

Joint statement from Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils regarding the review of the Sensory Inclusion Service (SIS) undertaken by SEND4Change

During the summer of 2018, Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire carried out a review of the Sensory Inclusion Service (SIS) that provides provision across both local areas for children and young people with hearing and visual impairment. The review was facilitated by SEND4Change, an external company with experience in SEN arrangements and a particular interest and knowledge of sensory services.

The review involved a detailed analysis of the service offer, its affordability, the views of service users and its effectiveness. Whilst recognising that the service is held in high regard, the review has suggested recommendations for a programme of change surrounding areas in need of improvement. Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils have welcomed the insight provided and will, in the coming months, consider next steps to take, including implementation of any key recommendations.

Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils are committed to working with all stakeholders, including children, young people and parents/carers in developing a future change management programme to deliver a service model that demonstrates:

- Children and young people's needs continue to be identified appropriately
- Children and young people's needs are met now and in the foreseeable future
- Interventions are carried out efficiently, effectively and by the right staff
- The service supports children and young people to prepare for their life as an adult
- The service has sufficient resources, is sustainable and represents value for money
- The service can build capacity in educational settings and the family home

Our immediate priorities are to:

- Improve the range of online resources and information available to children, young people families and education settings
- Build the capacity of our education settings to meet the needs of children and young people with sensory impairment by developing a traded offer of service delivery
- Deliver efficiencies through low risk change activities that have been identified by the service itself.

Where any changes are proposed in the future we will ensure to communicate our intentions with parents and families.

For further information, you can download the full [SEND4Change report](#) available on the SEND local offers of both Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire at

[Sensory Inclusion Service \(SIS\) – Telford and Wrekin Council](#)

[Sensory Inclusion Service \(SIS\) Review | Shropshire Council](#)

Please note that the report constitutes the findings of work completed by SEND4Change. Careful consideration will be given regarding the implementation of recommendations that have been made.

Should you require further information please contact either Simon Wellman (Simon.Wellman@telford.gov.uk) or Julia Dean (Julia.Dean@shropshire.gov.uk), SEND leads for Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Councils.