

## Health and Wellbeing Board

12<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Report of the Corporate Director of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care and the Corporate Director of Children's Services, Education and Communities

### All Age Autism Strategy

#### Summary

1. The All Age Autism Strategy 2017-2021, has been written through a consultative process. Views were sought as to what was important for people with autism, and their carers, to ensure we were addressing their priorities.
2. The All Age Autism Needs Assessment forms the evidence base for the Strategy and was signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
3. This report asks the Health and Wellbeing Board to formally ratify the Strategy.
4. The All Age Autism Strategy is being brought to the attention of the Health and Wellbeing Board for consideration in terms of governance structures. Responsibility for operational delivery of the actions plans will be held with the All Age Autism Strategy Group.

#### Background

5. This is the first All Age Autism Strategy, attached as **Annex A**, and seeks to bring a whole life approach to planning more joined up, seamless services for people with autism and their families/carers.
6. The Strategy has been written in the spirit of co-production with an event held at the beginning of the process to help formulate the content of the Strategy.

7. This event was held in March 2016, and following on from this work with partners has ensured that the feedback from this event is mirrored in the action plans.
8. It was also agreed that the Strategy should be kept short with the All Age Needs Assessment forming the evidence base for the Strategy.
9. The key areas of work highlighted with the Strategy are:
  - Diagnostic support
  - Inclusive communities
  - Transitions
  - Training / education
  - Employment
  - Parent / Carer support
10. Behind the Strategy sits comprehensive action plans for each area of work which are owned by sub-groups for each priority area. A member of the parents group sits on each of the other groups.

### **Main/Key Issues to be Considered**

11. The new All Age Autism Strategy will run for 4 years with a formal launch planned for September 2017. It is a high level strategy and is underpinned by comprehensive action plans.
12. The action plans will be owned by the All Age Autism Strategy Group. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to consider whether they wish to receive annual progress updates from the Group.

### **Consultation**

13. The All Age Autism Strategy has been developed by using a co-production approach with a workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 forming the basis of the Strategy. A parent / carer and a person with autism sit on each of the sub-groups and there is a virtual reference group which is used for comments and feedback.
14. Engagement sessions, electronic surveys and focus groups were used to input into the All Age Autism Needs Assessment which forms the evidence base for the All Age Autism Strategy.

## **Options**

15. There are no specific options for the Board.
16. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to ratify the All Age Autism Strategy and indicate whether they wish to receive annual progress updates.

## **Strategic/Operational Plans**

17. *The Statutory guidance for Local Authorities and NHS organisations to support implementation of the Adult Autism Strategy, 2015*, takes into account progress made since the 2010 guidance, and recent legislation including the *Health and Social Care Act 2012*, the *Care Act 2014* and the *Children and Families Act 2014* which provided new duties for people with autism.
18. The aspirations, vision and priorities of both National legislation and local strategic plans, including the *Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy*, need to be embedded and owned locally to meet the needs of the whole community including people with autism. Achieving better outcomes for everyone with autism and their families / carers requires joint working by local partners and the Health and Wellbeing Board is well placed to lead this approach.

## **Implications**

19. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matters before Health and Wellbeing Board Members; Financial, Human Resources (HR), Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology (IT) and Property.

## **Risk Management**

20. The Health and Wellbeing Board has a crucial role to play in overseeing the implementation of the All Age Autism Strategy. Achieving better outcomes for adults with autism requires local partners to work together and the Health and Wellbeing Board will give the support, guidance and leadership needed to ensure that the aspirations within the All Age Autism Strategy are achieved.

## **Recommendations**

21. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:

- i. Ratify the All Age Autism Strategy
- ii. Receive annual updates from the All Age Autism Strategy Group.

**Reason:** to give a formal mandate for the All Age Autism Strategy and allow work to progress in achieving the actions within the Strategy.

### Contact Details

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**Report  
Approved**

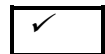


**Date** 27.06.2017

### Specialist Implications Officer(s)

**Wards Affected:**

All



**For further information please contact the author of the report  
Background Papers:**

### Annexes

**Annex A – All Age Autism Strategy for York, 2017-2021**