

## **Update on Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Transformation Programme**

Report of the Director of Children & Young People's Futures

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Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

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### **1. Recommendation**

- 1.1. That the Committee;
  - a) Note the progress made since the previous meeting, on the SEND Transformation Programme

### **2. Background / Introduction**

- 1.1. In September 2023, the Council and its partners agreed a new approach to delivering improvements through the SEND Transformation Programme which takes a system wide approach to delivering positive change and is broadly set out under seven key strands (see Annex A), bringing Ofsted/CQC improvement work and Safety Valve activity together in one place.
- 1.2. This report provides an update on the overall progress of the programme.

### **3. Update on SEND Transformation Programme**

- 3.1. A presentation has been circulated separately which provides information about the progress of the SEND Transformation Programme.

### **4. Strategic Plan**

- 3.2. One of the key focuses of Devon County Council's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is to create a 'Child Friendly Devon', where Devon is the best place to grow up. Specifically, one element of the Strategic Plan is to "ensure children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities achieve the best possible outcomes" (Devon County Council, 2021).
- 3.3. The SEND Transformation Programme contributes to the realisation of this element of the strategic plan by ensuring that local area partnership arrangements lead to an improved lived experiences and improved outcomes for children and young people with SEND, and their families.

## **5. Financial Considerations**

- 3.4. There are no specific financial considerations related to this update. However, progress is being made in a number of the key areas which will improve the overall financial position.
- Preparation for adulthood: Over 70 young people have moved on from an Education Health and Care Plan through joint working with the young person and their family.
  - Sufficiency: 58 new resource base places secured.
  - Inclusion and Early Help: early support initiatives are being improved.
  - Financial Management and placement Value: The commissioning and procurement strategy was agreed by Cabinet on 14 August 2024 and is now being progressed.

## **6. Legal Considerations**

- 3.5. There are no specific legal considerations related to this update. The Council must adhere to the relevant legislation such as the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Special Education Needs and Disability Regulations 2014.

## **7. Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change, Sustainability and Socio-economic)**

- 3.6. There are no specific environmental impact considerations related to this update.

## **8. Equality Considerations**

- 3.7. Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) have the protected characteristic of disability under the Equality Act 2010 and duties to make reasonable adjustments and meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (eliminate disability discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity for disabled people, and foster good relations between people who share the protected characteristic of disability and people who do not) apply to this area of work and run alongside our duties under the Children and Families Act 2014. In addition, children with SEND will have intersecting characteristics such as gender, LGBTQ+, and ethnicity that may need to be taken into account.

## **9. Risk Management Considerations**

- 3.8. A risk register is maintained for the SEND Transformation Programme which is regularly updated and monitored and feeds into the Corporate Risk Register.

## **10. Summary/Conclusion**

- 1.3. This report provides an update on the SEND Transformation Programme.

**Stuart Collins**  
**Director of Children & Young People's Future**

Electoral Divisions: All

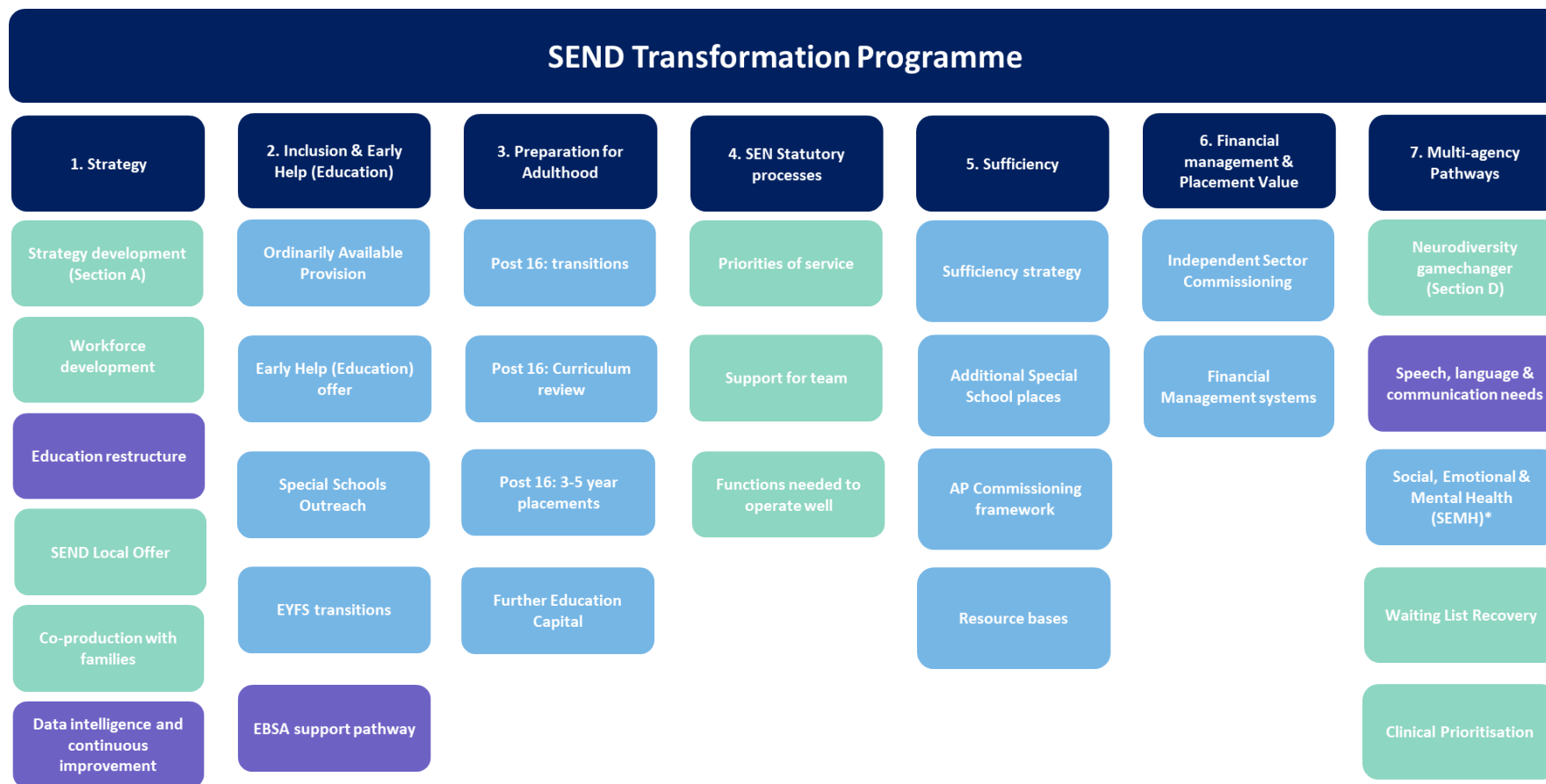
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\* Including Locality SEMH Partnerships

### Programme Communications and Engagement

■ Safety Valve activity    
 ■ Post Ofsted/CQC improvement activity    
 ■ Other identified work