



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Updated Delivery plan 2018-2021

Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan – Delivery Plan updated September 2018

1. The updated ASD Strategic Action Plan was published in November 2016. It was developed in response to priorities for action identified by autistic people and their families and carers. An accompanying delivery plan was also published in 2016. This updated delivery plan explains what will be done to improve autism services, reflecting the ongoing feedback have received from autistic people, their families and carers and other stakeholders. New commitments are highlighted in red.
2. The first annual report of the Strategic Action Plan was published in June 2018 and we will continue to monitor the progress being made in delivering existing and new policy commitments through publishing annual updates.

Assessment and Diagnosis			
What do we want to achieve?	What we will do	How will we know?	Who is involved?
Children, young people and adults, with autism have access to timely referral assessment and post diagnostic services, which meets their needs	Deliver improvements to children’s assessment and diagnostic services. This will include the implementation of the national standardised diagnostic assessment pathway to ensure consistency.	Care pathways developed by health boards for neurodevelopmental conditions are implemented across Wales from November 2016.	Welsh Government – Together for Children and Young People Programme Local Health Boards
	Improve timeliness for access, for children and young people, a new 26 week waiting time target from referral to first assessment appointment	Pilot introduced, health boards report delivery of 26 week waiting time target from November 2017	Local Health Boards

	<p>Ensure ongoing monitoring of progress and timeliness of assessment and diagnosis. This will be incorporated within the formal planning and performance management mechanisms of health boards</p>	<p>Waiting time data updated on a quarterly basis indicate waiting time targets are being met</p> <p>Family and carers report access to the standardised pathway within 26 weeks of referral</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Local Health Boards</p> <p>Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and Integrated Autism Service</p>
	<p>Continue to deliver improvements to adult diagnostic services through the National Integrated Autism Service. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a national model that will be implemented across Wales • On-going monitoring and reporting of progress against the agreed standards of the service • Regional Partnership Boards will be required to report on progress 	<p>Regional Partnership Boards reporting progress in the roll out of the diagnostic service for adults from April 2016</p> <p>Regional Partnership Boards report that adults diagnostic assessment meets agreed service standards</p> <p>Autistic people reporting satisfaction in accessing the new adult assessment and diagnostic service</p>	<p>Regional Partnership Boards</p> <p>Local Health Boards</p> <p>Local Authorities</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>

Meeting Support Needs

What do we want to achieve?	What will we do?	How will we know?	Who is involved?
<p>Children, young people and adults with autism and their family and carers can access advice and preventative services to address unmet need in education, employment and health and social care</p>	<p>To complete our programme of reform for additional learning needs as set out in the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act 2017 and associated Code.</p> <p>Deliver ALNET Code of Practice by 2019</p> <p>Commence roll out of new ALN system in 2020</p>	<p>The draft ALNET Code of Practice is published for consultation during 2018, the final Code to be published in 2019</p> <p>The new ALN system is rolled out across Wales from 2020, it will wholly replace the existing Special Educational Needs system by 2023</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p>
	<p>Develop and Publish a Code of Practice on the Delivery of Autism Services under the Social Services and Well-being Wales Act 2014 and NHS Act in partnership with stakeholders including autistic people and their parents and carers.</p>	<p>A public consultation on the draft Code of Practice is published</p> <p>The draft Code is published before the end of the current Assembly term in 2021.</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>ASD Implementation Advisory Group</p>
	<p>Continue to develop and roll out our 'Learning with Autism' programmes to improve support available to children and young people across early years, primary, secondary and further education and work</p>	<p>Primary schools programme is rolled out across all local authority areas from 2016</p> <p>Early years and secondary school from 2017 and further education and work based</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>ASD Implementation Advisory Group</p>

	based learning sectors	learning programmes delivered and rolled out across Wales from 2019	
	Improve opportunities for Autistic people. This includes monitoring the delivery of the Getting Ahead Two programme to support long term youth employment for people with learning difficulties or disabilities including ASD	The Getting Ahead Two project reports good progress in relation to agreed project outcomes	Getting Ahead Two project
	Welsh Government to take action to become an autism friendly employer by participating in Positive About Working with Autism Programme	Welsh Government seeks to achieve accreditation in the Positive About Autism Charter, we are working with the WLGA team to develop a programme on working with autism and to achieve accreditation to the Positive About Autism Charter.	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association
	Work with organisations across Wales to raise awareness and for them to become autism-friendly working environments. This will include promoting the Positive About Working with Autism Programme	Number of organisations/employers across Wales participating in Positive About Working with Autism Programme and achieving the Charter	Welsh Local Government Association Employers
	Delivery of the National Integrated Autism Service. This will be implemented from April 2016 over a three year period and will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of a 	The integrated service will be delivered and operating in all regions in Wales by March 2019 Adults with autism reporting	Regional Partnership Boards Local Health Boards Local Authorities

	<p>standard diagnostic assessment service for adults</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of advice and support for all Autistic people including their family and carers • Development of training packages for professionals 	<p>satisfaction in accessing diagnostic services</p> <p>Autistic people and their family and carers reporting satisfaction with the services available from the integrated service</p> <p>Professionals reporting take up and satisfaction with the training support packages available</p>	<p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and the Integrated Autism Service</p>
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Awareness Raising, Information and Training

What do we want to achieve?	What will we do?	How will we Know?	Who is involved?
<p>Autistic people and their families and their family and carers and professionals report they have access to good quality information, advice and training on autism which meets their needs</p>	<p>Ensure Autistic people and their family and carers, as well as professionals are made aware of the resources available on the ASDinfoWales website</p> <p>Develop a communications strategy setting out specific actions by January 2017</p>	<p>The communications strategy is completed by January 2017 and implemented</p> <p>Autistic people and their family and carers and professionals report increased awareness of the resources available on the ASDinfoWales website</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>
	<p>Awareness raising campaign</p> <p>Work with the partners, including autistic people and their families and carers to develop a joint approach to rolling out an autism awareness raising campaign, including increased awareness of available support services and resources including those on the ASDinfoWales website</p>	<p>Autistic people and their family and carers and professionals report increased awareness of autism support services available in their area and the resources available on the ASDinfoWales website</p>	<p>Autistic people and their families/carers</p> <p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>Integrated Autism Services</p> <p>Communities</p>
	<p>Continue to develop information and resources for identified priority areas, to be freely available through the ASDinfoWales website. Priority</p>	<p>Annual update report by the ASD National Lead</p> <p>Autistic people, their family and carers report satisfaction with</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>

	areas will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis	the information and resources available	Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and Integrated Autism Service
	Develop and deliver training resources and material to raise awareness of autism and provide support for professionals and others working with children or adults with autism.	Annual update report by the ASD National Leads Professionals report satisfaction with the training materials and resources available	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and Integrated Autism Service
	Work collaboratively with other organisations dealing with non-devolved matters to raise awareness of autism. This will include the police, fire service, courts and Her Majesty's Crime and Probation service	Non-devolved organisations engage with Welsh Government activities and training to raise awareness of the needs of autistic people receiving their support	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association Non-devolved organisations
	Update and expand guidance for housing services on supporting autistic people	Develop and publish new Housing Guidance by 2019	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association
	Continue to support the ASD National Leads and Development team to provide expert advice and guidance on autism to the Welsh Government, professional groups and stakeholders	Annual update report by the ASD National Leads	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association

Delivering the Priorities for the Act

What do we want to achieve?	What will we do?	How will we know?	Who is involved?
<p>Children, young people and adults with autism and their families and carers are involved and consulted in the delivery of the ASD SAP</p>	<p>Continue to support the ASD Implementation Advisory Group to monitor progress and delivery of the specific actions in the Strategic Action Plan and Delivery Plan.</p>	<p>The ASD Implementation Advisory Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meets at least twice yearly • The group engages and consults widely with stakeholders • The advisory group agrees a work plan to support the delivery of the ASD SAP 	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>Third sector organisations and stakeholder groups</p>
	<p>Publish an annual report setting out the progress in relation to the specific actions within the Strategic Action Plan and Delivery Plan. This will include performance information and timeliness of assessment and diagnosis</p>	<p>Welsh Government publishes annual report on the Delivery Plan each year</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p>
	<p>Ensure Regional Partnership Boards report on progress in relation to the specific actions within the Strategic Action Plan and Delivery Plan. This will include performance information and timeliness of assessment and diagnosis</p>	<p>Regional Partnership Boards progress reports indicate progress in relation to achieving specific actions including timeliness of assessments and diagnosis</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Regional Partnership Boards</p> <p>ASD Implementation Advisory Group</p>
	<p>Welsh Government to consider ways in which disability data</p>	<p>The new data will be available by 20-21</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p>

	will be incorporated into the new social services data collection		The ASD Advisory Implementation Advisory Group
	Working with partners to look at how we collect data on meaningful outcomes to inform about the quality and effectiveness of the services provided and to identify where there may be continuing gaps in support	Develop pilot of data collection system by March 2019	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association Local Health Boards
	Establish a GP register for autism	The register is developed this Assembly term.	Welsh Government Royal College of GPs
	Consult on changes to the Social Services and Well-being Wales Act Part 2, Code of Practice in relation Population Needs Assessment and Area Plans, mandating core themes	Following feedback, code of practice will be amended to require autism as a stand alone core theme will be updated in advance of the next round of assessments in plans in three years' time.	Welsh Government Regional Partnership Boards
	Undertake an evaluation of the refreshed Strategic Action Plan National Integrated Autism Service Extend evaluation to consider alignment between children's neurodevelopmental services	The Welsh Government will publish the final evaluation report by March 2019 Additional findings to be published by summer 2019	Welsh Government The ASD Implementation Advisory Group

	<p>and adult autism services.</p> <p>Also to investigate barriers to reducing diagnostic waiting times for children and adults</p>		
	<p>Monitor the implementation of legislative requirements under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act and keep the need for future autism related legislation under review</p>	<p>Monitoring information on the implementation of legislative requirements to be included in the annual update report on the Strategic Action Plan</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p>