

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION & SUPPORT SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Report By: MANAGER OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Wards Affected

Countywide.

Purpose

1. To consider the progress of Improvement Plan (Stage 4) of the Best Value Review of Special Educational Needs Provision and Support Services.

Financial Implications

2. The overall costs of the Improvement Plan are cost neutral.

Report

3. The Best Value Review of Educational Services for Schools began in March 2003. The Stage 3 Report was submitted to Scrutiny Committee on the 9th October. The Committee agreed the preferred option to maintain current provision whilst making those improvements identified by the Review Team. Strategic Monitoring Committee subsequently ratified the decision on 14th October 2004.
4. The original intention was that the Improvement Plan would be submitted to this Committee on 14th December 2004. However, it is necessary to conduct a further extensive consultation with all the relevant services referred to in the Plan, and such consultations could not be completed within the time scale available.
5. In order for the Plan to be effectively owned, it is important that each service has an input to the contents of the Plan and, most importantly, to the targets contained therein. The relevant services are Medical and Behavioural Support Service, Physical and Sensory Support Service, Learning Support Service, Special Services and Educational Psychology.
6. Consultation with the services involved is currently in progress. It is anticipated that the Improvement Plan will be presented to the next Scrutiny Committee on 14th March 2005. The Committee can then make comments and suggestions for amendment which the Cabinet Member (Education) may or may not choose to incorporate.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Special Educational Needs Provision and Support Services Improvement Plan be considered at the next meeting.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified.