



Coproduction with Parents, Children and Young People - SEND Reforms

The Local Authority recognises that services alone do not produce outcomes. It is what people do for themselves along with their families, friends and neighbours, supported or otherwise by services, that co-produce outcomes. Where activities and outcomes are co-produced in this way, both services and neighbourhoods become far more effective agents for change. It is through this process of working, valuing the time and input from parents, children and young people and having a “you said, we did” attitude that we have been able to progress the SEND reforms on the island. Through this work we now have well embedded groups that support and are fully engaged in the process.

Context

1. Section 19 of the Children and Families Act 2014 makes clear that local authorities, in carrying out their functions under the Act, must have regard (among other things) to the importance of children and young people, and their parents and carers, participating as fully as possible in decisions about their individual care. Local authorities must also ensure that children, young people, parents and carers are involved in decisions about local provision. They need to ensure that children, young people, parents and carers are provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions.
2. Local authorities will be required to publish comments from children, young people and parents by **no later than 31st August 2015** along with details of the action they intend to take in response to the comments. However, local authorities should have in place an approach to ‘test out’ their Local Offer with users and consider how they can engage harder-to-reach-groups of parent carers and young people, well in advance of this date.
3. Feedback, comments and details of actions carried out will be published annually on the Local Offer website [click here](#) to view the page.

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4. The code of practice (January 2015) states the following in connection with engagement and decision making of parents, children and young people:
 - At a strategic level, partners must engage children and young people with SEN and disabilities and children’s parents in commissioning decisions, to give useful insights into how to improve services and outcomes. Local authorities, CCGs and NHS England must develop effective ways of

harnessing the views of their local communities so that commissioning decisions on services for those with SEN and disabilities are shaped by users' experiences, ambitions and expectations. To do this, local authorities and CCGs should engage with local Healthwatch organisations, patient representative groups, Parent Carer Forums, groups representing young people with SEN and disabilities and other local voluntary organisations and community groups.(Section 3.18)

Meeting the objectives

5. To implement the SEND reforms introduced by the Children and Families Act 2014 the island has set up three task and finish groups that report to the SEND Implementation Board. This in turn reports to the report to the Joint Child Care Commissioning Group.
6. The three work streams are:
 - i. EHCP Task Group,
 - ii. Local Offer Task Group,
 - iii. Personal Budget Task Group.
7. Each work stream was made up of council officers, appropriate service providers, and parents. The engagement of children and young people was through our "Young Inspector" programme coordinated via the councils Short Breaks Team. This provided the platform of co-production to help design and tailor the SEND reforms and included:
 - i. Piloting materials with parents children and young people
 - ii. Seeking advice from parents children and young people
 - iii. Involvement/invitations to task & finish groups
 - iv. Support with communication/social media
 - v. Designing leaflets/websites
 - vi. Case studies
 - vii. Using direct quotes from learners to support case studies etc.
 - viii. Information on extracurricular activities
 - ix. Support at launch events i.e. refreshed Local Offer, Fun day etc
 - x. For 0-5yr old via observations and consultations with parents/education psychologists
8. To support the engagement and decision making of parents, children and young people the Implementation Board agreed a scoping paper from the lead officer of the Local Offer work stream in April 2014.
 - [Scoping paper](#)
9. To support the work streams to engage with children and young people an "Engagement" task and finish group was set up in October 2014
10. The Engagement task and finish group comprised of:

Andrew Briggs, Commissioning & Finance Manager – SEND reforms post 16
Sue Holman – St George's
Sammi Kirkby – Medina House
Sam Rooney – IW College
Dorothy Harrington – Parent Partnership Officer

Emma Morris – Parent Partnership
Andy Newman – Event Campaign & Youth Council Support Officer
Stephen Woodford - Children Rights & Participation Officer
Michelle Jones – CCG
Kristy Moore – Involvement Officer – Short Breaks
Darren Poplett – Youth Offer Quality & Performance Officer

11. The group provided an Interim briefing paper at the March 2015 Implementation Board of the work carried out so far.

- [Action Plan](#)
- [Interim Briefing paper](#)

Views of those consulted during the development of the Local Offer

12. The Local Offer was developed initially in draft format and was shared with a range of stakeholders. A link to the draft website and screen shots were made available to the groups listed below and the views collected helped to shape revisions to the Local Offer.

- Schools including parents
 - Via the school newsletter to parents
 - Via the school newsletter to those with a disability
 - Via the school newsletter to children and young people with impairments
- Chair of Governors
- Elected members
- Children's centres
- Pre-school providers
- Dioceses
- Partner agencies e.g. Parents Voice IW
- Other professionals e.g. Parent Partnership, recognised trade union
- Local charities who work with disabled young children
- FIZ, Short Breaks and Young Inspector

13. Feedback from these groups have resulted in a number of changes resulting in the current Local Offer

Consultation feedback

14. The following questions were asked as part of the consultation:

- Q1. Does the Local Offer cover all aspects of the SEND code of practice?
- Q2. Are there any areas that need further emphasis?
- Q3. Are there any areas that need to be corrected / modified?
- Q4. Any other comments/suggestions/feedback

15. As a result of feedback from consultation based on the four questions, more emphasis has been placed on:

Feedback received:

- Integration of the WightChYPS search onto the homepage of the Local Offer. This provides direct access to search services held in WightChYPS and supports some of those 'guided searches' whereby you filter on age group / need.
- Rate a Page & feedback. This gives the ability to rate the content of the page and send a message that will come back in to ensure feedback is received about the content.
- Remove 'Top Tips' content and instead add in the ability to 'Make a Book' - i.e. saving personal favourite pages from feedback of the Local Offer workstream. Also enabling professionals to assist families to bring together tailored information pages to print for anyone with limited internet access
- As part of the integration of the WightChYPS it provides an opportunity to address the concerns on font size etc.
- Images added to the majority of web pages providing a better layout
- Listen (Audio) button included on the Local Offer website to allow an audio version if needed this still needs to be reviewed as to its position on the web pages
- Symbol version of Local Offer agreed and up and running

Feedback documents:

Local Documents:

- [Coproducton with Parents, Children and Young People - SEND Reforms](#)
- [Scoping Paper - April 2014](#)
- [Engagement Action Plan](#)
- [Interim Briefing Paper - March 2015](#)
- [Parent Voice IW - Local Offer 12th June 2014](#)
- [Young Inspector Report - Local Offer Nov 2014](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentation by Young Inspectors on LO,EHCP,PB](#)
- ["You said we did" presentation to Young Inspectors April 2015](#)
- [Young Inspector Report - EHCP](#)
- [Local Offer Survey](#)
- [Local Offer Survey Guidelines](#)
- [Local Offer Survey - interim results 13 April 2014](#)
- [Local Offer: Areas to improve, what worked well](#)
- [Lessons Learned - Local Offer](#)
- [Check it out Web site/APP paper CCG Agreed April 2015](#)
- [SE 7 Self Evaluation of the Local Offer January 2015](#)

National Documents:

- 3rd December 2014 - IoW Young Inspectors referenced in an Edward Timpson speech that the minster gave to an FE audience:

https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/edward-timpson-supporting-send-students-in-further-education?utm_source

- [March 2015 – Selection of interesting examples of good practice from Local Offers across England – Mott MacDonald \(Pages 9 and 13\)](#)
- [SEND Pathfinder Information Pack V6 March 2015 - Mott MacDonald \(Page 7\)](#)

16. The Local Offer Work stream continues to monitor and evaluate all the feedback around the Local offer and meets on a monthly basis This group is made up of the following:

Andrew Briggs, Commissioning and Finance Manager – SEND reforms
post 16 – IW Council
Rachel Hayes- IW -CCG
Michelle Jones, IW CCG
Lorraine Shotter- Parents Voice - IW
Lynda Burroughs, Parents Voice - IW
Joanne Parker – Parent Voice – IW
Amanda Tickle – Parent Voice IW
Christine & Martin Price- Parents Voice - IW
Gavin Muncaster- ICT - IW Council
Vonda Pierce, Web Team – IW Council
Kate Symes- Manager SEN –IW Council
Catherine Hall- Fiz – IW Council
Daron Perkins- Group Manager Adult Social Care – IW Council
Becky Revert- Principle Speech and Language therapist – IW Council
Jane Heath, Team Manager Disabled Children IW Council
Jackie Boxx, Alternative Provision –IW Council
Esta Ford- Early Support team – IW Council
Jane Thompson- Early Years team IW Council
Samantha Rooney- Head of Department (SLDD/FL/FS/ALS) IW College
Steff Gleeson - Deputy Headteacher St Georges
Julie Stewart, Headteacher Medina House School
Cindy Penney- Carisbrooke College
Victoria Coughlin- SENCO Sandown Bay Academy
Katrina Shaer- SENCO Dover Park

Making it happen

16. Responsibility and accountability for the engagement of children, young people and parents sits within the council and the Directorate of Children’s Services. The workstreams and task and finish groups are just some of the approaches adopted by the council to help meet its statutory duties connected to the SEND reforms and helps meet its priority of “keeping children safe and improving their education” supporting improvement of attainment for all children and young people, including those with disabilities and barriers to their learning.
17. Feedback from on line surveys from children, young people and parents and key service providers will be ongoing. The ability to “Rate a Page” on the Local Offer for articles and directory listings not only captures the contents of the pages for accuracy but can also capture service satisfaction. Analysis of these activities will

help in future decision making which in turn will inform future commissioning activities.

18. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the SEND reforms will happen in a number of ways. In common with other departments within the council, the Directorate of Children Services has a management group, which has a major role in holding services to account and to evaluate the impact of policies and practice. Further monitoring is undertaken by the SEND Implementation Board and the Joint Child Care Commissioning Group