

	<p align="center">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p align="center">SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p align="center">November 2025</p>
Q2 Update: High Needs Block 2025/26	
Open	
Classification - For Scrutiny Review & Comment	
Key Decision: No	
Wards Affected: (All Wards): All	
Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Executive Director of People's Services	
Report Authors: Peter Haylock – Operational Director of Education and SEND Joe Gunning – Head of Programmes, Children's Commissioning	
Purpose of the report This report provides an update on the High Needs Block programmes of work and performance against the Department for Education Safety Valve Agreement at Q2.	

Recommendations:

1. Schools Forum to note the current position and progress of the transformation programme across the High Needs Block (HNB).

Q2 2025/26 - Programme Update

Work programme	Assurance Level		
Increase early intervention activity and development of a more robust Local Offer	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	Green	Green	RAG
<p>The progress in relation to the Council's Early Intervention approach continues to be sustained.</p> <p>154 requests for Needs Assessments compared to 149 for the same period in 2024. The 2024 outturn showed a -4.6% decrease compared to 2023.</p> <p>Settings continue to be engaged in our SEND Support pathway (ASK SAL) with 161 referrals this academic year to date. Referrers have been supported through a 'Team Around' approach with access to a variety of specialists including Specialist Teachers, Educational Psychologists, and Occupational Therapists.</p>			

Work programme	Assurance Level		
Review of Alternative Provision model	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	N/A	N/A	N/A
This workstream is complete.			
Work programme	Assurance Level		
SEND Sufficiency Review and School Organisation Plan	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	Amber	Amber	RAG
<p>Progress update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision complete for the delivery of 32 new specialist places for September 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 16 place SEN Unit for pupils with speech, language and communication needs at Ark Burlington Danes Secondary School. The Unit will support 8 pupils in the first year. A 16 place Additionally Resourced Provision for pupils with Autism at Fulham Cross Academy. The ARP will support 8 pupils in the first year. A new Queensmill Key Stage 1 Satellite Provision at Sullivan Primary School, providing up to 20 places from September 2025 and 40 places by September 2026 in the Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2). This will provide an improved offer for pupils by providing early intervention in a specialist setting to address the issue of children being retained in Nursery for longer periods. The vision is for this new provision to support pupils with the skills to graduate into the new breadth of mainstream SEN Units at the end of Key Stage 1. Secure DfE significant change approval for the FCA and Ark BDA Specialist Provision Queensmill consultation currently underway <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of DfE significant change for the new Queensmill Satellite provision Summer works programme to deliver the new specialist provision for September 2025 Planning for September 2026 delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16-place primary SEN Unit to Autism 16-place primary SEN Unit to support pupils with speech, language and communication needs Expansion of the Queensmill Key Stage 1 Satellite Provision at Sullivan Primary School to 40 places 			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of Miles Coverdale SEN Unit for pupils with speech, language and communication needs from 20 to 32 places Formalise the change of designation for the Queen's Manor Primary School Pavilion Unit to support pupils with Autism - 20 places A 16-place Key Stage 2 SEN Unit for pupils with Autism that is closely aligned with Queensmill school providing a stepdown pathway from the Queensmill Key Stage 1 Satellite 			
Work programme	Assurance Level		
Review and reform of outreach services	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	N/A	N/A	N/A
This programme is closed.			
Work programme	Assurance Level		
Case Management system	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	N/A	N/A	N/A
This programme has been delivered and is complete.			
Work programme	Assurance Level		
Annual Reviews	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	Amber	Amber	RAG
<p>Progress Update:</p> <p>Continued effort continues to be made in relation to annual reviews. Of the 1631 young people in scope for an annual review, 63% have been completed in the last year. Of those 70% of settings have returned the report within two weeks, 60% had a decision made within 4 weeks and 58% of plans where there was a decision to amend were issued in 12 weeks (up 8% from Q1). Our 2024 SEN2 performance where the outcome of the review communicated within 4 weeks was 59.8% against a London position of 39.6% and National 44.4%.</p>			
Work programme	Assurance Level		

Preparation for Adulthood	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	Amber	Amber	RAG
<p>Progress Update:</p> <p>The Adult Social Care Sufficiency Review is being progressed to support the development of new day opportunities offers within Adult Social Care which provide flexible person-centred care and support that improves health and wellbeing and builds independence.</p> <p>Key activities have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of services • Data capture and analysis – need and demand • Contract monitoring data review – impact, outcomes • Establish key stakeholder list • Mapping of drivers and priorities - stat duties and best practice • Service visits • Benchmarking • Analysis of data and information on service need vs demand/capacity and utilisation of services to understand current and project future need 			
Work programme	Assurance Level		
Block Transfer	Update 1 (April)	Update 2 (July)	Update 3 (December)
	Amber	Amber	RAG
1% Block Transfer subject to Schools Forum approval November 2025.			

Report ends