

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD		AGENDA ITEM No. 8(a)
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AUTISM SELF EVALUATION REPORT

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : <i>Directors, LD Partnership Board, Autism Working Group</i>	Deadline date : Annual Self Evaluation.
The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider and comment upon the contents of this report.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Board following a request from Public Health England that all local authorities with social care responsibilities complete an Autism Self-Evaluation and share findings with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of the outcomes of the NHS England Autism Self Evaluation. NHS England have made it a requirement that the outcomes of the Self - Evaluation be reported to Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- 2.2 To assure the Board that Peterborough City Council, with its partners, are working collaboratively and have put an Action Plan in place following the Self-Evaluation.
- 2.3 This report is for Board to consider under its Terms of Reference No 2.1 'to bring together the leaders of health and social care commissioners to develop common and shared approaches to improving the health and wellbeing of the community', 2.2 'to actively promote partnership working across health and social care in order to further improve health and wellbeing of residents', 3.5 'to consider options and opportunities for the joint commissioning of health and social care services for children, families and adults in Peterborough to meet identified needs (based on the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) and to consider any relevant plans and strategies regarding joint commissioning of health and social care services for children and adults' and 3.10 'to ensure effective working between the Board and the Greater Peterborough Partnership ensuring added value and an avoidance of duplication'.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Public Health England requested all local authorities with social care responsibilities to complete an Autism Self- Evaluation to assess the progress made in each locality in delivering the aims and objectives of the national Autism Strategy, 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives'. The National Autism Strategy was published in 2010 and NHS Peterborough published a local Autism Commissioning Strategy in 2011.

- 3.2 A key feature of the self-evaluation was the requirement that it be reported to Health and Wellbeing Boards. This requirement is to ensure that the importance of the autism agenda is recognised within each locality. (See summary of the Self-Evaluation **Appendix 1**).

4. AUTISM SELF EVALUATION - OVERVIEW

The self-evaluation had 4 substantive sections covering:

- Planning
- Training
- Diagnosis
- Care and Support.

The questions within the self-evaluation required either a RAG rating or a yes/no response.

4.1 PLANNING

4.1.1 The purpose of the planning section was to gauge the progress made in providing the structure within which service improvements can be made. In response to this the council and its partners have established a multi- agency Autism Working-Group of the Learning Disability Partnership Board which drafted the 3 year Autism Commissioning Strategy in 2011. The council is also able to collect data on adults with autism known to adult social care through Frameworki and from GP practices as part of the Directed Enhanced Support Health Check programme. Whilst autism is included within the JNSA this is only at the level of prevalence rates.

4.1.2 The Clinical Commissioning Group/Local Commissioning Group is engaged in the planning and commissioning of services through the lead GP for Learning Disability and Mental Health and the s.75 Executive Commissioning Board.

4.1.3 An area which the self-evaluation was RAG rated as Red was on the implementation of reasonable adjustments to everyday services to improve access and support for people with autism. The reason this was RAG rated as red was that whilst autism awareness and the requirement is more prevalent within health and social care, this is not the case across everyday services within the wider health and public sector.

4.2 TRAINING

4.2.1 The purpose of the training section was to gauge the progress made in the provision of autism training and associated awareness within health and social care organisations specifically, and the public sector more generally.

4.2.2 In terms of good practice the Autism Sub-Group have developed an autism competencies framework to support organisations identify training requirements within their workforce, and in partnership with City College Peterborough an autism awareness training module. The autism awareness training module has been accessed by a number of social care providers and local Housing Associations in addition to Adult Social Care Staff. Peterborough City Council has developed an eLearning module which can be accessed by all its staff in addition to a 4 day course run by Northumbria University for its health and social care staff. Peterborough City Hospital has also developed an eLearning module.

4.2.3 Whilst there are areas of good practice, further development work within Primary Care is on-going.

4.3 AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

4.3.1 The purpose of this section was to gauge the progress made in developing an autism diagnosis service and associated pathway. The provision of this was a key requirement in the National Autism Strategy.

4.3.2 A Peterborough diagnosis service and pathway was commissioned in April 2013. The Peterborough diagnosis service is an extension of the existing Cambridgeshire wide 'CLASS' Clinic provided by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust, with the 'CLASS' clinic providing surgeries at the Cavell Centre in Peterborough. The diagnosis pathway was developed at a multi-agency workshop led by CPFT and has been distributed to all GP Surgeries within the city.

4.4 CARE AND SUPPORT

4.4.1 The purpose of this section was to gauge the progress in identifying and recording those on the autistic spectrum, both with a co-morbidity of a learning disability and a diagnosis of autism, receiving community care services and the support available in accessing support including the provision of advocacy and information

4.4.2 Peterborough City Council provides an integrated health and social care service for adults with a learning disability and autism and through its Frameworki data base is able to collect data on those on the autistic spectrum eligible for community care services. The self-evaluation did identify areas of improvements required in relation to the provision of information and advice for adults on the autistic spectrum, whether or not in receipt of community care services, and provision of advocacy and their skill base of advocates in providing advocacy to adults with autism. The provision of a training programme to ensure advocates are trained to support adults with autism was RAG rated as Red. Both of these issues will be taken forward as part of the Adult Social Care Transformation programme and re-commissioning of advocacy services.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 The self-evaluation was considered and validated by the Learning Disability Partnership Board Autism Sub-Group on Thursday 19th September 2013 and the outcomes entered on the Public Health England web page: <https://www.improvinghealthandlives.org.uk/>

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

6.1 The Autism Sub-Group and its partners have worked successfully to begin the process of raising awareness of autism and improving services through the provision of reasonable adjustments. The autism commissioning strategy has provided a framework within which to undertake the work required and the Autism Working-Group monitors implementation of the strategy action plan. The commissioning of a Peterborough based diagnosis service and associated pathway has been a notable success which will allow people to receive a diagnosis without the requirement to travel to Cambridge. The City College Peterborough training programme has been well attended by local learning disability service providers and housing associations, and the intention is to further develop this going forward to engage providers of everyday services. The deficiencies noted in information and advocacy will be addressed through the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme and re-commissioning of advocacy services. In terms of supporting people on the autistic spectrum who are not eligible for community care services, it has been recognised that transitional support and reablement should be offered to reflect the time required by the individual to gain independent living skills and community support using mainstream services.

6.2 An Action Plan arising from the self-evaluation has been developed and is reviewed by the Autism Working-Group. The Action Plan will inform the Autism Strategy refresh which will take place during 2014 (See Action Plan **Appendix 2**).

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Public Health England have made it a requirement that Health and Wellbeing Boards review the outcomes of the Autism Self-Evaluation. The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report as the Self-Evaluation has been reviewed and validated by the

Learning Disability Partnership Board Autism Working-Group and will be presented to the Learning Disabilities Executive Commissioning Board.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The option of the Health and Wellbeing Board delegating responsibility to the Learning Disability Partnership Board was considered and rejected due to the requirement with the Autism Self-Evaluation guidance that it be reported directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The rationale for this was to ensure that the Autism agenda is recognised and promoted by members of the board.

9. IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no legal or governance issues relating to the report.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Autism Self- Evaluation Report 2013

The National Autism Strategy 2010

Peterborough Local Autism Commissioning Strategy in 2011.