

Cover Sheet Autism Programme Board Papers**Date of meeting**

24 April 2013

Attachment number

APB (13)04

Title of paper

The Second Local Authority Self Assessment Exercise

Summary

Linked to the Review, this exercise is carried out by Public Health England to provide assurance on local progress. It involves each Local Authority completing an on-line questionnaire on behalf of them and their partners on progress against key areas of the Strategy. The answers must be signed off by the local Autism Partnership Board and further ratified by the Health and Well Being Board. It is proposed to launch the exercise in July and seek returns by mid-September. High level information can then be considered by the Autism Programme Board in October.

Action required / recommendation

Points made at the Board will be incorporated into the final planning for the exercise. The individual bench marking for each question will be shared with Programme Board Members for comments prior to their finalisation.

Autism Strategy self-assessment exercise 2013

Process

1. The questionnaire will be sent to Local Authorities (LA) areas for co-ordination of completion to reflect their local working arrangements. This will take into consideration where Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) boundaries differ from LA boundaries and may result in joint returns.
2. When the questionnaires are issued to Directors of Adult Social Services for them to oversee completion, the aim is that the exercise will be endorsed by DH, NHS England and Public Health England to reinforce the shared requirement for completion.
3. LAs will work with their local partners, including CCGs to sign off the completion of the reply via the Local Autism Partnership or the equivalent mechanism.

Timeline

4. It is recommended that the self-assessment exercise will commence in July to avoid the start of the Learning Disability joint self-assessment that will begin in June and the returns in response to the Winterbourne View concordat.
5. The questionnaire will be completed on-line by mid-September, providing a period of six weeks for completion; the analysis will be undertaken by the *Improving Health and Lives Team* at Public Health England. A high level report covering progress on main themes will be prepared by mid-October to feed into the information gathering part of the review and be reported to the Programme Board.
6. We will also request that the return submitted by each LA is presented to the local Health and Wellbeing Board for further ratification by the end of December. Each return will then be able to be viewed via the internet in January 2014.

Questions

7. The proposed questions are focused around the priority outcomes of the Autism strategy and are comparable with results from the 2012 exercise. Following the feedback of the last year, bench marking guidance for each question will be provided to enable local areas to RAG rate themselves consistently.

8. The exercise will also provide the opportunity to advise on areas of challenge and progress that can contribute to the national picture and assist the Review and the strategy move forward. For example: If a question is scored Red or Amber, respondents will be asked to say what is stopping progress and for Green scores what has enabled progress. Real examples of how the local area implementation has had an impact for local people with Autism will also be requested.

Areas of Questioning

Planning

1. Does your commissioning plan reflect local data and needs of people with autism?
2. Is Autism included in the local JSNA?
3. Do you have a named joint commissioner/senior manager of responsible for services for adults with autism? If so, what are their responsibilities?
4. Is your local CCG or CCGs engaged in the planning and implementation of the strategy in your local area?
5. What reasonable adjustments have been made to mainstream services to improve access for people with autism?
6. Is adult social care involved in transition planning?
7. Is your planning considering older people with Autism?
8. How have you engaged people with autism and their carers in future planning?
9. Have you started to collect numbers of people with a diagnosis of autism who are receiving statutory services under health or social care? If so what is the percentage proportion receiving services?
10. How have you established that the local population of people with a diagnosis of Autism via NHS dataset?

Training

- 11. Have you got a multi-agency training plan?
- 12. Is autism awareness training being/been made available to all staff working in health and social care?
- 13. Is specific training being/been provided to staff who carry out assessments on how to make adjustments in their behaviour and communication?
- 14. Have GPs and primary care practitioners been included in the training agenda?
- 15. Have local Criminal Justice services engaged in training?

Diagnosis

- 16. Have you got an established local diagnostic pathway? When was it implemented?
- 17. Do you receive notification from diagnosticians when someone has received a diagnosis and do you offer them a care assessment as standard?
- 18. Have you undertaken an impact assessment of the pathway, pre, during and post diagnosis?
- 19. What post-diagnostic support is offered in terms of information and support?

Care and support

- 20. Do you know how many adults are in receipt of a personal budget that has an autism diagnosis?
- 21. What knowledge do advocates have who are working with adults with autism and how are they applying it?

Employment

- 22. How have you engaged with local employers to examine and increase employment levels for adults with autism?
- 23. Do transition processes to adult services have an employment focus?

Criminal Justice System

24. Are you engaging the CJS as a key partner in your planning for adults with autism?

Housing

25. Is your local housing strategy including the needs of people with Autism?