

REPORT TO SEND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Title:	SEND Strategy 2021-24
Report by:	Gary Bloom, Head of SEND, SBC
Meeting Date:	5th October 2021

1. Summary of progress and actions since last period

Following on from the inaugural SEND Summit which took place on 22 April 2021 when 46 members attended including 5 members of SSIF further engagement activity has taken place in line with the listed activities shared with Board in May.

This has resulted in a draft version of the SEND Strategy which illustrates both the strategic priorities and high-level actions stating what the Southend SEND partnership will do to achieve the objectives outlined in the Strategy. The Strategy is very much just 'words' now, with more work to be done to produce the Strategy in the range of accessible formats agreed by SSPB in May once those 'words' have been agreed.

The timetable proposed to Board in May was ambitious but achievable and was structured to deliver the strategy to this meeting of the SSPB for final approval. This would ensure that the Strategy was published as suggested at time of Ofsted/CQC revisit and would be evidenced in the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) as completed within the first six months of the APP.

After the SEND Revisit and whilst the APP was being formulated SBC Members commissioned a peer review of certain aspects of SEND/CWD, which is scheduled to take place in November 21. To ensure the outcome of the peer review is reflected in the published SEND Strategy it is necessary to revise the timeline for the publication of the Strategy, this approach has been agreed as appropriate by both the DfE and CQC, who have responsibility for monitoring and ultimately signing off the APP which would remove the need for monitoring around the one remaining area of weakness identified at the SEND Inspection/revisit. Despite the delay it is imperative that the partnership continues to work on the actions in the Draft Strategy during the Autumn Term 21.

2. Proposed priorities and activities for next period

Activity and outcome	By when
Version 11 of SEND Strategy shared with Joint Commissioning Board	15 th September 21
Version 11 of SEND Strategy shared with SENDOPS	21 st September 21
Version 11 of SEND Strategy shared with SSPB	6 th October 21
Members of all 3 boards invited to seek and provide final feedback on Version 11 which will be incorporated into Version 12	October 21 half term deadline
Action planning sessions to be arranged to agree detailed actions to form the action plan to accompany the published SEND Strategy	October/November 21
Peer Review undertaken and outcome shared	November/December 21

Detailed work around presentation of Strategy	October 21 to December 21
Strategy updated to reflect recommendations of Peer Review	December 21
Potential sign off or final draft Strategy potentially at the 6 January SSPB	6 January 22
Wider public consultation on final draft Strategy	One month Jan/Feb 22
SSSPB final version	1 March 22
Education Board	TBC March 22
Scrutiny	15 March 22
Improvement Board	TBC
Cabinet	TBC
HWBB sign off	7 March 22

Recommendations / Discussion / Decisions required from Partnership Board
To note and agree the revised arrangements and timetable for publishing the SEND Strategy