

Record of Decisions

Accessibility Strategy 2017- 20

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 04 March 2019

Decision

- (i) that the progress made on the Accessibility Strategy be noted; and
- (ii) that further consultation be carried out on the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Capital funding and the Assistant Director, Education, Learning and Skills, in consultation with the Executive Lead/Cabinet Member for Children, be given delegated authority to make appropriate revisions to Torbay's Special Provision Plan by 31 May 2019.

Reason for the Decision

The Department for Education (DfE) have recently announced increases to the original Special Educational Need (SEN) Capital Funding, therefore, additional consultation is now required. This consultation is due to take place from mid-April 2019 to nearing the end of May 2019 in line with requirements for it to be published along with the revised plan by 31st May 2019.

This proactive work to increase capacity for schools to be more inclusive and accessible for children and young people with SEND will relieve pressure on the High needs block funding.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 19 March 2019 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The submitted report set out a mid-term review of Torbay's Accessibility Strategy 2017 – 2020, which provided an overview of what has been achieved from the introduction of the strategy and sets out the future direction.

The Accessibility Strategy 2017- 20 sets out the Local Authority (LA) strategy for ensuring that accessibility of the curriculum, the physical environment and information for disabled pupils is central to the delivery of services and provide support to schools in meeting the needs of disabled pupils and raising their attainment.

Ensuring help is offered at the earliest possible point, with children and young people with SEND and their parents fully involved in decisions about their support and what they want to achieve. This will help lead to better outcomes and more efficient ways of working. The LA has led the strategy and recognises that its success lies in the effectiveness of the partnership between all stakeholders.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made on 4 March 2019 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

11 March 2019

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: _____