

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
Report**

<b>Committee:</b>	Children and Young People Select Committee
<b>Date:</b>	19 January 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Update on Autism Services Commissioning for Children and Young People in Hampshire
<b>Report From:</b>	Mental Health and Learning Disabilities / Autism Delivery Directorate, Southampton and Isle of Wight ICB

**Contact:** Anthony Harper, Deputy Director for Childrens Care  
**Email:** anthony.harper@nhs.net

**Purpose of this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the current status of action that is underway by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board to tackle the ongoing challenges in relation to ensuring access to autism assessments in Hampshire.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Children and Young People Select Committee note the progress made and ongoing issues outlined in the update report.

**Executive Summary**

3. There are just over 20,000 people waiting for an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC)/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder assessment across the Hampshire and Isle of Wight geographical footprint.
4. In Hampshire there are 4,242 children and young people waiting for an Autism Assessment.
5. The current average diagnostic rate (prior to screening) for children and young people in Hampshire is 70.6%. This equates to 0.9% of the total population in Hampshire which is slightly under the nationally reported average of 1%.

**Transformation Plan and Progress**

6. Aim: By 2026: Establish a co-designed, all age transformed pathway model to meet ongoing demand for ADHD and Autism Spectrum condition. The model will be needs led, inclusive and will offer support, assessment and

guidance as appropriate as well as meet aspirations of the national and South-East Region Autism Strategy. Workstreams to run concurrently.

<b>Workstream 1: Transformed Service Model – Maintain provision and patient safety</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Stabilise current contract arrangements to ensure no gaps in service	Services successfully procured. The Owl Centre will deliver Autism Assessment services from 1st April 2024 for children and young people living in Hampshire	
Secure funding for short term capacity to clear or reduce current waiting lists	Funding identified of approximately £277,500. Additional funding may become available as the ICB finalised plans for 24/25	
Using the opportunity of a new Fusion organisation, review the assessment pathway and identify opportunities to streamline, define proportionality and anchor to pre and post diagnostic pathways.	An all age Autism and ADHD Improvement Group has been set up to oversee transformation. Subgroups are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical Reference Group</li> <li>• Children’s Group</li> <li>• Adults Group</li> <li>• Transition Group</li> </ul>	
Secure additional funding for long term capacity to meet the 12-week national waiting times target - maximise capacity and minimise waste	To be reviewed as part of the all age Autism and ADHD Improvement Group work. This has not yet started.	
Facilitate the smooth delivery of triage, assessment, diagnosis and prescribing services as well as signposting/referrals onto other services	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Ensure reassuring and safe transition/discharge	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Provide the infrastructure required to maintain safe and equitable shared care which match national policy and are agreed with Primary Care	ICB Shared Care Policy due to be launched 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024	
<b>Workstream 2: Transformed Service Model - Future Proof Services</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Collate and maintain data sets to build a true, dynamic understanding of demand across the ICS	Dashboard being developed. To be launched 1s April 2024	

Using the opportunity of a new Fusion provider, assess the harm and costs of waiting to individuals and system to anchor change	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Design a long-term assessment offer that fully meets current and projected demand, and which is response and proportionate to need	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Map the end-to-end pathway (early intervention to crisis) to identify areas of good practice, gaps, and areas of risk	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Codesign support services which meet need and offer evidence-based intervention at the right time - non diagnosis reliant	People with Lived Experience are listed as equal attendees for the oversight group and subgroups	
<b>Workstream 3: Transformed Service Model - System Dependencies (Multi-agency)</b>		
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Understand and implement change alongside those people with lived experience as Subject Matter Experts	People with Lived Experience are listed as equal attendees for the oversight group and subgroups	
Enable access to innovative models of needs-led and accessible support / alternative pathways for individuals across every stage of need, including evidence-based psycho-social interventions	Clinical Reference Group leading on a pathway review	
Identify and mitigate interdependencies between agencies which are historically reliant on diagnosis to access support	All Ages Autism and ADHD Improvement Gorup incudes system wide partners and agencies	
Develop collaborative partnerships (example strategies) for action on local systemic change, to ensure consistency across the ICS	All Ages Autism and ADHD Improvement Gorup incudes system wide partners and agencies	

## REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

### Links to the Strategic Plan

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	Yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	No
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	Yes

### Other Significant Links

<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Children and Families Act [Part 3 SEND] 2014 <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted</a>	September 2014
Statutory Guidance: SEND Code of Practice 0-25 <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf</a>	January 2015
Local area SEND inspection framework (Ofsted and CQC) <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-sendinspection-framework">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-sendinspection-framework</a>	April 2016