

21 st September 2018		ITEM: 6
Health and Wellbeing Board		
Special Educational Needs and Disability Needs Assessment		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Key	
Report of: Councillor James Halden – Portfolio Holder for Health and Education and Councillor Sue Little – Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services		
Accountable Head of Service: Andrea Clement – Assistant Director and Consultant of Public Health		
Accountable Director: Rory Patterson – Corporate Director of Children’s Services and Ian Wake – Director of Public Health		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

Thurrock Council has a statutory duty to provide certain children and public health services to children and young people aged 0-19 living in the borough. This includes provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) from age 0-25 years. To enable the council’s Public Health team alongside Children’s Services and the CCG to commission services effectively, a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is required to identify level of need, characteristics of children and young people with SEND, their health and wellbeing needs as well as current and future demand for services. .

The Thurrock Public Health team has conducted a full needs assessment based on analysis of local health, education and social care data as well as incorporating a literature review, of children and young people with SEND in the borough. This document sets out a series of recommendations to improve the service offer, transformation and local provision for SEND children, young people and their families and is appended to this report.

This JSNA report has been completed in collaboration with a range of stakeholders; Children’s Services and the CCG and were asked for feedback regarding this JSNA report. All feedback received was considered in the finalised JSNA report.

The number of children and young people aged 0 - 25 in Thurrock is set to increase over the next decade by approximately 10%. Alongside increases in the child population in Thurrock there is expected to be rapid economic and housing growth

over the same time period. It is expected that the population of children aged 0 – 25 will rapidly increase as a result. As such, it is also highly likely that the SEND population in Thurrock will grow due to this population growth.

The main recommendations identified within the JSNA included greater collaborative work between education, health and social care, development of a SEND strategy, further improvement in local data to aid detailed modelling of expected demand on services, enhancement of the local offer, strengthening of transition between child and adult services and re-commissioning of short break provision. It is hoped that these recommendations will inform a SEND strategy and action plan for implementation.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That the Board is apprised of this JSNA report, is invited to comment and subsequently agree to the recommendations made in the Special Educational Needs Assessment report

1.2 That the Board agrees to publication of the Special Educational Needs Assessment.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Every Health and Wellbeing Board holds the responsibility for producing JSNA's which will enable partner organisations to collaboratively understand local needs, agree priorities and encourage organisations involved in health and care to work in a more joined up way.

2.2 The suite of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) for Thurrock reports on the health and wellbeing needs of the people of Thurrock. It brings together detailed information on local health and wellbeing needs and looks ahead at emerging challenges and projected future needs.

2.3 The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) JSNA is a product among this suite of publications in Thurrock which aims to establish a shared understanding and demonstrate the different considerations relevant to children and young people with SEND in Thurrock aged 0 – 25 by providing a comprehensive evidence and data analysis of the education, social care, health and wellbeing needs of this group of children.

2.4 Therefore, this JSNA will support the Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Strategy goal of creating 'Opportunity for All' for children and young people with SEND in Thurrock by ensuring children and young people with SEND flourish and achieve their full potential in life.

2.5 Following considerations of the needs relevant to this group of children, young people and their families, recommendations have been made to inform and

enhance any planned service transformation and work programmes for SEND children and their families.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 The SEND JSNA has been structured in three major areas;
1. What we know about our children and young people with SEND
 2. How well they are doing with their health and wellbeing
 3. What are we doing to support children, young people and their families with SEND.
- 3.2 Thurrock's population of children and young people aged 0 -25 years has been on the rise in the last decade. Of the total population of the borough **34.1% (56,959)** are children and young people aged 0 – 25 years. The population of children and young people is set to rise in the next decade by approximately **10% to 62,427** children and young people by 2027.
- 3.3 There are **3882** children and young people on the school roll in Thurrock with SEND. The prevalence of SEND in Thurrock is rising in line with national rates. Therefore, Thurrock expects a rise in this number to **4619 (737)** and **5256 (1374)** in 2024 and 2037 respectively following population estimates and considerations of the planned growth within Thurrock.
- 3.4 Of those children with SEND 2899 (10.4%) qualify for SEN support and **983 (3.5%)** are on an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC – Plan). SEND pupils on a statement/EHC plan achieved better educational outcomes than their peers nationally and in comparator local authorities.
- 3.5 There is a higher prevalence of SEND in males than females, with more boys more likely to be receiving SEN support than girls. Evidence suggests that certain types of primary need such as Autism are more prevalent in males than females.
- 3.6 Thurrock has a higher proportion of pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulty, in its primary, secondary and special schools than the national and Statistical Neighbours proportions. Moderate Learning Difficulty is the most common primary need in secondary schools, while ASD is the most common primary need within special schools. This finding will impact on special school provision.
- 3.7 The level of attainment at age 19 in Thurrock was below comparator areas for pupils on a statement/EHC plan. In addition, more than half of exclusions between 2013 and 2016 were of children with SEND.
- 3.8 Children with SEN are less likely to remain in Education, Employment or Training than those with no identified SEN in which only 5% were NEET. Conversely, 9% of pupils with a Statement/EHC plan were NEET and 8% of

pupils receiving SEN Support were NEET, highlighting the poorer outcomes for these pupils.

- 3.9 There is a range of offer for children, young people and their families with SEND in Thurrock spanning different age-groups – ranging from pre-school and school age to transition from childhood into adulthood services. Thurrock also has two outstanding special schools which are both sort after.
- 3.10 The literature review, data and consultation with stakeholders that informed this JSNA highlighted the need to make a strategic decision towards developing greater collaboration between the local authority, CCG, and schools through enhanced joint working practices. One example of where this is required is in the commissioning of Speech, Communication and Language therapies.
- 3.11 Furthermore, the report recommended a need to invest in provision of tailored short breaks which have been shown to prevent children and young people with SEND from entering the care system as well as producing significant cost savings. It also highlighted the need for enhanced inclusion of the voice of children, young people and their families in service design and provision.
- 3.12 The JSNA also reflected the importance of early intervention and prevention to ensure that children with SEND are identified early and as such can receive the right support at the right time, giving them the best early start in the life and the opportunity to live fulfilling and healthy lives.
- 3.13 Furthermore, it is important that early prevention is considered and enhanced for children and young people with SEND within the Brighter Futures Strategy.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To appraise the Board on findings of the JSNA about children and young people with SEND.
- 4.2 To seek the Board's view and input on the needs assessment and subsequently grant approval for publication.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 A number of stakeholders have been consulted in preparing this needs assessment. Partners across Children's Services, the CCG and Public Health were consulted and were involved in the development of this JSNA report.
- 5.2 It was vital to ensure input from members of the health and social care system as this has enabled a holistic picture of the SEND landscape in Thurrock to be captured and accurately reflected within the report, as well as the recommendations that have been developed from the findings.

5.3 Stakeholders will also continue to be consulted as these recommendations reach the implementation stage.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

6.1 This JSNA report will support in delivering the Council’s vision and priorities for People and Prosperity;

1. High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time.
2. Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all.

6.2 More so, this JSNA will support and contribute to the development, consultation and implementation of the SEND strategy, thereby supporting Goals 1, 2,3,4,and 5 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and its associated objectives which are highlighted in the below table.

Goals:	1. Opportunity for all	2. Healthier environments	3. Better emotional health & wellbeing	4. Quality care centred around the person	5. Healthier for longer
Objectives:	1A. All children in Thurrock making good educational progress	2A. Create outdoor places that make it easy to exercise and to be active	3A. Give parents the support they need	4A. Create four integrated healthy living centres	5A. Reduce obesity
	1B. More Thurrock residents in employment, education or training	2B. Develop homes that keep people well and independent	3B. Improve children’s emotional health and wellbeing	4B. When services are required, they are organised around the individual	5B. Reduce the proportion of people who smoke
	1C. Fewer teenage pregnancies in Thurrock	2C. Build strong, well connected communities	3C. Reduce social isolation and loneliness	4C. Put people in control of their own care	5C. Significantly improve the identification and management of long term conditions
	1D. Fewer children and adults in poverty	2D. Improve air quality in Thurrock	3D. Improve the identification and treatment of mental ill-health, particularly in high risk	4D. Provide high quality GP and hospital care to Thurrock	5D. Prevent and treat cancer better

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by:

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by:

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by:

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Executive Summary.
- Thurrock Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021.

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment- Executive Summary.



Children with Special Educational Needs JS



SEND JSNA Exec Summary v3.pptx

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