SEND Operational Group/ SEND Improvement Board – Front Sheet

Suffolk Local Area Partnership Meeting: SEND Improvement Board **Title of Item:** Suffolk SEND Local Area Partnership Quality Framework **Item Author:** Jack Walker & Stacy Baker **Item Date:** 20 October 2026	Current RAG Status Previous RAG Status (if applicable)

Purpose and description of item:

- To provide the SEND Improvement Board with an overview of the development, content and implementation plans for the Suffolk SEND Quality Framework.
- To seek endorsement of the framework as a consistent, partnership-wide approach to defining, assuring and improving the quality of SEND services and provision across education, health, social care and community settings.
- To outline how the framework has been developed through multi-agency collaboration, drawing upon national best practice, local intelligence and the lived experiences of children, young people and families.
- To present the nine SEND Quality Principles and proposed Quality Assurance and Improvement Tool that will support self-assessment, peer review and continuous improvement activity across the Local Area Partnership

This item is linked to the following strategic priority(s) (Delete as appropriate):

- Suffolk Local Area Inclusion Plan (LAIP) Action 1.1 - Develop and strengthen the SEND Quality Assurance Framework within Suffolk.
- SEND Strategy (2024-2029)

What impact will this make to the lives of children and young people?	**What metrics will be used to evidence impact on children and young people? How is this impact being measured (use quantifiable data):**
• Establishes a shared, person-centred definition of quality based on the experiences of children and young people with SEND and their families. • Supports continual improvement of SEND services through a structured quality improvement approach. • Promotes greater consistency across education, health and care services through agreed quality principles. • Strengthens partnership working and coproduction across the Local Area Partnership. • Supports improved experiences and outcomes for children and young people	• Number and range of services, teams and settings implementing the SEND Quality Framework. • Findings from self-assessment, peer review and multi-agency review activity using the Quality Assurance and Improvement Tool. • Evidence of quality improvement action plans and reported impact following review activity. • Feedback from children, young people, families and practitioners regarding service quality and experience. • Local Area Partnership reporting on quality assurance and improvement activity through the Quality Assurance and Performance Steering Group.

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<tr><td>through more effective, joined-up and responsive services.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>How and when will this item be reviewed? (if applicable):

• Progress updates to be provided through routine reporting to the SEND Operational Group and SEND Improvement Board during 2026-27.
• Formal review of the SEND Quality Framework scheduled for Autumn 2027.

Lead Officer and service responsible for review and quality check:

• SEND Quality Assurance and Performance Steering Group.

Will this item be reviewed at another Board/Subgroup:

Yes.

• SEND Operational Group.
• Quality Assurance and Performance Steering Group.
• Health Steering Group.
• SENCo Forum.
• Wider Local Area Partnership governance arrangements.</td><td>What do you want the board to do? (Delete as appropriate)

SEND Improvement Board:

• For endorsement
• For assurance

The Board is asked to endorse the Suffolk SEND Quality Framework and receive assurance regarding the partnership approach to implementation, quality assurance and continuous improvement across the Local Area Partnership. Additionally, Board partners are asked to sign up to the nine Quality Principles across the system and for a partnership commitment to implement the Framework</td></tr>
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