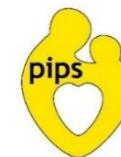




STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

NHS
Stockport
Clinical Commissioning Group



Joint Commissioning Arrangements

Regulations

Section 25 of the Children and Families Act 2014 requires local authorities to exercise their duties and powers to ensure that Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision is integrated with Health and Social Care provision where they believe it would promote the wellbeing of children or young people who have SEND, or improve the quality of SEND provision.

Section 26 of the Act requires Local Authorities and partner commissioning bodies to commission services jointly for children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND, including those without an Education, Health and Care Plan. Joint commissioning arrangements must ensure a clear course of action in every case and outline effective procedures for resolving any disagreements between those bodies.

The SEND Code of Practice requires local authorities to commission as follows:

- Local authorities and health bodies **must** plan and commission education, health and social care services jointly for children and young people with SEND informed by a clear assessment of local needs.
- Joint commissioning arrangements should enable those bodies to make best use of all the resources available to improve outcomes for children and young people in the most efficient, effective, equitable and sustainable way.
- The bodies **must** agree how they will work together. They should aim to deliver personalised, integrated support that delivers positive outcomes for children and young people.
- Joint commissioning **must** cover the services for 0-25 year old children and young people with SEND, both with and without Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP).

Arrangements in Stockport

Shared Vision

All services are striving for excellence in service delivery. Through effective joint commissioning and person-centred planning, we will ensure that education, health and well-being outcomes are improved for children and young people (0-25) with SEND and their families living in Stockport.

Shared Values and Agreed Principles

We will:

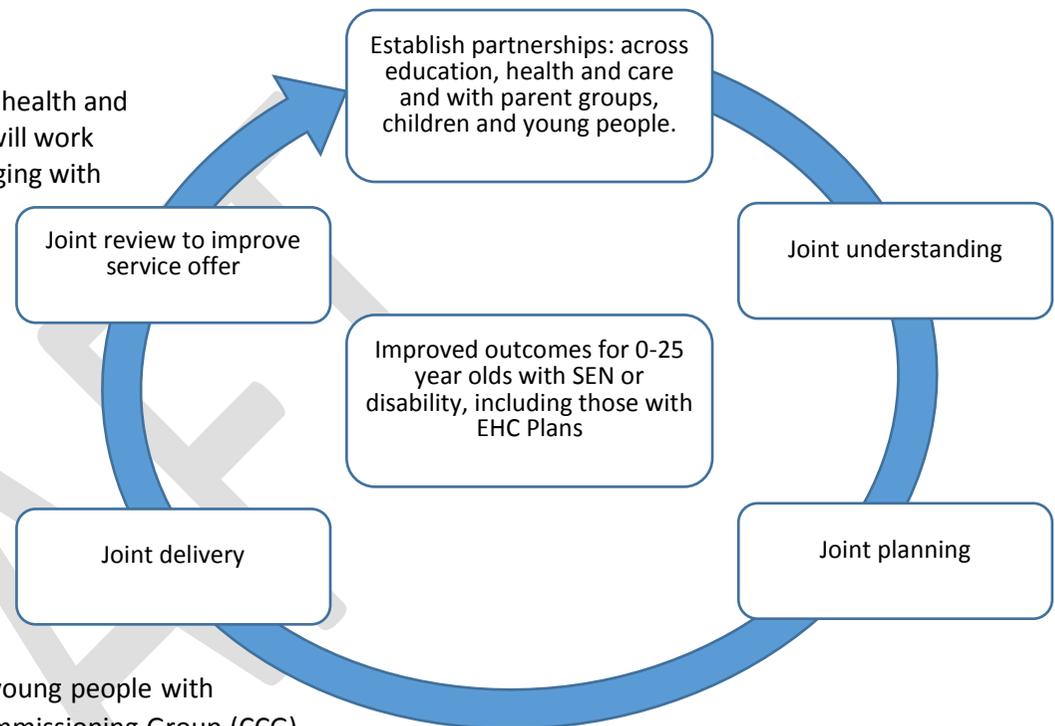
- Put the needs of children, young people with SEND and their families first and ensure that they are central in commissioning processes, including person-centred planning.
- Work together with all agencies, including schools, involved in commissioning to make the best use of our resources.
- Provide services at the earliest appropriate moment.
- Look beyond the immediate circumstances of current service users and develop a long-term view of their needs and the wider needs of the community with a clear focus on outcomes.
- Be open and transparent in our commissioning processes.

Definitions

Commissioning is *“The process by which we decide how best to use the total resource available to children, young people and families in order to improve outcomes most efficiently, effectively and sustainably”*. (The definition of commissioning from the Stockport Children’s Trust).

Joint Commissioning

Joint commissioning is the process by which partners across education, health and care agree at a strategic level what is needed in an area and how they will work together to commission and deliver it. Critical to doing this well is engaging with children and young people with SEND and their families. The diagram opposite shows that joint commissioning is a continuous improvement cycle, which will enable partners to integrate the local support, reduce unnecessary duplication and improve the outcomes and user experience of accessing support.



Who

The main bodies involved in commissioning services for children and young people with SEND are Stockport Local Authority and the NHS Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Schools and colleges are also commissioners in their own right and this is likely to be an area of expansion in the future. Many settings, schools and colleges will directly commission services (such as speech and language therapy, pastoral care and counselling services) to support pupils.

The key roles which will lead planning in relation to joint commissioning are:

- Strategic Lead for S.E.N. and Inclusion, Stockport Local Authority
- Principal Lead (Social Care and Commissioning), Stockport Family, Stockport Local Authority
- Joint Commissioning Manager (Children and Young People), NHS Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group.

In Stockport joint commissioning focuses on these bodies working closely together with the aim to improve the co-ordination of packages of support; to improve personalisation; to streamline processes; to reduce duplication and costs; to focus on early identification of need and provision of timely intervention and to improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

How

Our joint-commissioning approach is on three levels:

1. **Strategic:** We will ensure that we use our combined resources to meet the needs of the population, aligning our resources as appropriate to achieve greater efficiencies and improve outcomes.
2. **Service level:** We will review and reform specific services within our Local Offer to address gaps in provision and improve outcomes.
3. **Individual:** We will ensure that we have joint arrangements to provide personalised support for children and young people with SEND whose needs are normally identified through an EHC Plan, utilising Personal Budgets and direct payments where appropriate.

The SEN steering group, with representation from a wide range of services is responsible for ensuring that the strategic and service level commissioning arrangements support children and young people with SEND. This activity is captured within the SEND Strategy. The SEND leadership team will be responsible for developing the joint commissioning activity as required. We are committed to working in co-production with young people, parents and carers of children and young people with SEND and this is facilitated at this level by the parent/ carer for a PIPS. Partners provide information to measure progress regarding the implementation and, more critically, the impact of services and interventions. Performance reports are shared with the SEND Steering Group and the Children's Trust Board through their reporting mechanisms.

The Integrated CAMHS Board is also responsible for commissioning and monitoring services. The co-location of services within Stockport Family and Children and Young People's Disability partnership also supports the strategic and service level elements of joint commissioning.

On an individual, case by case basis, packages are jointly commissioned through a number of panels which contain representatives from a range of services. The current panel structure is attached. The voice of children, parents and young people is captured within these panel discussions and required reporting arrangements.

Procurement, Commissioning and Quality Assurance

Procurement of goods and services is carried out in line with Corporate Policy and European legislation and ensures that, where appropriate, formal tendering processes are undertaken. Many of our services are procured via Framework agreements with a number of service providers. The monitoring of services is carried out in a number of ways, including quarterly face-to-face meetings and the analysis of spend and value for money. The quality assurance

of commissioned services for children and young people with SEND will be monitored as set out in the contract or service level agreement on no less than a quarterly basis within the respective commissioning area.

Information, Advice and Disagreement Resolution

From 10th May 2017 the LA, in line with requirements, will contract with Essential Mediation (www.essentialmediation.co.uk) to provide mediation services and disagreement resolution services. The service remit extends to disagreement resolution about the health and social care elements of EHC plans and disagreement between local authorities and health commissioning bodies.

A wide range of information on the services provided for children and young people with SEND and their families can be found on Stockport's Local Offer at www.sensupportstockport.uk.

SEND – Joint Commissioning Forums

Name of Board / Panel	Remit	Chair	Frequency of meetings	In what way is it a joint commissioning initiative? Key agencies involved
Continuing Care Panel	To consider and agree care packages for children with complex needs health needs (continuing care criteria).	Head of Continuing and Complex Health Care	Monthly	A joint initiative between Stockport Local Authority (LA) and NHS Stockport Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) – packages of care are jointly funded 50 / 50 for complex health needs/ continuing care.
CAMHS Partnership Board	Commissioning in relation children and young people’s mental health / mental health service transformation.	Commissioning Manager- Children and Young People	Monthly	Range of partners from health services, CCG LA and voluntary sector.
Integrated Education Placements Panel	Multi-agency panel that considers LAC and care leavers in externally provisions i.e. IFA and residential.	Principal Lead Stockport Family (Social Care and Commissioning)	Fortnightly	Range of partners from Stockpot Family, education and health.
16+ Accommodation Panel	Multi-agency panel to consider LAC and care leavers 16+ in externally commissioned provision and planning for post 18 transitions.	Principal Lead Stockport Family (Social Care and Commissioning)	Fortnightly	Range of partners from Stockport Family and housing providers.
Short Breaks / Respite Panel	To consider and agree care packages for children with complex health needs and disabilities (social care cases).	Principal Lead Stockport Family (Social Care and Commissioning)	Monthly	Children’s Social Care representatives (Children with a Disability Team and Aiming High).
Early Years Panel	The Early Years Special Educational Needs Panel is a multi-agency group for determining access to the full range of	Operational Lead SEN	Termly	Panel representatives: SEN (chair), Education Psychologist, Early Years Consultant, Portage, Behaviour Support Service, Inclusion Co-

	placements and services for Stockport pre-school children with more severe and/or complex special educational needs.			ordinator, Therapy Services Rep. A Paediatrician provides advice on medical needs for individual cases but no longer attends. For pupils with complex medical needs a joint commissioning package is sometimes agreed between health and education.
SEN Panel	The SEN Panel acts in an advisory capacity for the LAs decisions in the SEND assessment and planning process especially in relation to the EHC planning process.	Operational Lead	Fortnightly	Panel representation: SEN (Chair) Education Psychology, Services for Young People, Youth Offending Service, Inclusion co-ordinator, Learning Support Service, Behaviour Support Service, SALT service rep, representatives from schools, Designated Clinical Officer. A Paediatrician provides advice on medical needs for individual cases but no longer attends. For pupils with complex medical needs a joint commissioning package is sometimes agreed between health and education.
Secondary Panel for Inclusion	To oversee the Fair Access Protocol, and ensure that all secondary schools admit their 'fair share' of vulnerable secondary-aged pupils. To monitor permanent exclusions and agree admissions to Stockport's PRUs.	Children's Services Officer, Education Access Service	Fortnightly	Representatives from Behaviour Support Service, Education Access Service, Highfields Inclusion Partnership, Pendlebury Centre PRU, Educational Psychology, Stockport Family, Youth Offending Service and 2 mainstream Secondary Head teachers.
Pupils at Risk of Exclusion	To reduce the amount of permanent	Headteacher of	Half-termly	Representatives from Secondary Schools,

(PARE)	exclusions by discussing pupils at risk of exclusion and sharing strategies and solutions to prevent exclusion.	Behaviour Support Service		Behaviour Support Service, Education Access Service and Psychology Service.
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Panel	Stockport Homes' panel that considers requests for DFG and also requests for top up from the LA when the assessment recommends facilities which exceed the DFG limit.	Stockport Homes	Monthly	Stockport Homes reps, Children's Equipment and Adaptations Service (CEAS), Stockport Family, Strategic Housing.
Children's Equipment and Adaptations Panel (CEAS)	<p>The equipment panel considers requests for the equipment needs of children with physical disabilities both in the home environment and school.</p> <p>The panel will make decisions about whether equipment is available within current stock, what budget is appropriate (Education, health ,CEAS) and if the equipment request is appropriate for the child's needs.</p>	Children's Therapy Manager		Head of Therapy Services (Chair), Education rep from SEN, CEAS, Occupational Therapy Services, Physiotherapy Services, equipment stores.