

## **BCP BUDGET STEERING GROUP**

**20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

### **DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PROVISION FOR SPECIAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES**

#### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Budget Steering Group on 28 June 2018, a paper was presented on the pressures on the High Needs Block (HNB) of the Dedicated School's Grant (DSG).
- 1.2 The Group requested a further report on development of new provision for special educational needs and disabilities.
- 1.3 This paper is set in the context of the reviews commissioned of Special Educational Needs (SEND) by Bournemouth and Poole in 2017, undertaken by ISOS.

#### **2. CONTEXT**

##### **2.1 Bournemouth.**

##### **2.1.1 The ISOS Review highlighted:**

- There has been a significant rise in the total number of statements and EHCPs in the last 5 (now 6) years.
- There is a growing demand for EHCPs across all age ranges.
- The profile of placements of young people with EHCPs is skewed toward higher cost provision.
- There is an increasing rise in exclusions;
- Significant overspend on the high needs budget resulting from above.

##### **2.1.2 Challenges included:**

- Availability and access to support with specific need to identify support pathways for mental health and autism;
- Inconsistent SEN Support in mainstream settings;
- Variable understanding and prioritisation of SEND among school leaders;
- Need for core offer of formal borough-wide targeted SEND and clarity on the continuum of support, services and provision;
- Insufficient capacity within local specialist provision;
- Need to strengthen transition between children and adult services.

2.1.3 A comprehensive High Needs Action plan has been devised which incorporates recommendations made within the ISOS review. The Action plan is regularly reviewed by the High Needs Budget Control Board, the membership of which includes head teachers, local authority managers and school governors. The board feeds in to the School's forum task and finish group which reports to the school's forum.

2.1.4 In order to achieve a balanced budget in 2018/19, the distribution of funding to support pupils has been reviewed and revised arrangements put in place. Opportunities are being sought to better align funding and provision via EHCPs to pupils' presenting needs which may result in ceasing/reducing plans, re-integrating pupils in Special Schools or Resource Bases back into mainstream and transitioning pupils back from Independent Non-Maintained provision to local Special School provision where appropriate.

## 2.2 Poole

The ISOS Review highlighted:

- The number and rate of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) has increased dramatically over recent years.
- Compared with national averages, Poole has a relatively high percentage of children with EHCPs placed in independent and non-maintained special schools, and a relatively low percentage based in mainstream schools.

The key challenges focused on the following:

- Rising numbers of EHCPs.
- Commitment and capacity of mainstream school to support pupils with SEND.
- Number of exclusions and capacity of Alternative Provision.
- Capacity of Special Schools.
- Number of high cost placements in INMSS
- Rising demand post-16 and pathways to adulthood.

ISOS produced a series of recommendations which have been incorporated into the HNB Action Plan and progress is regularly reported to Poole Schools' Forum.

## 2.3 Dorset

Dorset has undertaken a comprehensive local review of sufficiency and all areas of the HNB, to consider how change can be made to meet the budget challenges.

### 3. CURRENT DATA

#### 3.1 EHCPs by placement type (Latest available).

Placement Type	B	C	P	Total	%
Independent and NMSS	130	40	91	261	12%
Other Post 16 *	17		25	42	2%
Special Schools	320	71	267	658	31%
PRU	0		8	8	-
Post 16 FE College	111	35	97	243	12%
Mainstream Schools	340	119	273	732	35%
Pre School	4	6	12	22	1%
Apprenticeship / Internship / Training	11	4	7	22	1%
Out of Education	72	1	21	94	4%
Elective Home Education	10	3	9	22	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Includes Independent Specialist Providers (ISP)

#### 3.2 Permanent Exclusions from BCP schools (academic year 2017/18)

Phase	B	C	P	Total
Primary	1	2	5	8
Secondary	58	14	34	106
Special	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>114</b>

### 4. COST OF PROVISION BUDGET 2018/19

EHCP Provision - £000's	B	C	P	Total
Independent and NMSS *	4,743	1,324	4,624	10,691
ISP Post 16 (full cost)	460	510	825	1,795
Special School Places (as host)	3,490	0	2,290	5,780
Special & Mainstream top up	8,476	565	4,850	13,891
FE Places (as host)	390	191	216	797
Mainstream post 16 (host)	90	38	96	224
Resource Base	148	56	0	204
<b>Total EHCP costs</b>	<b>17,797</b>	<b>2,684</b>	<b>12,901</b>	<b>33,382</b>

NMSS – Non-maintained (non academy) special schools. Growth in places at NMSS is deducted from the DSG directly by the ESFA. Costs for Independent Special schools include both place and top up funding.

PRU/AP Provision - £000's	B	C	P	Total
PRU Places*	460	595	600	1,655
PRU/AP top up	275	154	400	829
<b>Total</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>2,484</b>

\* Christchurch PRU includes top up plus medicals

## **5. PROVISION CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED**

### **5.1 Bournemouth**

Bournemouth, following the ISOS review has implemented the following main areas of development:

**5.1.1 *Increasing Resource Base capacity:*** Discussions have been held with a small number of Bournemouth mainstream settings to either expand existing Resource Base provision or create new Bases - aiming to increase Resource Base capacity for both ASD and SEMH needs. Kingsleigh Primary is in scope for a new resource base consisting of 12 pupils with ASD presentation while Malmesbury Park's current Resource Based provision will be expanded to accommodate a further 8 pupils.

**5.1.2 *Develop further the local Special School provision/offer:*** Discussions are ongoing with both Linwood and Tregonwell Special Settings about opportunities to expand their offer. This has already resulted in a modular building being erected on the Nigel Bowes site of Tregonwell which will educate 5 pupils from September 2018. The creation of more 'short stay' capacity using existing facilities on an Ambitions Academies Trust site is also being considered.

Planning for additional capacity to be created at a site in the west of Bournemouth to accommodate further ASD provision is ongoing which is anticipated will also positively impact on other areas of SEN by releasing space in current provision. This new provision will be considered in relation to its impact on Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch in light of LGR.

It is intended to pilot some specialist therapeutic capacity to work with young people with SEMH in Tregonwell or Alternative Provision to seek to address underlying mental health needs. This should also enable Tregonwell to meet the needs of some pupils who currently are placed in out of authority specialist provision.

**5.1.3 *Co-production of a new model for pupils at risk of exclusion with Bournemouth school leaders:*** The LA is part of a working group of school leaders looking to develop a new approach to managing exclusions. This aligns with the discussions outlined above with Tregonwell Academy. The aim is to focus support earlier and avoid more permanent exclusions.

**5.1.4 *Continue to develop the new approach to overseeing INMSS placements:*** In addition to the actions outlined above to reduce the demand for places in Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools or out of authority Special Schools, commissioning and contract management processes are being strengthened and opportunities to transition pupils back to local provision, especially at transition points explored.

- 5.1.5 *Continue to develop the local preparation for adulthood offer:* pathways to employment including formal education, training and internships continue to be developed.

*Strengthen the processes for transition between children's and adult services and for broader preparation for adulthood:* A Transitions Group has been set up to ensure coherent approaches to supporting young adults with social care needs as they transition from children to adult services.

## 5.2 Poole

Poole, following the ISOS review, these as main areas of development:

*Post 16 provision:*

- This is building on the provision developed between Winchelsea School and Bournemouth and Poole College, to develop a further post 16 offer.
- Working with adult social care to develop a local offer.

*Mainstream Plus:*

- Working with mainstream schools to develop their offer to include more pupils who currently are being moved onto specialist placements. A model is being developed at Carter Community School.

*Special Class in mainstream:*

- Making use of mainstream facilities by enabling classes of pupils from special schools to be based in the mainstream but the curriculum delivered via the special school. This will therefore free up space within our special schools.

*Independent and Non Maintained Special Schools (INMSS):*

- Working with partners to ensure commissioning of places in INMSS is robust and provides appropriate support and outcomes for all pupils placed, including consideration of return to more local provision if appropriate.
- Working with secondary schools to reduce exclusion which has included the development of a Positive Reintegration Protocol.

## 5.3 Dorset

Whilst Dorset as a whole is adding specialist places to meet demand locally, this is not the case in the Christchurch area. The current Speech and Communication Base in the Christchurch area will close in 2019.

## 5.4 Regional Provision

A new free school is being opened by Delta Trust at the ex Bovington Middle School site, with an opening date for September 2020. All 3 Local Authorities

have been involved in providing data around local needs and place numbers that may be required from the 3 areas.

## **6 FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS**

- 6.1 In July 2018, the DfE issued guidance and criteria for Local Authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools.
- 6.2 The guidance is clear that any new bids will need to demonstrate how they will bring down the costs of the HNB. Bids need to be submitted by 15 October 2018. Only 1 bid is allowed per area and, given that Poole and Bournemouth areas are forming BCP from April 2019, any bids would need to be joint.
- 6.3 Bids have to demonstrate that the DSG can provide funding for the places at any new provision.
- 6.4 Bids will not be approved if they reduce inclusion, or create capacity in existing special or alternative provision schools.
- 6.5 Any bid submitted for BCP would be seen in the context that there is already substantial specialist local provision.

## **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 All 3 Local Authorities are working in partnership with their schools to address the challenges of managing the HNMB and this includes development of new provision for SEND. This work takes time to develop and this includes working with parent and carers to ensure they are confident in the provision meeting their child / young person's needs.
- 7.2 Further ongoing work will be required by BCP to develop their SEND Strategy with schools.

**Appendix A**

**CURRENT LOCAL SPECIAL PROVISION**

		<b>Commissioned Places (18/19 Academic Year)</b>		
<b>BOURNEMOUTH</b>	<b>Age Range</b>	<b>SEN</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>Medical</b>
Linwood School	3 - 19	273		
Tregonwell	5 - 16	90	44	12
<b>POOLE</b>	<b>Age Range</b>	<b>SEN</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>Medical</b>
Longspee Special School	5 - 14	45		
Montacute Special School	2 - 18	80		
Winchelsea Special School	4 - 16	104		
Quay School	5 - 16		60	57
<b>INDEPENDENT AND NON- MAINTAINED</b>	<b>Age Range</b>	<b>SEN</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>Medical</b>
Langside	2 - 19	23		
Victoria Education Centre	3 - 19	78		
Arbour House	6- 16	12		
Portfield School	3 - 19	62		
The Sheiling School	5 - 19	40		
Purbeck View School	7 - 19	57		
The Forum School	7 - 19	66		
Cambian Wing College	16 - 25	50		
<b>DORSET</b>	<b>Age Range</b>	<b>SEN</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>Medical</b>
Beaucroft Foundation School	4 -19	165		
Christchurch Learning Centre	11-16		25 (tbc)	15 (tbc)
Mountjoy School	3 - 19	48		
Westfield Arts College	4 - 19	205		
Wyvern Academy	2 - 19	85		
Yewstock School	2 - 19	129		