

Feedback from Previous Meeting

Date of Meeting	Item	Members wished to make the following comments and conclusions:	Response/Comments	Follow up required
14-Sep-2017	Additional Learning Needs Reform	<p>Following their consideration of the item and the evidence received, the Committee agreed to make a series of comments and recommendations for submission to the Education and Family Support Directorate as well as a number of recommendations to be forwarded to Welsh Government for consideration in the development and implementation of the Bill, its Code and guidance.</p>	<p>Needs revision prior to sending to Cabinet due to timig issue.</p>	
		<p>The Committee requested that the subject of ALN be revisited by Scrutiny in the future at a time when the Bill has been further progressed to include consideration of the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) How the Authority and Schools are engaging with parents over the changes to the Bill? b) What the finalised process is for assessments and who is responsible for leading with them? c) What involvement/responsibilities do Educational Psychologists have under the Bill? d) Has the Bill led to an increase in tribunals and what impact has this had? This is set against the context of the recent announcement by the Lifelong Learning Minister that instead of saving £4.8m over four years the Bill could potentially cost £8.2m due to an expected increase in the number of cases of dispute resolution. e) Given that the Bill focuses on the involvement of young people and their parents, what support is available for those involved in court disputes? f) Outcomes from the Supported Internship programme. g) Support for those with ALN into employment. h) Staffing - Protection and support for staff, ALNCO support, workloads and capacity. i) Pupil-teacher ratios and class sizes and impact of Bill on capacity of teachers to support pupils with ALN j) How is the implementation of the Bill being monitored; what quality assurance frameworks are there and what accountability for local authorities, consortiums and schools? 	<p>These will be incorporated into the FWP</p>	

Further Information

The Committee requested that they receive detail of how many requests for support for children and young people with ALN have been received over the last 12 months and how long it has taken from request to an assessment been carried out.

Academic Year 2016/17.

Cognition and Learning Team.

The number of referrals received through ALN the request for help panel were approximately 252 which would include dyslexia assessments, DCD and cognitive levels for the learning resource centres (LRCs.)

The time-frame:- from referral to assessment could vary from two to twelve weeks.

Complex Medical Team (CMMI)

The number of ancillary support requests were approximately 33.

The time-frame:- from referral to assessment could vary from a few days to twelve weeks.

Educational Psychology Service.

The number of referrals received between September 2016 to July 2017 were approximately 363. Assessments were undertaken and reports were written.

There were a number of other Children and Young People discussed at consultation level at the school where school staff may be sign posted to other agencies. Educational Psychologists attend reviews for a number of young people and these are not captured in the data.

The time frame:- to start the assessment is usually around four weeks.

Speech and Language Team.

The number of referrals that went to the additional learning needs (ALN) request for help forum were 70. There were also approximately 25 additional referrals which required some action.

The time frame:- all were dealt with within a month.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Team.

The number of referrals that went to the additional learning needs (ALN) request for help forum were approximately 82.

The time frame:- all were dealt with within a month.