

Overview and Scrutiny – SEND Improvement – Scope and Timeline Draft V1

Scope

The purpose of the review is:

- a. review the implementation of the Priority Impact Plan focussing on one priority area per meeting, including a consistent set of measures of impact (timeliness, quality, experience and outcomes);
- b. seek assurance on Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) quality and timeliness improvement by requesting quarterly reporting of: audit outcomes (including social care and health advice quality), learning actions taken, and feedback from families and settings about whether plans are usable and outcome-focused;
- c. request a deep dive update on Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support and inclusion, including what is changing for children without EHCPs and how the partnership is addressing persistent challenges such as attendance, suspensions and exclusions;
- d. request assurance on health waiting times and the 'support while waiting' offer, including how families are informed, what interim provision is available, and how equity of access is monitored;
- e. request assurance on preparation for adulthood: transitions governance, pathways into employment/training, and how gaps in referral routes and tracking are being closed; and
- f. request evidence of strengthened co-production and improved communication with families (including what has changed as a result of feedback as well as the voice of the young people, their families and carers) and how this is being measured.

Methodology

Review Panel was established to receive briefing notes and information arising from Call for Evidence at the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 6 May 2026 see - [Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Board on Wednesday, 6 May 2026, 5.30 pm](#).

Agreement of Scope and Timeline and Future items for discussion to be agreed at initial meeting held 7 September 2026.

Overview and Scrutiny Board to meet on 9 December 2026 for final agreement of recommendations for presentation to Cabinet and/or Council.

Communications and Engagement

- Direct emails to (to be agreed at the first meeting).
- Invites to meetings.
- Publication of final report to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for approval.

Information required

Department for Education (DfE) & NHS England feedback against deep dives / progress review against local area partnership 5 priority action areas Letter.

Membership of Task-and-Finish Group (5 Members politically balanced)

Councillors Law (Scrutiny Lead for Children's Services - Chair), Douglas-Dunbar, Fellows, Tolchard and Twelves

Support Officer: Lorraine Rawles

Timeline

Meeting/Milestone	Action
Overview and Scrutiny Board – 6 May 2026	Establish review
Task and Finish Group – 7 September 2026	1. Agreement of scope and timeline. 2. To receive an update on progress since the last inspection. 3. To agree future items for discussion.
Task and Finish Group – 6 October 2026	
Task and Finish Group – 2 November 2026	
Wash Up meeting to confirm report – 23 November 2026 (private meeting)	
Overview and Scrutiny Board – 9 December 2026	Agreement of final report to Cabinet/Council