

REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting: 3 November 2016

Subject: Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities and People with Autistic Spectrum Conditions

Responsible Officer: Chris Spencer, Corporate Director People
Javina Sehjal, Chief Operating Officer,
Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group

Public: Yes

Wards affected: All Wards

Enclosures: Harrow Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Learning Disabilities and People with Autistic Spectrum Conditions 2015-2020

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the strategic priorities and commissioning intentions for the provision of support for people with learning disabilities and autism in Harrow

Recommendations:

The Board is requested to: Approve the report for implementation

Section 2 – Report

Background

In 2011 the Winterbourne review was carried out by the Department of Health. Findings were published in December 2012 (Transforming Care-a national response to Winterbourne View Hospital¹). This report was accompanied by a concordat signed by 50 agencies including health and social care

The Winterbourne View Concordat committed agencies to a programme of change to transform health and care services and improve the quality of care offered to children, young people and adults with learning disabilities or autism who have mental health conditions or behaviour deemed to be challenging. It states that every area will put in place a locally agreed joint plan for high quality care and support services for people of all ages with challenging behaviour that accords with the model of good care.

The London-wide Winterbourne View work stream was developed to drive the required changes and identified several examples of boroughs moving to Lifespan commissioning and Pathway commissioning for all lifelong and complex long term conditions, recognising the importance of early planning, maintaining people in local education, planning for life events, prevention of crisis and commissioning local systems to manage crisis.

A Winterbourne JIP in-depth review visit took place in Harrow in May 2014, senior management made the commitment around the development of a 'life-course' strategy. The strategy was to include both learning disability and autistic spectrum conditions to support the commissioning of the range of health, housing and care support appropriate to Harrow.

The 'life course' approach is seen as crucial to plan appropriately as people with LD and who are on the autistic spectrum are born with this condition and remain with them throughout their lives. Having a whole life strategic plan in place enables development of processes and practices that ensures consistency of support and care throughout the individual's life course.

The Harrow Autism Strategy 2012-14 was developed in order to deliver the requirements of the 2009 Autism Act / 2010 NICE Guidelines. It states that adults with autism can expect that there is a local commissioning plan for services for adults with autism, based on locally gathered data about the numbers and needs of people with autism in the area. This requirement is extended by recent review of the NICE guidelines.

The Care Act 2014 – sets out duties for the delivery of services for vulnerable groups. The Care Act strengthens the areas identified for action in 'Think Autism' for people with autism, Valuing People Now for people with learning disabilities and the Winterbourne Concordat.

In 2015 the national 'Transforming Care' for people with learning disabilities, autism and mental health needs was launched by NHS England. The national plan is designed to support implementation of community care provision to decrease reliance on 'in patient' care for children, young people and adults with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviours that

challenges, including those with a mental health condition. The Transforming Care approach reaffirm the strategy's intention to improve outcomes for this group of vulnerable residents. The strategy therefore dovetails with Harrows Transforming Care Plan. This plan can be accessed via Harrow CCG learning disabilities lead.

How the strategy was developed

The strategy and commissioning plan was developed by analysing data from the LD and autism JSNA, statutory requirements, stakeholder engagement, feedback from users and carers and co-produced by parents, carers, young people and partner organisations via workshop sessions and commissioned consultation via Mencap. Joint forums supported development of the strategy

- Survey and focus groups run by Harrow Mencap (including people with learning disabilities, people with autism and no learning disability and carers)
- Winterbourne Task and finish groups up until 2015
- Feedback from the Autism Task and Finish Group (up until 2015)
- Follow on facilitated sessions with service users with autism or learning disabilities
- Feedback from health and social care staff

The strategy was considered at the March 2016 Children commissioning Executive Board and approved for submission to the Health and Wellbeing Board for Sign off.

Current situation

Whilst there is a range of good support services for people with learning disabilities and autism in Harrow, the learning disabilities and autism JSNA and feedback from services users, carers and families identified various service gaps which need to be addressed.

In addition there are no strategic plans in place for people with learning disabilities and autism to drive the development of processes and practices and to ensure consistency of support and care is delivered providing good outcomes.

Following the creation of Harrow LA's people's directorate, bringing together the all age disability pathway we developed this Joint Commissioning Strategy (CCG, Harrow Council and partners) which takes a whole life approach (also known as 'life course') this means it encompasses all age groups from pregnancy and birth through childhood, adulthood and older adulthood. Learning disability and autism spectrum conditions are given equal attention.

In this context the Strategy also includes reference to the SEND Strategy 2015-2020 which has been agreed by Cabinet. The relationship is important because the education, health and care plans from early years through to young adulthood establish the foundation for adulthood, independence and well-being.

For some aspects of the Strategy there needs to be close working across the Council to ensure that where opportunities arise for collaboration eg the Regeneration Programme the appropriate links are established.

Summary of Strategy Recommendations

The Strategy and commissioning plan is attached to this report. The recommendations for priorities are detailed below under headings of Learning Disabilities, Autism and Cross Cutting Themes:

Learning disabilities

- Joint working between the Council and the CCG to ensure GP data on lifestyle and screening for those with LD can be monitored and compared with the general population
- Develop the learning disabilities data included in Harrow's JSNA
- Explore the development of the local day services as hubs to provide advice and information on training and employment and support to access day and evening leisure activities and community services
- Joint working between the Council and the CCG to review, develop and improve pathways/ access to health screening programmes and ensure health passports are available to people with learning disabilities who need them.
- Continue to review Learning Disability and Adult Mental Health placement processes with the Local Authority to ensure good outcomes and value for money services are delivered.

Autism

- Continue to extend autism awareness training across health and social care, particularly in primary and mental health care
- Increase the number of health and social care staff with specialist autism training across all appropriate statutory agencies
- Increase the uptake of diagnosis and support for parents of preschool children
- Develop access to local daytime, evening and weekend activities for people with autism and no learning disability
- Ensure professionals in the criminal justice system receive autism awareness training
- Review the quality of support provided to people aged 65 and over

Crosscutting recommendations for learning disabilities and autism

Identification and pathways to support

- Ensure diagnostic, assessment and integrated care pathways are in place for people with learning disability, autism and complex and challenging behaviour
- Support implementation of the SEND transformation plans to prepare young people for adulthood
- Work jointly to review and update transition protocols and pathways. Ensure the transition process commences early and is seamless for young people, their families and carers and older adults.

Support

- Ensure access to clear accurate and consistent information and advice. Ensure materials are produced in easy read format
- Improve the involvement of people with autism and learning disabilities and their carers in the development of services
- Work with providers to improve access to psychological therapies (incl. counselling) for people with learning disabilities or autism
- Implement plans to develop adequate supply of supported and independent living accommodation locally
- Explore assistive technology and telecare options as part of a package of support

Access to the community

- Work jointly to ensure services make 'reasonable adjustments' to their practices that will make them accessible and effective for people with learning disabilities or autism
- Explore opportunities to increase employment and training for people with autism or learning disabilities
- Improve support for people with autism and learning disabilities who have contact with the criminal justice system, in particular better access to an appropriate adult

Other

- Improve data collection and recording to provide more reliable data set. In particular for children with learning disabilities or autism aged under 5, carers and young people in transition to support 'whole life' planning.
- Continue regular review of need and service provision through out the life of the strategy and bring forward proposals accordingly.

The implementation of the recommendations will be monitored via the action plan and quarterly monitoring via a strategic partnership group. Regular reporting will be made to the Health and Wellbeing Board

Implications of the recommendations

Financial Implications/Comments

In light of the financial challenges across the health and social care economy in Harrow, the recommended actions will need to be delivered within existing budgetary provision on an ongoing basis. The annual budget process will determine the level of available funding in future financial periods.

The recommendations to implement the strategy have not identified any specific resource requirements to support development of referral pathways and the expectation is that early planning could mitigate more costly crisis care, however there have been no assumptions made around the impact of potential reduced costs on either the Adult Social Care or health budgets.

The Transforming care recommendations indicate that budgets should be shared across the health & social care economy, however, at this time there are no proposals around how this could be implemented. Full consideration

of the implications of any such proposals in this respect will need to be investigated before any decision can be taken in this respect, and will need to include how this fits with the Better Care Fund and any longer term integration plans.

Legal Implications/Comments

The Autism Act 2009 creates the duty for the Government to produce an Autism strategy and places Local authorities and NHS organisations under a duty to comply with the following statutory guidance when implementing the Adult Autism Strategy : Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities and NHS Organisations to Support the Implementation of the Adult Autism strategy (March 2015) .

Risk Management Implications

None identified at this stage

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

The Public Sector Equality Duty under s149 of the Equality act and the need to have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; .
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; .
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

As part of the development of this strategy equalities implication has been considered and is part of the strategy. We expect positive outcomes will be achieved for these vulnerable groups of residents in implementing the recommendations.

Council Priorities

The strategy incorporates the following council priorities:

Making a difference for the vulnerable

All staff involved in delivering services will undertake the following training:

- Safeguarding - An overarching requirement is that all staff must be trained in recognising and dealing with vulnerable adults and children, Providers will have in place approved policies which meet with statutory requirements;
- Autism awareness and supporting people with learning disabilities training will be rolled out for staff including health specialists and staff in acute wards
- Develop and implement care pathways to improve access to support services

Making a difference for communities

By increasing access to community services and supporting people to live and be active members of their communities

Making a difference for families

By supporting people to live and maintain local community and family links

**Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance
(Council and Joint Reports)**

Name: Donna Edwards, Finance Business Partner, People's – Adults & Public Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 13 April 2016		
Name Sharon Clarke, Senior Lawyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 13 April 2016		
Ward Councillors notified:	NO	

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Johanna Morgan, Divisional Director People Services
Tel: 0208 736 6841

Background Papers:

The following documents reference and support the development of the strategy

Statutory

- Autism Act
- Winterbourne review
- Valuing people now

- Care Act 2015

Local reports

- Autism strategy 2012- 2014
- Learning disability and autism needs assessment
- Learning disability and autism – service users, cares and families consultation report
- Aspergers syndrome access to provision consultation report
- Focus group – 18-25 report

[M:\Lois\LD and Autism Strategy Docs\LD & Autism Strategy Drafts\LD and autism Strategy appendices](#)

[M:\Lois\LD and Autism Strategy Docs\LD and Autism Consultation](#)

[M:\Lois\LD and Autism Strategy Docs\January 2016 LD and Autism workshop](#)

[M:\Lois\LD and Autism Strategy Docs\Strategy background info](#)