



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight
Clinical Commissioning Group

Hampshire Autism Update

Matt Powell

Associate Director SEND/Designated Clinical Officer

November 2021

Background



**Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight**
Clinical Commissioning Group

- In August 2018, Hampshire CAMHS highlighted concern regarding long waiting lists and high referral rates for autism assessments. In response, commissioners transferred 824 patients to Psicon Ltd on a short term contract.
- Due to piecemeal investment and interim contracts, Psicon Ltd were unable to deliver at pace. Referral rates continued to increase, resulting in a waiting list of circa 1,750 children and young people by September 2020.
- In November 2020, the CCG identified significant investment which enabled a procurement of a long term assessment service as well as additional support offers.
- Procurement of the new service included a service specification redesign with input from families, clinical experts and relevant professionals across multiple agencies.

Progress



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight
Clinical Commissioning Group

- Long term service commenced 1st October 2021. Psicon Ltd were the successful provider.
- Current waiting list has dropped from circa 1,750 down to circa 1,000.
- Current waiting times circa 11 months compared to 35 months in September 2020
- Referral rates continue to be high.
- Additional support services have been commissioned.

New Assessment Service



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight

Clinical Commissioning Group

- Service began October 1st 2021, initial 2.5 year contract with option to extend
- Key changes:
 - Expanded age range from 5-18 years to 3-18 years (19 with LD)
 - Referrals sources expanded to include social care, and schools
 - Post assessment sessions are now offered routinely
 - Referral pathways have been streamlined

Other Services



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight
Clinical Commissioning Group

- Wellbeing Support Service
 - Provides early intervention and support for children with SEMH needs related to Autism, ADHD, Attachment Disorder, Anxiety and Poor Emotional Wellbeing
- Autism Hampshire Workshops
 - Deliver parent support workshops and staff training focused on supporting children and young people with traits of Autism
- Barnados Parenting
 - Evidence based parenting programmes for parents/carers who have a diagnosis of ASC

Challenges



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight
Clinical Commissioning Group

- High referral rates
- Family expectations
- Diagnosis led culture
- Inclusive education settings

Next Steps



Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight
Clinical Commissioning Group

- Robust monitoring of assessment service with focus on waiting times
- Secure long term early intervention support services
- Develop multidisciplinary referral panel to stagger/reduce referral rates
- Re-establish HLOW ASC Transformation Group



**Hampshire, Southampton and
Isle of Wight**
Clinical Commissioning Group

Any questions?