



# Autism Self Evaluation

## Local authority area

1. How many Clinical Commissioning Groups do you need to work with to implement the Adult Autism Strategy in your local authority area?

1

### Comment

*We work with Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Group*

2. Are you working with other local authorities to implement part or all of the priorities of the strategy?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, how are you doing this?

## Planning

3. Do you have a named joint commissioner/senior manager of responsible for services for adults with autism?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, what are their responsibilities and who do they report to? Please provide their name and contact details.

*Blackpool Council has a named Commissioner for implementing the autism strategy and they report to the Head of Commissioning who in turn reports to the Adult Executive. Plans are in place to develop a specific autism workstream outside of the LD Partnership Board to bring together learning disability and mental health professionals.*

4. Is Autism included in the local JSNA?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

### Comment

*Autism is included within the JSNA. A report on the JSNA website focusses on Health and Wellbeing and includes adults with autism. Blackpool also included data within the Lancashire Learning Disability JSNA which included data regarding people with autism.*

### 5. Have you started to collect data on people with a diagnosis of autism?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

*We have started to collect data on people with autism. A data collection sharing policy is in place which enables primary care, health and social care colleagues to work together. We are working to strengthen this position for the future.*

### 6. Do you collect data on the number of people with a diagnosis of autism meeting eligibility criteria for social care (irrespective of whether they receive any)?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, what is

the total number of people?

142

the number who are also identified as having a learning disability?

52

the number who are identified as also having mental health problems?

90

#### Comment

### 7. Does your commissioning plan reflect local data and needs of people with autism?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, how is this demonstrated?

*The Commissioning Action Plan for 2013-2015 acknowledges that further detailed work needs to be undertaken within the autism workstream to ensure that robust services are in place and that there is a no wrong door approach when it comes to a diagnosis of autism.*

### 8. What data collection sources do you use?

- Red  
 Red/Amber  
 Amber  
 Amber/Green  
 Green

#### Comment

*We have limited collection sources but are looking to develop these further. Currently data is collected from care management and health colleagues, and also from our providers of services for people with autism.*

9. Is your local Clinical Commissioning Group or Clinical Commissioning Groups (including the Support Service) engaged in the planning and implementation of the strategy in your local area?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

*The CCG and Local Authority have a strong and positive working relationship. We do not have a local autism partnership board in place but communication is in place in relation to autism. The new autism workstream will have a CCG representative. A new joint commissioning sub group of the Health and Wellbeing Board has been established between health, social care and NHS England. It will have a programme of work that will include autism.*

10. How have you and your partners engaged people with autism and their carers in planning?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

Please give an example to demonstrate your score.

*The self advocacy group for people with a learning disability has 3 people with autism within its membership and the group feeds back to the LD Partnership Board at each meeting. We receive specific feedback from a number of services that self advocates attend and one of these is an autism specific service.*

11. Have reasonable adjustments been made to everyday services to improve access and support for people with autism?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

Please give an example.

*Under the disability equality duty, Blackpool Council understands its responsibility to make reasonable adjustments to services to ensure they are accessible for all disabled people including people with autism.*

12. Do you have a Transition process in place from Children's social services to Adult social services?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please give brief details of whether this is automatic or requires a parental request, the mechanism and any restrictions on who it applies to.

*There is a full transition policy in place to ensure that children move smoothly from childrens services to adults services. Every young person with a disability has a year 9 transition plan both in mainstream and special need education. Currently a review of the transitions process is underway and will ensure that the process is as positive as it can be for both the young people and their parents or carers.*

13. Does your planning consider the particular needs of older people with Autism?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

*We do not have a cut off point for services based on age therefore the planning is within the generic planning for Autism. If a service still meets the needs of the person with autism as an older adult they would still be able to attend the service.*

## Training

14. Have you got a multi-agency autism training plan?

- Yes  
 No

15. Is autism awareness training being/been made available to all staff working in health and social care?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Comment:** Specify whether Self-Advocates with autism are included in the design of training and/or whether they have a role as trainers. If the latter specify whether face-to-face or on video/other recorded media.

*An introduction to autism training course is available from Blackpool Council workforce development team. A wider training strategy has not been developed. People with autism have not been involved in the design or delivery of the training.*

16. Is specific training being/been provided to staff that carry out statutory assessments on how to make adjustments in their approach and communication?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

### Comments

*Over 50% of care management staff have attended autism specific training.*

17. Have Clinical Commissioning Group(s) been involved in the development of workforce planning and are general practitioners and primary care practitioners engaged included in the training agenda?

- Yes  
 No

**Please comment further on any developments and challenges.**

*Over the past 18 months the CCG funded a series of training courses targeted at the wider workforce. A further joint training strategy needs to be put in place for the next 12 months.*

18. Have local Criminal Justice services engaged in the training agenda?

- Yes  
 No

**Please comment further on any developments and challenges.**

*A full analysis of training needs will be carried in the coming months to include our partners within the criminal justice system.*

## Diagnosis led by the local NHS Commissioner

19. Have you got an established local diagnostic pathway?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Please provide further comment.**

*A local diagnostic pathway has been in place since November 2011.*

20. If you have got an established local diagnostic pathway, when was the pathway put in place?

Month (Numerical, e.g. January 01)

11

Year (Four figures, e.g. 2013)

2011

Comment

21. How long is the average wait for referral to diagnostic services?

Please report the total number of weeks

24

Comment

22. How many people have completed the pathway in the last year?

32

Comment

23. Has the local Clinical Commissioning Group(s)/support services taken the lead in developing the pathway?

- Yes  
 No

Comment

24. How would you describe the local diagnostic pathway, ie Integrated with mainstream statutory services with a specialist awareness of autism for diagnosis or a specialist autism specific service?

- a. Integrated with mainstream statutory services with a specialist awareness of autism for diagnosis  
 b. Specialist autism specific service

Please comment further

*The pathway is integrated within both the learning disability team, mental health team, health services and generic adult social care.*

25. In your local diagnostic path does a diagnosis of autism automatically trigger an offer of a Community Care Assessment?

- Yes  
 No

Please comment, i.e. if not who receives notification from diagnosticians when someone has received a diagnosis?

*If someone has a diagnosis and subsequently needs support a Community Care Assessment will take place.*

26. What post-diagnostic support (in a wider personalisation perspective, not just assuming statutory services), is available to people diagnosed?

*Following a Community Care Assessment the care manager will work with the person with autism and their families to ensure that support is put in place where necessary and appropriate. A range of commissioned services are available for people with autism and people are able to take a direct payment if they would like to commission their support directly.*

## Care and support

27. Of those adults who were assessed as being eligible for adult social care services and are in receipt of a personal care budget, how many people have a diagnosis of Autism both with a co-occurring learning disability and without?

a. Number of adults assessed as being eligible for adult social care services and in receipt of a personal budget

b. Number of those reported in 27a. who have a diagnosis of Autism but not learning disability

c. Number of those reported in 27a. who have both a diagnosis of Autism AND Learning Disability

### Comment

28. Do you have a single identifiable contact point where people with autism whether or not in receipt of statutory services can get information signposting autism-friendly entry points for a wide range of local services?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please give details

*We do not have a single identifiable contact point however, Blackpool4me our information portal would be able to provide a single point of information in an online format.*

29. Do you have a recognised pathway for people with autism but without a learning disability to access a community care assessment and other support?

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please give details

*People with autism without a learning disability can access support via the single point of access and can be assessed via the mental health team.*

30. Do you have a programme in place to ensure that all advocates working with people with autism have training in their specific requirements?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Comment**

*We commission a range of statutory and non statutory advocacy services who are able to support people with autism. They are fully trained and have knowledge around supporting people with autism. This has been seen recently through IMCA services, LD self advocacy and generic advocacy support during a time of transition around accomodation based support.*

31. Do adults with autism who could not otherwise meaningfully participate in needs assessments, care and support planning, appeals, reviews, or safeguarding processes have access to an advocate?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Comment**

*Anyone having an assessment has the right to a fully qualified advocate and this is actively promoted and utilised.*

32. Can people with autism access support if they are non Fair Access Criteria eligible or not eligible for statutory services?

- Yes  
 No

Provide an example of the type of support that is available in your area.

33. How would you assess the level of information about local support in your area being accessible to people with autism?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Comment**

*Commissioned services for people with a learning disability and/or mental health problem are accessible for people with autism. There are a number of specific autism services. There is also a database of support services within Blackpool that can be utilised by care managers and also people with autism and their families to find out what support is available to them in the area. Blackpool4Me collates a wide range of information that is accessible to all.*

## Housing & Accommodation

34. Does your local housing strategy specifically identify Autism?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

**Comment**

*The local housing strategy does not specifically reference people with autism. Commissioners have started looking at accomodation needs for people with a learning disability and autism. Further work is due to be carried out to develop firm plans.*

## Employment

### 35. How have you promoted in your area the employment of people on the Autistic Spectrum?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

Locally commissioned employment services ensure that people with autism have the opportunity to access employment opportunities. Additionally, a locally commissioned service is specific for people with autism to teach them work related skills and help them to move on to employment.

### 36. Do transition processes to adult services have an employment focus?

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

Transition processes to adult services have an employment focus. Part of the assessment during the period of transition considers work placements during time in school, information and advice and guidance and finding the right environment for people to work. Young people have informed adult commissioners that they value the work completed regarding employment during the transition period. Project Search will also be a new option for young people from September 2014.

## Criminal Justice System (CJS)

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

- Red  
 Amber  
 Green

#### Comment

Operationally staff work with the Criminal Justice System and relationships have improved. They are not linked in with autism work as this area has not yet been developed.

## Optional Self-advocate stories

### Self-advocate stories.

Up to 5 stories may be added. These need to be less than 2000 characters. In the first box, indicate the Question Number(s) of the points they illustrate (may be more than one). In the comment box provide the story.

#### Self-advocate story one

Question number

Comment

#### Self-advocate story two

Question number



Comment

### Self-advocate story three

Question number

Comment

### Self-advocate story four

Question number

Comment

### Self-advocate story five

Question number

Comment

## This marks the end of principal data collection.

Can you confirm that the two requirements for the process to be complete have been met?

a. Have you inspected the pdf output to ensure that the answers recorded on the system match what you intended to enter?

Yes

b. Has the response for your Local Authority area been agreed by the Autism Partnership Board or equivalent group, and the ratings validated by people who have autism, as requested in the [ministerial letter](#) of 5th August 2013?

Yes

The data set used for report-writing purposes will be taken from the system on 30th September 2013.

The data fill will remain open after that for two reasons:

1. to allow entry of the dates on which Health and Well Being Boards discuss the submission and
2. to allow modifications arising from this discussion to be made to RAG rated or yes/no questions.

**Please note** modifications to comment text or additional stories entered after this point will not be used in the final report.

What was the date of the meeting of the Health and Well Being Board that this was discussed?

Please enter in the following format: 01/01/2014 for the 1st January 2014.

Day

Month

Year