

**LEICESTER CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
DATE 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

<b>Subject:</b>	The 2014/15 Adult Autism Strategy: Autism Self-Assessment – Evaluating Progress in Local Authorities along with Partner Agencies
<b>Presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board by:</b>	Tracie Rees – Director of Care Services and Commissioning, Adult Social Care.
<b>Author:</b>	Yasmin Surti - Lead Commissioner LD and MH

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

**National Context**

The Autism Act became law in 2009, and a National Strategy, *Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives* was published 2010. This was followed up with *Implementing Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives* (DH 2010), which gave a set of mandatory recommendations regarding what action CCG's and Local authorities should take to develop services for people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This was refreshed by a National Strategy published in April 2014 - *Think Autism Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives, the strategy for adults with Autism in England: an update*

**Local Context**

This places a legal requirement on Clinical Commissioning Group's, under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Service Act (1970). If local services are not in line with statutory guidance, service users could request a judicial review.

**Progress**

- A Multi-disciplinary Autism Diagnostic and Support Pathway has been developed for Children, Transition and Adults with partners across health and social care in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
- This is underpinned by an LLR Delivery Action plan linked to the 15 Challenges in the refreshed National Strategy 2014
- A comprehensive training programme is available, some of which is mandatory for ASC staff.
- RAG ratings indicate green in seven areas where we exceed the requirements, amber in ten areas where there is work in progress and red in three areas, which are future priorities. Self-advocate stories provide evidence of progress.

**Areas for development**

- Data collection is still difficult from a range of sources that do not cross reference, therefore the quality and quantity affects the ability to analyse it. However Information sharing protocols have assisted in progressing this work

- Post diagnostic Support in Adult Mental Health – a business plan has been submitted by LPT to the CCG, as to how this service may be best delivered. There is currently no service.
- Understanding how Autism affects different groups in society, women, older people and people from different BME groups.
- Criminal Justice System – there needs to be significant awareness raising across the whole system to recognise Autism, and then to respond appropriately across the courts, prison and probation services.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

- Accept and Validate the Autism Self-Assessment submission
- Support the recommendations for future work to ensure the Council along with partner agencies are able to meet their legal responsibilities and raise standards.