



COUNCIL MEETING

25 January 2024

Gateshead Local Area SEND Strategy and SEND Improvement Plan 2023-2026

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report is for Council endorsement of the new SEND Strategy and associated improvement plan.
2. It provides an update on the outcome of the recent Local Area SEND inspection and the partnership response to the recommendations that followed.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- i. Endorse the Local Area SEND Strategy as set out in appendix 2 to the report.
- ii. Note the areas for development following the Local Area SEND inspection in May 2023;
- iii. Note the progress of the SEND improvement programme so far and its impact for children and young people with SEND and their families; and
- iv. Endorse the focus and priorities for the programme for 2023-26 to embed and accelerate change, responding to the Local Area inspection for SEND as set out in appendix 3 to the report.

For the following reasons:

- i. To improve SEND services across the Local Area and respond to feedback from families, carers and young people with SEND.
- ii. To appropriately respond to the Local Area Ofsted/CQC SEND inspection outcome.