

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

**DEVELOPMENT OF SEND SERVICES IN SUNDERLAND – UPDATE**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the development of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) across the Sunderland local area, within the context of a planned transformation programme. This work will be funded from the Delivering Better Value (DBV) grant funding following Sunderland's engagement with tranche 3 of this DfE funded initiative.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee agreed to include an update on development of SEND services within the city.
- 2.2 During the year, the service has conducted a Delivering Best Value review of the SEND services in the city, in conjunction with consultants Newton Europe, The findings reflect the way in which the rise in the High Needs Budget (HNB) has been driven by a rise in the number of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP's). The review has focused on the key areas of need, the effectiveness of current provision and plans and proposals for the future delivery of the service.

**3. Current Position**

- 3.1 Pamela Robertson (Strategic Lead for SEND) will be in attendance to provide a presentation and update members on the current with regard to the development of SEND services within the local area partnership.
- 3.2 A copy of the presentation is attached for information.

**4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider and comment on the report.

**5 Background Papers**