



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Stockport SEND Board

Local Area Partnership for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Stockport SEND Strategy 2024-27

1. Foreword

Cllr Wendy Meikle Cabinet Member for Children Families and Education

The strategy is fully in line with the joint aspirations and approach to the delivery of One Stockport: One Future and the Borough Plan. At its core is the spirit of collaboration, inclusion, equality and community. We know that we will have the biggest impact on improving lives when we work together across public services, businesses and communities.

Every child is unique. Stockport Council's commitment is to provide flexible services that respect individual wishes and meet individual needs. The approach will empower families and enhance outcomes. Our combined workforce plays a pivotal role, therefore, we are dedicated to developing a skilled workforce that strives for excellence through continuous learning, professional development, and a passion for making a difference.

Chris McLoughlin OBE, Executive Director People and Neighbourhoods and Director of Children's Services, Philippa Johnson NHS GM Deputy Place Based Lead (Co-chairs of the SEND Board)

We are delighted to present the Stockport SEND Strategy which outlines our approach to support children and young people with SEND to achieve and their families to thrive over the next 3 years. As leaders in the field of education, health and care, we recognise the importance of collaborative efforts to create an inclusive and supportive environment for all children and young people.

We are committed to offering sufficient and appropriate provision within the community. Whether it's educational support, health services, or emotional well-being, we want to ensure that families can access what they need close to home through neighbourhood and prevention. We actively collaborate as a system of early years providers, schools, colleges, health, education and care professionals to support every child and young person with SEND to achieve success in all areas of life. We work with parents and carers, listening to lived experience to shape our evolving services and will continue to learn from what they tell us and ensure their voices influence our work and developments going forwards.

Sherann Hillman MBE, Chair of Parents and Carers Together Stockport (PACTS)

Parents and carers are the unsung heroes of our children's lives. They hold a wealth of knowledge about their child's unique needs, aspirations, and challenges. Their insights are invaluable, and working together with universal, targeted and specialist services we know will lead to more effective and inclusive practices.

PACTS welcomes the clear integrated and collaborative approach to delivering improved outcomes for our children, young people and families. We commit to continue listening to the voice of parents and carers in Stockport and working with the local area to reshape services and support, so they reflect families' views even more fully.

2. Introduction

This document sets out the strategic priorities for children and young with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families in Stockport for the period 2024 until 2027.

One Stockport: One Future

Stockport is an ambitious place undergoing a spectacular transformation. A place to work and play, with green space and lots of culture on our doorstep, with excellent connections to Greater Manchester, London and the Peak District. It is a place where residents, businesses and communities work together to make good things happen and get people the support they need.

But Stockport is not immune from the big challenges of our times. The challenges facing us are big. They will take time. That is why One Stockport: One Future looks ahead to 2040. We want to ensure that Stockport is a place that is resilient to whatever changes and opportunities will come in the future.

One Stockport: One Future is the next phase of our borough plan. It sets out how we will work together to tackle the challenges we face, so Stockport can be the best place to live happy and healthy lives, a place where anything is possible, a place that everyone, right across the Borough can be proud of. It is embedded into our Council Plan and will be delivered through our organisational and partnership strategies.

Delivering 5 big things together

To achieve our shared vision to ‘make Stockport the best place to live happy and healthy lives’, we must have a relentless focus on the biggest challenges facing our borough: -

- Fair and inclusive – making Stockport a great, diverse place to live, where everyone can thrive
- Climate Action Now – creating a ‘green print’ for Stockport so it is a climate friendly place to live, work, play and invest.

No one thing or organisation can address these challenges alone. One Stockport: One Future is a collective call to action to work together to deliver the ‘5 big things’ we believe will transform our borough over the next 15 years to help us achieve our shared vision.



The role of the SEND Strategy in delivering One Stockport: One Future

The 5 big things are crucial to creating the right conditions so that all children and families can thrive.

They can only be achieved if we all work together. Our SEND Strategy provides a strategic framework for the delivery of One Stockport: One Future through the lens of children, young people and families with special educational needs and disabilities.

The SEND Strategy has a particular focus on our ambition to be ‘the best place to grow up’ but also contributes to the delivery of the other big things.

The SEND Strategy and the Children and Young People Plan

The SEND Strategy is one of a suite of documents that contributes to the delivery of the Children and Young People Plan 2024-2027. The Plan identifies seven Big Ambitions:

Ambition 1: All the services that work with children and families work together to ensure families get the help they need when they need it and children and young people are safe and supported by their family networks

Ambition 2: Working together with families and communities, all children have the best start in life and are ready for school at the end of reception;

Ambition 3: All children and young people can access and engage in education and achieve the best they can;

Ambition 4: Children and families with SEND receive the best possible support at the right time to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved

Ambition 5: All children, young people and families have access to a clear and inclusive early help offer;

Ambition 6: All children and young people enjoy good emotional health and wellbeing and can access co-ordinated robust and timely support based on need;

Ambition 7: Children in care and care leavers have stable and loving homes and are equipped with the skills needed to live a fulfilling, successful and rewarding life

Whilst the SEND Strategy support delivery of all seven ambitions; it takes specific responsibility for the delivery of Ambition 4. The accountability and coordination of our SEND ambitions sits with the SEND Board which is our Local Area Partnership for SEND.

We are building on the work undertaken as part of the previous 2020-2023 SEND strategy and the significant improvements made since our initial SEND Inspection in 2018.

Since 2018 we have come a long way as a local area and have embedded “SEND as everyone’s business” with a focussed transformation plan in place throughout the last 5 years. In the OFSTED re-visit in 2022 it was noted that:

Leaders’ mantra that ‘SEND is everyone’s business’ is now embedded in the culture of the local area. Leaders ensure that children’s services and health teams are held to account for the education and health outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

However, as a local area we recognise that there is still much to do to improve the lives of our children and young people with SEND in Stockport.

3. Our Vision

Our vision in Stockport

Our overarching ambition for Stockport is ‘to be the best place to live happy and healthy lives. We want to create a place where anything is possible, a place that everyone right across the Borough can be proud of.’ **One Stockport: One Future.**

Our vision for children and families is key to achieving this ambition

“Our vision is for all children and young people with SEND to have the best start in life. We want all children and young people to be happy, prepared for adulthood and able to achieve their goals. We want families to feel supported, confident, resilient and connected to their community”

To support this vision, we have co-designed seven I Statements with parents, carers and young people in collaboration with the Council for Disabled Children. These Statements underpin work across all areas so we can ensure the best possible outcomes for children and young people. The seven outcomes for children and young people are:

- I am confident and able to achieve my goals
- My voice is heard and acted upon
- I enjoy good health and wellbeing
- I feel safe
- I feel part of my local community
- I am happy and have people I can trust
- The people who love me and care for me are enabled to do this

4. Coproduction of Our Priorities

This strategy has been written in line with the commitment made in our Stockport Local-Area Co-production Charter (insert). We have worked together at Board, sub-group and task and finish group levels to achieve improvements as well as prioritise our collective time and resources. We have been active in ensuring coproduction is embedded in the way we work.

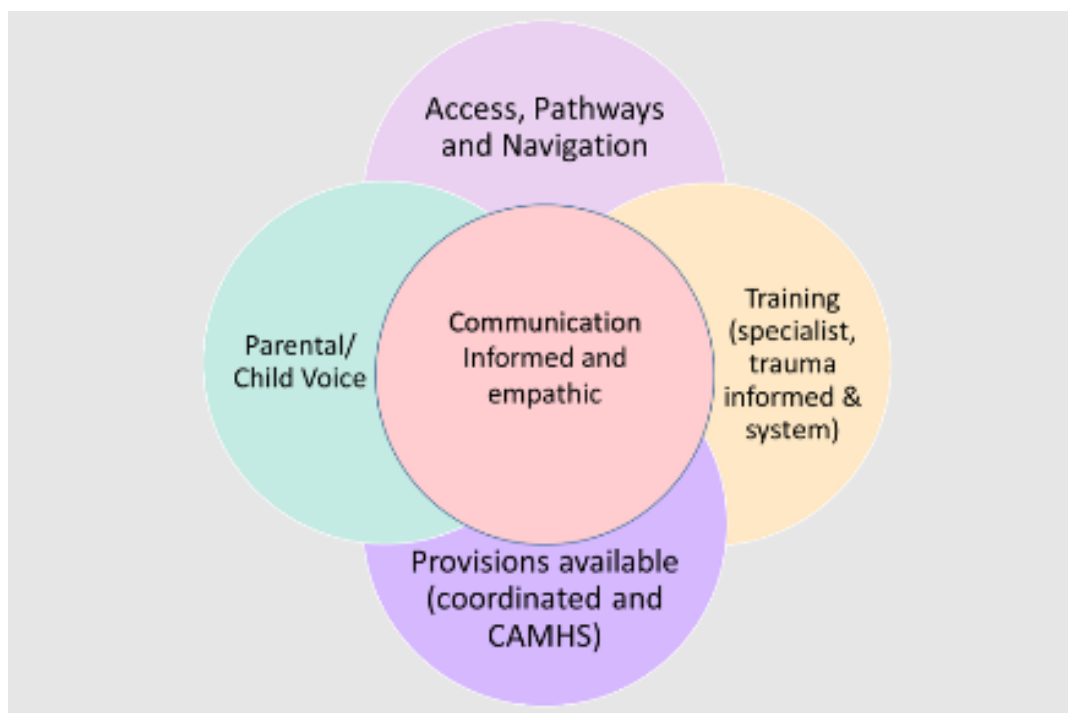
Co-production happens when all voices are actively listened to from the start of the planning process. This involves a mutual respect for each other's views, with an open and honest relationship that is transparent and continually evolving to achieve meaningful and positive outcomes.

The priorities have been informed by the voice of all stakeholders within Stockport. This includes ongoing dialogue with parent/carers groups, which includes, but is not limited to, our nominated parent/carer forum PACTS; young people through our SEND specific young person's groups SAYS; and through focussed work carried out by partners AUTISK and PIE.

The Charter states that, together we'll create a culture where we will:

- Be open and honest
- Actively listen
- Value the lived experience
- Do what matters
- Work together
- Be respectful

The following themes emerged from feedback from partners, parent/carer representatives, parent-carers and children and young people:



The details of the parent/carer feedback can be accessed here:



The SEND Strategy has also been informed by the recent SEND Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Investment Position Statement and has informed our Joint Commissioning Strategy.

5. SEND population in Stockport

The current population Stockport

- There are currently 81,003 children and young people aged 0 to 25 years living in Stockport. In Stockport 8,993 children and young people (0 to 25 year olds) have Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability (SEND).
- Of those with SEND, 67.3% have their needs met through SEN Support and 32.7% have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This means approximately 10.7% of the total population of 0 to 25 year olds in Stockport have an identified SEND need. This is higher than the national average (8.5%).
- The number of EHC plans in Stockport has increased from 2,195 in 2019 to 2,827 at the end of 2023 an overall increase of over 28%. Since the 2023 SEND JSNA, this has risen to 3,164 in mid-February 2024 with an additional 590 in progress (where there is a plan being drafted but not finalised)
- Pupils with SEND or an EHCP are, as a percentage, far more likely to receive free school meals (FSM) than pupils without SEND or an EHCP. Specifically, 36.7% of pupils with an EHCP and 34.5% with SEN support receive FSM, compared with 17.7% per cent of pupils without SEND or an EHCP.

Where SEND children and young people live

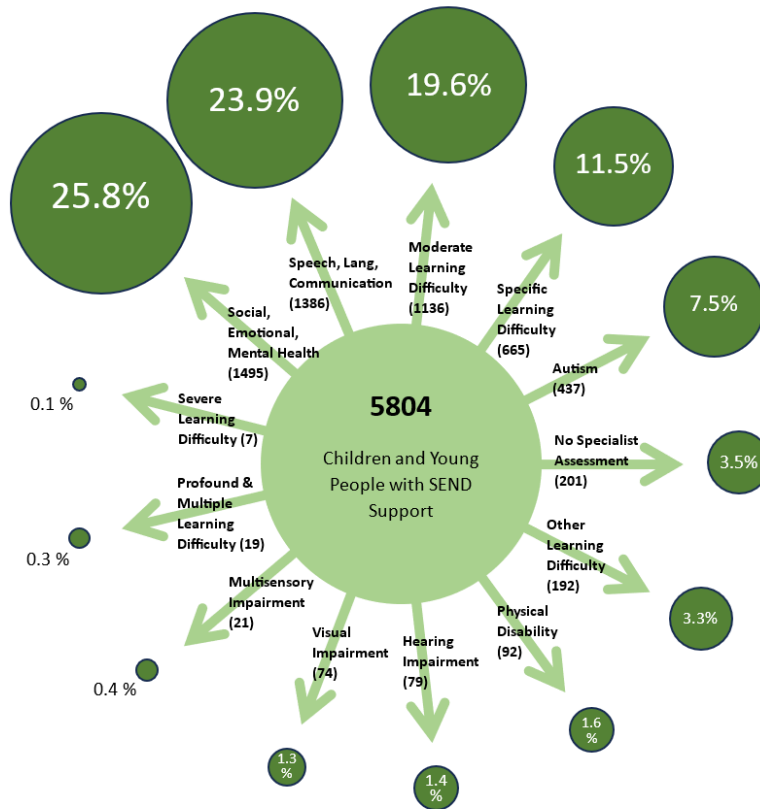
- EHC Plan rates are 6.0% in the most deprived areas compared to 2.1% in the least deprived areas. For those who receive SEN support the rates are 9.4% in the most deprived areas compared to 4.2% in the least deprived areas.
- Combined SEN Support and EHC Plans are highest in our deprived areas of Adswold, Brinnington, Offerton and Lancashire Hill. More than 20% of those aged 0-25 years in these areas have a SEND need. The area with the lowest proportion part is in Romiley with a rate of 3.5%.

Resources aligned to need

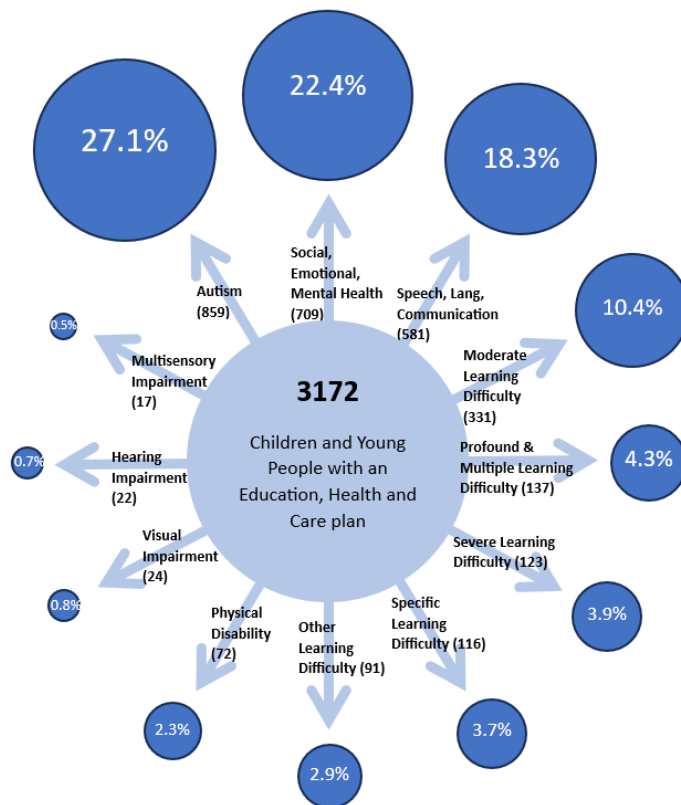
- Stockport Family recognises that the scale and intensity of services need to be directly reflective and aligned to the degree inequality and disadvantage in the population. Stockport Family staffing and resources have purposefully been aligned in proportion to the level of need. The adoption of the Balanced System © is a recent example of the redistribution of speech and language resources in relation to need considering both economic disadvantage and numbers of pupils with SEND.

Needs of our children and young people

SEN Support (January 2024 Census)



EHCP (Liquid Logic February 2024)



- The SEND JSNA outlines that in 2023, the most common primary need for those with an EHC Plan were Autism, followed by Social, Emotional and Mental Health, Speech, Language and Communications, and Moderate Learning Difficulty – together these four needs are the primary need for over three quarters of children and young people with an EHC Plan. These areas will be an underlying area to target and focus resource for all sub-groups.
- There has been a cumulative increase in total numbers of EHC Plans since 2019. The figures have risen from 2195 to 3127 (977 or 44%). The primary need of autism is the greatest increase in numbers rising by 425 (97%). This is followed by the increases in those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health with 162 more cases (30% increase). A significant increase has been seen in Profound and Multiple Learning Disability with 105 more pupils.
- There has been a steady increase year on year in the number of pupils placed at Independent, Non-Maintained Special Schools (INMSS) in particular for pupils with Autism or Social Emotional Mental Health needs. This is the most expensive type of provision for those with an EHCP. It is recognised that the capacity of state funded provision is key to supporting a sustainable system and is being progressed by the Place Planning Board.

6. Stockport Priorities 2024-27

There are four strategic partnerships which are sub-groups to the board. In addition, there are other partnerships delivering on the children's SEND agenda. We are focusing attention on the requirements of our three highest levels of need. These are:

1. **Social Emotional Mental Health**
2. **Autism and Neurodiversity**
3. **Speech Language and Communication Needs**

As well as two cross cutting themes applicable to all education, health and care services for SEND:

4. **Timelines of Assessment and Diagnosis** and ensure those that are waiting are 'waiting well' which will be underpinned by clear communication
5. developing and promoting our early help ambition of **Success at SEN Support** from the early years to leaving education to enable the effective management of need at the earliest point and impact on the **Sustainability of Education, Health and Care Services**

The SEND Board agreed in workshops and meetings the following four partnerships would provide cross-cutting areas of focus to deliver on our five priorities:

Co-production, Communication and Engagement

We will work in partnership with people with lived experience, carers, and service providers to develop clear and timely communication from strength based services which support children, young people and families to achieve positive outcomes.

What we have heard:

- Communication with some families is not always clear enough or planned into the assessment and interventions with individual services/workers.
- Families are not always kept informed of specific delays and feel they must chase information.
- Partners across the area feel they could be better informed of developments.
- Families still often tell their story more than once and professionals do not always communicate and share.
- Young people do not feel they have their voice heard in individual planning
- We don't have the evidence to demonstrate coproduction

What we will focus on:

1. A participation strategy and a communication plan for the local area considering digital platforms and how people want to receive information.
2. Being clear on when communication will be received and when.
3. Workforce development planning to include communication as a top priority.
4. Co-produce communication standards and information across the partnership.
5. Further developing “tell it once” and a person-centered planning approach.
6. Further focus on engagement with young people to support individual planning and service design.

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Timely and agreed milestone communication is a focus for those waiting for assessment, therapies and diagnosis making families and frontline workforce feel heard and understood.
- The SEND community and workforce influence priorities and are kept informed about improvement plans and progress on delivery. This will require regular scheduled communication, engagement and coproduction activity.
- Partners continue to recognise that SEND is everyone's business and are regularly briefed on SEND duties and what good looks like linked to SEND inspection.
- Services and individual plans are child, young people and family-focused by continued work with parents, carers, young people and other partners to improve individual and service planning, design, delivery, measuring impact and review evidenced by ‘You said – We did’.

Key Performance Indicators

Numbers of children and young people providing their views
Numbers of parent/carers providing their views

Strategies, Plans and Tools developed and delivered by this Sub-group

- Participation and Engagement Strategy
- Communications Strategy
- Co-Production Charter
- Local Offer

Quality, Performance and Measuring Impact

We will assess, measure and evaluate the quality of services to achieve positive outcomes and continuous improvement, ensuring education, health and care services remain sustainable

What we have heard:

- We are significantly overspending on SEND budgets
- We are not performing well enough in some areas
- Timeliness for EHCP assessment needs to improve
- Waiting times for assessment and diagnosis are too long
- We need to ensure further work on quality brings consistency in both SEN Support and EHC Plan writing and delivery

What we will focus on:

1. A financial recovery plan which includes the DfE and CIPFA initiative in Stockport 'Delivering Better Value'
2. A significant improvement for EHCP timeliness including focus on the receipt of good quality data to make an assessment, digital improvements, and earlier involvement of specialist support and ensure clear, measurable person centered outcomes are agreed with families in the EHCP
3. Further developing quality assurance processes for the services we provide and commission to include input from parent/carers and young people.
4. Monitoring service impact so that short and longer term outcomes for children and young people with SEND are improved, and there is evidence of their achievements and progress across all areas, including social, emotional, educational, health and independence.
6. Measuring the right performance data to identify whether the system is making improvements against our 7 outcomes. Performance is owned and monitored across the SEND System.
7. Knowing what good looks like and benchmarking ourselves against it which will support inspection readiness, peer challenge and Ofsted self-assessment

Outcomes to be achieved:

- The SEND system working across education, health and care are achieving sustainability by working towards recovery of the financial overspend.

- There is an improvement in service delivery, lived experience, quality and outcomes which is evident through active quality assurance activity and the SEND dashboard indicators.
- Children, young people and families wait well and experience improved timeliness for assessments, therapies and diagnosis.

Key Performance Indicators

Pre-school child development outcomes
 Key stage outcomes
 EHCP timeliness
 Absence rates
 Exclusion rates
 Social Care support for those with SEND
 Placement types for those with an EHCP
 Support to travel to school independently
 Complaints, mediation and tribunal numbers

Strategies, Plans and Tools developed and delivered by this Sub-group

- SEND Data Dashboard and Outcomes Framework
- Bi-Monthly SEND Board Report
- SEND Self-assessment
- EHCP Quality Assurance Framework and Report

Joint Commissioning and Integrated Working

We will ensure that health, education and care working effectively together and with children, young people and their families, agree on shared commissioning priorities and use joint resources to measurably improve outcomes

What we have heard:

- Parent/carers feel it is hard to understand what is available to support them at the earliest opportunity.
- There is still too much bureaucracy involved in gaining support and this takes too long causing frustration for families.
- Schools would like to be able to access more resources at SEN Support level to allocate more assistance to their pupils sooner.
- We have higher than average numbers of children with EHCP which could have been avoided if we intervened effectively earlier.
- Some of our support services are post diagnostic which cuts off support to those without a formal diagnosis, for example autism.
- Short breaks are helping families, but sometimes they are difficult to source and more needs to be done to make ordinary community groups more accessible.

- We require robust process for preparation to adulthood which includes joint planning between children's and adult services

We will focus on:

1. Building further our digital local offer, linked with wider work on community resources and family hubs to ensure we have a robust overview and publicise access to the early help offer.
2. Oversight of the development of neurodiversity pathways including pre and post diagnosis and the hub model; providing additional support to ensure families are waiting well.
3. SEN Support pathfinder to co-produce a new way of working with schools to provide support at the earliest point with additional early help funding for schools.
4. Further integration of workforce with a much clearer understanding of services and how we work together from services managers through to frontline staff members with clear roles, responsibilities and links for working together.

[Linked to the Workforce Development sub-group]

5. Implement recommendations from reviews of therapy services (Speech and Language, Occupational Health and Physiotherapy) to ensure the right people are getting the right support at the right time.
6. Ensuring joint decision making across education, health and care leads to improved outcomes for children and young people.
7. Have oversight of the development of robust sufficiency strategies in particular to support Social Emotional Mental Health; Autism and Neurodiversity; and Speech Language and Communication Needs to ensure local levels of provision are sufficient to meet need. For school places, this includes the reduction of private and independent provision being commissioned only in exceptional circumstances.

[Linked to the Place Planning Board]

8. Ensure clear and robust pathways for young people preparing for adulthood ensuring links into the economic plan and work and skills agenda.

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Children and young people's needs are identified early to avoid an increase in need by strengthened SEN support offer leading to reduced lengthy statutory assessments. This will require alignment of financial resources to support early help.
- Children, young people and families feel understood and supported and don't feel the need to request statutory assessments or get a diagnosis before effective support is put in place.
- Multi-disciplinary teams know each other, work effectively together, share plans and integrate to provide a seamless offer to families.
- Families and professionals are more knowledgeable about local provision and support by being able to access information, advice and guidance. This will require information on support options being clearer and easier to access for all.

- Young people are successful in achieving independence through good work and skills opportunities, good health, independence and feeling included through being part of the community and accessing leisure locally. This will require clear pathways into adulthood and independence.

Key Performance Indicators

Access to settled accommodation for those with a Learning Disability
 Annual health checks for those with a Learning Disability
 Education, employment and training numbers for those with an EHCP
 Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy timeliness
 Mental Health, Autism and ADHD assessment and diagnosis timeliness (linked to CYP Mental Health and Well Being partnership delivery)
 Self harm proportions for 0-17yr olds in Stockport

Strategies, Plans and Tools developed and delivered by this Sub-group

- Joint Commissioning Plan
- Speech, Language and Communication Review and Delivery Plan
- Occupation Health and Physiotherapy Review
- Social Emotional and Mental Health Review and Delivery Plan
 [Linked to CYP Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership]
- Neurodiversity, pre and post diagnosis review and pathway plans
 [Oversight only – Deliver Plans belong to One Health and Care Board Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism Delivery Programme]
- Preparing for Adulthood Strategy
 [Linked to the Economic Plan and Work and Skills Plan]

Workforce Development and Support for Carers

We will together develop a skilled and adaptable workforce, by enhancing the skills, knowledge, and capabilities of workers through training, education, reflective supervision, career advancement, and continuous learning. We will ensure strategies, practices and knowledge is shared with families for both information and adoption at home.

What we have heard:

- There is a need to focus further on whole area workforce development post pandemic, this includes understanding of high staff turnover.
- There needs to be a community of best practice approach.
- It feels like there are a lot of separate services. A one workforce offer across the system is needed.
- Parents and carers lack the tools and techniques to be able to support their children at home

What we will focus on:

1. Revised area workforce development plan based on lived experience to be co-produced
2. Ensuring communication and person-centered approaches are a key theme where families only tell their story once. [linked to the Workforce Development sub-group]
3. Myth busting for SEND to ensure appropriate advice is given by the workforce
4. Strengthening the support for carers so that they are able to support initiatives introduced at school or health services while in the home environment
5. Ensure the workforce is focused on “tell it once”, supporting sharing and coordination across services and systems

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Workforce feel well informed and confident about their roles as well as teams they work with. This will require appropriate training, information, advice and guidance with clear oversight of quality and application from their manager
- Workforce are informed and knowledgeable about SEND processes and know how they and other teams work collectively while retaining their own duties to support children, young people and families. This will require prevention, identification, early help support as well as pathways to specialist interventions to be widely understood.
- Families reflect that regardless of who they approach, they are given similar information, advice and signposting.
- Carers are confident about what support is being undertaken in school or health environments and are able to apply similar strategies at home.

Key Performance Indicators

Numbers completing SEND Training

Numbers accessing SEND Information and Support Services

Strategies, Plans and Tools developed and delivered by this Sub-group

- SEND workforce development plan
- SEND workforce training matrix
- Strength Based Assessments and Outcome Focused Plans

Priorities Delivered by other Stockport Partnerships

The SEND Board also relies on the delivery of its priorities through linked Stockport Partnership Boards who manage, oversee and implement focused work to improve SEND outcomes. These include:

The School Place Planning Board delivering the SEND school place sufficiency plan.

The Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism Programme Delivery Group delivering the 0-25 offer for mental health and neurodiversity.

The Neighbourhood and Prevention Board delivering place based integrated working with a focus on prevention, early help and effective joint practice delivered through Family Hubs, team around the school and GP Practices.

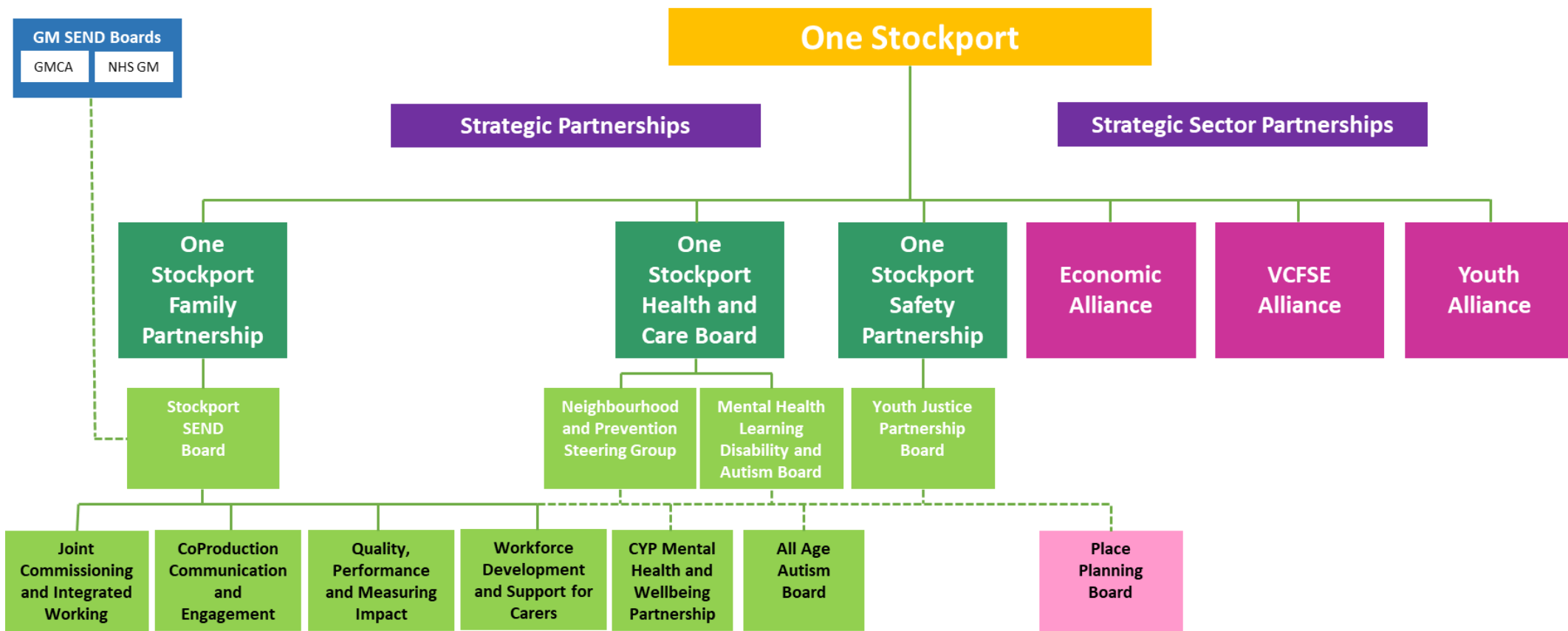
The Youth Justice Partnership Board collaborating to identify and address the special educational needs and disabilities of young offenders. In recognition of high levels of practice in supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities, the board strives to achieve the Youth Justice SEND Quality Mark.

The Economic Alliance plays a crucial role in shaping Stockport's economic landscape and ensuring a prosperous future for the community. The work and skills agenda for young people with SEND is a key area of focus for the Preparing for Adulthood Group.

Sub-Groups to the Stockport Family Partnership are key areas of integrated working for Children's Services involving Early Help, Start Well and Family Hubs. These sub-groups champion the offer to SEND children whilst considering wider population needs to reduce inequalities and improve outcomes.

7. Governance of the Strategy

The diagram below shows the six strategic partnerships in Stockport. These partnerships are responsible for bringing together different partners to shape our strategic direction, maintain accountability for the implementation of our partnership priorities, nurture collaboration and cross sector working and make strategic decisions on the allocation of shared resources.



The One Stockport Family Partnership has overall accountability for the delivery of our ambitions for children and young people. This strategy is overseen by the One Health and Care Board and Stockport Family Partnership Board; the responsibility for delivery has been delegated to the SEND Board.

The SEND Board will report progress annually to the Health and Wellbeing Board using our self-evaluation processes.

The SEND Board priorities and actions will be represented at the GMCA SEND Board as well as NHS GM SEND Board.

Appendix One

Overview of SEND Strategy 2020-2024

Reflections on previous SEND Strategy

The previous SEND strategy was launched in 2020. Since that time there has been a significant period of disruption due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Although the local area has focussed on and remained committed to all priorities within the strategy, we also worked quickly to adapt the support during this period.

A summary of the progress against the 2020 SEND strategy priorities is set out below.

The SEND Strategy 2020-2023 had the following priorities:

- 1. Co-production - That all work proactively and co-productively with parents, carers, young people and other partners to improve service planning, design, delivery and review and to ensure that services are child, young people and family-focused. Our work will be guided by the [Stockport Co-Production Charter](#).**

In this time, we have:

- Further publicised the co-production charter with XXX now signed up
- Launched co-production E-learning across the area
- Developed a co-production community of practice which is attended by partners from across Stockport to share and learn from co-production best practice.
- Carried out focussed work on youth voice through partners.
- Built up open and honest relationships and lines of communication with parent/carer groups

We still need to:

- Further enhance opportunity for young people to have their voice heard in their individual planning.
- Further collate the impact of co-production in a more robust way

- 2. Joint Commissioning – We will ensure that health, education and social care work with children, young people and their families to agree on shared priorities and direct resources to where they measurably improve outcomes.**

In this time, we have:

- Continued a joint commissioning, planning and delivery group which meets monthly and oversees all activity.
- Across all agencies and partners jointly reviewed speech, language and communication offer for Stockport children

- Jointly commissioned a review of occupational therapy and physio services
- Co-produced and launched an integrated personal budget offer
- Co-produced and launched Family hubs to strength family help offers.
- Reviewed and co-produced a new local offer
- Strengthened working arrangements and planning between children and adult services.
- Ensure a performance focus with a specific performance group chaired by Director of Education.

We still need to:

- Deliver on the current work on a new pre-diagnostic offer for neurodiversity linked to emotional wellbeing.
- Strengthen focus across the system on preparation for adulthood.
- Launch in Sept 2024 a new speech, language and communication offer which is outcome focussed and community based.
- Implement changes and recommendations outlined in the occupational therapy and physio service review

3. Inclusion – We want to ensure that all early year’s settings, schools, colleges and services provide high quality inclusive provision that meets the needs of children and young people with SEND locally. We want to ensure that settings are appropriately supported to be enabled to do this both with resource and support.

In this time, we have:

- Restructured and launched our council education support services into a new inclusion service with a new defined inclusion focus.
- Strengthened the role of school improvement within SEND.
- Developed a school’s strategy
- Commissioned further resource provisions within mainstream school settings.

We still need to:

- Develop as planned inclusion partnerships within each locality.
- Roll out findings from the current work on SEN support in the pathfinder across the borough

4. Outcomes – That there is a shared drive to provide services that have the most significant impact so that short and longer-term outcomes for children and young people with SEND are improved, and there is evidence of their achievements and progress across all areas, including social, emotional, educational and independence. Making

sure it is outcomes based and focused on evaluating by outcomes and not actions.

In this time, we have:

- Ensured we have a performance focus on outcomes with a distinct discussion monthly based on multi-agency outcomes dashboard based on our outcome's framework.
- Improved positively DFE measured specific education outcome measures in both the early years and school ages for our SEND children.
- Ensured the SEND outcomes framework has been adopted across children's services and is in Council plan and is central to strategic thinking.
- Ensured it is a focus of workforce development programmes.

We still need to:

- Further strengthen operational practice in relation to SMART outcome measures within SEN Support and EHCP planning

5. Workforce – That we have a skilled, trained and confident workforce supported by brave and bold leaders to deliver these priorities.

In this time, we have:

- Ensured SEND E-learning is mandatory for all Council workers and available to anyone in Stockport.
- Launched new mandatory training for all social workers on SEND and their role.
- Launched a training through school improvement/ inclusion on adaptive teaching.
- Rolled out Autism in schools training to all schools which is being built upon in 2024
- Rolled out ELSA training for all schools- MARTIN- needs wording
- Ensured workforce development for family hubs includes SEND as a golden thread

We still need to:

- Refresh the current workforce plan