outcomes for Portsmouth children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEND and their families.

3.6 The outcomes that this strategy is aiming to improve are: to increase the percentages of children and young people with SEND who are able to:

- Be included within their local community,
- Lead healthy lives and achieve wellbeing,
- Learn and make progress,
- Make and maintain positive relationships within their family and community
- Participate in education and training post-16 and prepare for employment

3.7 There are six strands of the SEND Strategy:

- Strand A: Promote good inclusive practice to improve outcomes
- Strand B: Successful implementation of the SEND reforms
- Strand C: Effective joint commissioning to improve outcomes
- Strand D: Co-production, embedded as a way of working with children, young people and their parents and carers
- Strand E: Early identification and early support for children with SEND and their families
- Strand F: Effective preparation for adulthood and smooth transitions to adult services

3.7 The detailed strategy and delivery plans under each of these strands are included in Appendix A.

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- 3.8 The governance arrangements for the SEND Strategy are represented diagrammatically on page 15 of the strategy document (see Appendix A).
- 3.9 Statutory accountability is retained by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 3.10 The effectiveness of these arrangements will be assessed by the Local Area SEND Inspection which will take place within the next 5 years. This is a joint inspection by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission.
- 3.11 The SEND Inspection framework states that *'Inspectors will assess the quality and impact of joint commissioning arrangements between partners, including through the local strategic needs assessment and well-being strategies. In assessing partners' work, inspectors will review how efficient, effective and sustainable this is in improving outcomes for children and young people'* Local area SEND Inspection handbook, page 22)
- 3.12 Key achievements to date have included:
- 3.12.1 Moving from consultation to co-production with service-users i.e. working in partnership with children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers to review and co-design the services that best meet their needs and improve outcomes. Parent/carer representatives sit on all workstreams of the SEND Strategy and co-chair the SEND Board. The Dynamite young people's co-production group have carried out the 'Big Bang' young people's survey and have launched the Young Inspectors programme whereby young people with SEND will inspect all of the services included within the Local Offer.
 - 3.12.2 Rolling out the new multi-agency statutory education, health and care assessment process for the 2-3% of 0-25 year olds with the most complex needs who require the highest level of additional support over and above what is 'ordinarily available'. Around 1,000 0-25 years olds will require a transfer assessment from statements of special educational needs to Education Health and Care Plans by 2018, with an additional 100+ new assessments each year. We have had external validation of the quality of our EHC Plans, and the vast majority are now being completed within the statutory timescale.
 - 3.12.3 Expanding and remodelling the range of additionally resourced provision available within mainstream schools, with two new secondary Inclusion Centres opening; for children with sensory impairment at St Edmunds and for children with communication and interaction difficulties (including Autism) at Trafalgar school. Two new Inclusion Centres for primary aged children with communication and interaction difficulties (including Autism) will open at Portsdown Primary and Devonshire Infants from September 2017.
- 3.13 Key priorities for the next 12 months will include:

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- 3.13.1 Clarifying the continuum of support available for children and young people with social emotional and mental health (SEMH) difficulties across education, health and care services, linking with the wellbeing strategy and Future in Mind.
 - 3.13.2 Remodelling the special school provision at Cliffdale and Redwood Park special schools to enable them to meet the increasingly complex needs of children requiring special school placement, in order to enable us to achieve a better balance of children with SEND in mainstream and special schools to ensure that resources are focused on those requiring the highest level of support.
 - 3.13.3 Reviewing the eligibility criteria for all services to ensure that they support the inclusion agenda.
- 3.14 The progress and impact of this strategy will continue to be monitored by the SEND Board and Children's Trust Board. A further update will be provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board in 6 months.

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Signed by (Director)

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Appendices:

A - SEND Strategy 2016-2019 (Portsmouth Children's Trust Priority 4)

B - Local area SEND inspection framework, Published April 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-framework>

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: