

## **Introduction / Background**

Education & SEND, programme management of Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) service delivery to children, families, nurseries, schools, further education and health providers.

### **What was the equality issue?**

1. Inconsistent approach from Providers delivering SEND support to children and families with a lack of understanding of how to deliver SEND statutory duty.
2. Misinterpretation of SEND funding criteria and requirements for Providers to utilise.
3. Lack of awareness of SEND services available to children and families.

### **How was this addressed?**

1. New SEND & AP Strategy with updated SEND guidance, training and development for all Providers to ensure consistency. SEND Reviews and Quality Assurance of Providers to monitor a consistent approach. Published SEND and AP Ofsted and CQC inspection improvement plan.
2. Finance training session to explain SEND funding and Provider responsibilities. Revised Ordinary Available Provision guidance for Providers to follow to guide them on funding availability.
3. New SEND children and young people's user group (Aim-High) to capture their voice to shape SEND services. Closer engagement with SEND Parent Carer Forum with the Chair sitting as a Member on our Special Executive Partnership Board.

### **What was the outcome?**

1. LBH assurance of SEND Provider delivery has increased from Low to Good following the implementation of the SEND & AP Strategy, SEND Reviews and Quality Assurance visits.
2. Finance sessions have general one word outcome feedback and overall the sessions were informative, therefore SEND finance knowledge has increased across the borough during 2024/25.
3. User feedback outcome is that since the Ofsted and CQC inspection in May 2024, LBH is more collaborative with co-production and engagement and includes users in strategic leadership positions.