

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board

14th June, 2018

Report of the Head of Transformation – Andrew Thomas

Matter for decision

Wards Affected: All

HEALTHCARE NEEDS POLICY

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Member approval to update the local authority Healthcare Needs Policy.

Background

2. Cabinet approved the current local authority Healthcare Needs policy at its meeting in January, 2013. Recently Welsh Government has issued updated guidance on this topic that has necessitated the current local authority policy to be re-written.

Supporting Learners with Healthcare Needs

3. Local authorities and governing bodies are required to ensure arrangements are in place to properly support learners who have healthcare needs in order to minimise any disruption and barriers to education. A number of learners will have a form of healthcare need at some point throughout their time at school. With appropriate support they should be able to regularly attend and take part in most activities.

4. Schools must have in place a healthcare needs policy that sets out the school's commitment to supporting learners with such needs. In addition, the local authority is expected to have an overarching policy setting out how its schools will support learners with healthcare needs.
5. The local authority's policy outlining its commitment and approach to supporting individual learners with healthcare needs is attached as Appendix A. The policy has been formed on the basis of guidance and an outline template provided by Welsh Government.

Financial Impact

6. There is no additional financial impact associated with this proposal.

Equality Impact Assessment

7. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined that this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

Workforce Impacts

8. There are no workforce or staffing issues directly associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

9. There is no legal impact associated with this report.

Risk Management

10. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

12. To adopt the policy contained within Appendix A as the Local Authority Healthcare Needs Policy. If agreed, this will replace the existing policy previously adopted in January, 2013.

Reasons for Proposed Decisions

13. To update and replace the existing Local Authority Healthcare Needs Policy.

Implementation of Decision

14. The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Appendices

15. Appendix A: Local Authority Healthcare Needs Policy.

List of Background Papers

16. Welsh Government, Supporting Learners with Healthcare Needs Guidance Document 215/2017.

Officer Contact

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