

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD: 15 SEPTEMBER 2016**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES****DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ADULT AUTISM
SELF-EVALUATION 2016****Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of this report is to outline requirements and actions underway to complete the 2016 Joint Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Autism Self-Evaluation which was requested on the 27 July 2016. The self-evaluation is to be submitted to the Department of Health by the 17 October 2016.

Link to the local Health and Care System

2. The purpose of the Autism Self-Assessment framework is to assist local authorities and their partners in assessing progress on the implementation of the 2010 Adult Autism Strategy. The Health and Wellbeing Board received a report in May 2015 on the completed 2014 Autism Self-Assessment.
3. The Health and Wellbeing Board is required by the Department of Health to endorse the findings of the 2016 Leicestershire Autism Self-Evaluation.

Recommendation

4. Due to the timescales set for the completion and submission of the self-evaluation it is recommended that:
 - a) The Health and Wellbeing Board authorises the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Director of Adults and Communities to sign off the report for submission by the 17 October 2016;
 - b) The Health and Wellbeing Board authorises the Director of Adults and Communities submits the Autism Evaluation on behalf of Leicestershire by the required date;
 - c) The report findings be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board for consideration in November 2016.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

5. The purpose of the Autism Self-Evaluation is to evaluate Leicestershire's progress on the Autism Act 2009, and the National Strategy, 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' which was published in 2010.
6. This was followed with 'Implementing Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives (DH 2010)', which gave a set of mandatory recommendations regarding what action Clinical

Commissioning Group's and Local Authorities should take to develop services for people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

7. A national update was published in April 2014 – 'Think Autism Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives, the strategy for adults with Autism in England: an update'.
8. Statutory guidance for Local Authorities and NHS organisations to support the implementation of the Adult Autism Strategy was published in March 2015. The guidance refers to the legal duties imposed upon Local Authorities and NHS bodies by the Autism Act 2009. It includes the Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014. The guidance not only refers to what "must" be done to comply with legislation but also says what local authorities and NHS bodies "should" do with regard to the way in which they exercise their functions with a view to securing the implementation of the autism strategy.

Background

9. Directors of Adult Social Services were notified of the fourth self-assessment on the implementation of the 2010 Adult Autism Strategy on 27 July 2016. This is due to be completed and submitted to the Department of Health by the 17 October 2016.
10. The 2016 self-assessment is comprised of 58 questions (nine more than the 2014 version) across seven sections: planning, training, diagnosis, care and support, accommodation, employment and the criminal justice system, with an additional five sections to highlight local good practice and the experience of self-advocates and their carers.
11. The last Autism Self-Assessment Framework was completed in 2014. The table in Appendix A outlines the key Red Amber Green (RAG) Rating Findings. In summary, previous self-assessments identified good progress being made on joint working across LLR, diagnosis, provision of information and guidance and access to training. The need for further improvement was identified in the collection of data about adults receiving a service from the County Council and better engagement with the Criminal Justice System.
12. Information from the LLR Autism Strategy 2014 – 2019 along with the accompanying Action Plan will be used to complete the self-assessment.

Consultation

13. Local consultation will take place through the LLR Autism Strategy Group which includes adults with autism and their carers. There will be further consultation with self-advocates and carers and a request for them to help complete the self-assessment with their own accounts. The autism self-assessment will also be taken to the Leicestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board for information.

Resource Implications

14. There are no implications in relation to the completion of the self-assessment. Actions arising from the assessment may have resource implications to relevant agencies but these will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Timetable for Decisions

15. The 2016 Autism Self Evaluation needs to be submitted by the 17 October 2016 as directed by the Department of Health.

Conclusion

16. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to agree to the submission of the Autism Self-Evaluation to the Department of Health by the Director of Adults and Communities by the 17 October 2016 and report the findings retrospectively to the Board in November 2016.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

17. This report is relevant to all areas of Leicestershire.

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Relevant Impact Assessments**Equality and Human Rights Implications**

18. The Self-Assessment is a means for local areas to assess their progress against statutory requirements. The Self-Assessment will highlight areas for further work in relation to equalities to ensure people with autism can access services.

APPENDIX A

Key RAG Rating Findings from the Leicestershire 2014/15 Autism Self-Evaluation			
RAG Rating	Green Good Progress Made	Amber Improvements Needed	Red Significant Improvement Needed
Planning	Joint working across LLR including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Including people with autism and their carers in the planning of services.	Improvements required in the collection of data. More work around making reasonable adjustments to services is needed.	Significant improvements are needed in the collection of information on the specific needs of older people, women and people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities with autism.
Training	Good provision and access to Autism Awareness Training delivered through a multi-agency training plan.		Significant improvements are needed in the engagement of Criminal Justice services and Probation services.
Diagnosis	Good progress has been made on the integrated diagnostic pathway.	Improvements are needed to ensure there is suitable access to speech and language therapy services following diagnosis.	Significant progress is needed to enable access to services such as psychology and occupational therapy following diagnosis.
Care and Support	Good progress is being made on the availability of suitability trained advocates which support people to meaningfully participate in needs assessment, care and support planning and safeguarding processes.		

Housing			Significant progress is needed to ensure that the housing needs of people with autism are included in local housing strategies.
Employment		Improvements are needed to ensure there is an employment focus within Transition processes	Significant progress is needed to promote employment of people with autism
Criminal Justice System	Good progress has been made as there is a Police representative (Hate Crime Officer) on the LLR Autism Strategy Group. An Autism “Keep Safe” card is being developed. People with autism have access to appropriate adults’ services in custody suites and nominated “places of safety”.		

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