

Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy and Implementation Plan 2020 -2023

DRAFT



Foreword: Cllr David Roche:

Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy and Implementation Plan sets out a vision for all autistic people living and working in Rotherham, to have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives, whatever their age. This vision is shared by all public, voluntary and independent organisations that have worked together to develop the strategy.

Rotherham is committed to a personalised approach, making sure that support is formed around the person. This means that they can take control and make real choices about how they lead their lives. This approach is seen to be a positive way for people on the autistic spectrum to receive the support they need and empowering them to have more choice and control over how their needs are met.

Autism touches the lives of many people in Rotherham. Everyone with autism will experience it differently. Many autistic people live independent lives. Others may need some support or access to services in order to achieve their full potential and lead fulfilled and happy lives.

Our ambition is that we want Rotherham to become an autism-friendly borough in which autistic people can reach their full potential at all stages of their lives. We have developed a strategy for the next three years which includes all ages - children, young people and adults with autism and the needs of families and carers. We have listened to the views of a wide range of people in developing this strategy.

In Rotherham we are committed to improving the lives of autistic people. We will do so by continuing to work with families, local autism groups and partner agencies to ensure that this strategy and the implementation plan are a success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Roche', is written over a horizontal line.

Councillor David Roche

Cabinet Member - Adult Social Care and Health

Our Vision:

To work towards making Rotherham an autism friendly place to live. This means a place where you can get a timely diagnosis with support, meet professionals with a good understanding of autism, find services,

organisations and employers that make reasonable adjustments when required, where people can feel safe, have aspirations and fulfil their potential, and become a full members of the local community.

Rotherham's *All Age Autism Strategy* sets out a vision for all people with autism, to have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives whatever their age. This vision is shared by all public, voluntary and independent organisations that have worked together to develop the strategy.

Introduction:

Autistic children, young people and adults, their families and carers, and the practitioners who work with them have been a central part of this

strategy and its development. They will continue to be closely involved in order to achieve the aims and actions set out within this strategy.

The Rotherham Autism Partnership Board plays a key role in developing this strategy.

Coproduction has been at the heart of developing this strategy. This has entailed meetings / engagement events with representatives from a wide range of practitioners, autistic people, parents, families, carers and local businesses. This gathered information and ideas of key priorities for people with autism in Rotherham. This information then led to the development of the areas for focus as well as the actions for improvement.

From our work, it has become clear that to make Rotherham autism friendly, we would need to work across five key areas:

- 1. Starting Well: All Rotherham's autistic children and young people are healthy and safe from harm**
- 2. Developing Well: All Rotherham's autistic children and young people start school ready to learn for life**
- 3. Moving on well to independence: Rotherham's autistic children and young people are provided with the same opportunities to thrive going into adulthood.**
- 4. Living well: Autistic adults living in Rotherham will get the right support when needed**
- 5. Ageing well: Autistic adults living in Rotherham will be better supported as they grow old**

A note on Terminology

Autism is considered to be a disability under the Equality Act 2010. It is not an illness or a mental health problem.

The research found that all groups like the terms 'on the autism spectrum' and 'Asperger syndrome'. Autistic adults prefer the identity-first terms 'autistic' and 'Aspie', whereas families didn't like 'Aspie'. Practitioners also like the term 'autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or conditions (ASC)'. To reflect the findings of this research, the strategy will use the term 'autistic' – particularly when talking about children and to adults who identify themselves in this way.

Autism and Me - 'Autism is like my superpower':

Our Neurodiverse population (which includes autistic people) bring many gifts and strengths to Rotherham.

Chat 'n' Chill' is a Rotherham based youth group for autistic young people. They have just celebrated their 10th Anniversary and wanted Whistle Video to create this video for them to promote this amazing group.

<https://www.whistlevideo.com/chatandchill>

CONTEXT:

National Picture:

The National Autism Strategy, ‘*Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives*’¹, was originally published by the government in March 2010 as a result of the Autism Act 2009 and applies to adults in England. This was followed by statutory guidance for local authorities and NHS organisations in December 2010. The Autism Act 2009 required that local authorities and local health bodies work together better support the needs of adults with autism.

Think Autism – Update to the National Strategy

The Government published an update to the national autism strategy, entitled “Think Autism”,² on 2 April 2014. This followed a review led by the Department of Health, which considered what needs to happen next to make sure progress continues. The document reaffirms the importance of five areas for action to improve the lives of adults with autism, which are in line with those identified in the original national autism strategy:

- increasing awareness and understanding of autism;
- developing clear, consistent pathways for the diagnosis of autism;
- improving access for adults with autism to services and support;
- helping adults with autism into work; and
- enabling local partners to develop relevant services.

In particular, “Think Autism” has a new focus on:

- building communities that are more aware of and accessible to the needs of people with autism;
- promoting innovative local ideas, services or projects that can help people in their communities; and
- how advice and information on services can be joined up better for people.

The National Autism Strategy sets out a vision for all public services in England to respond appropriately to the needs of people with autism. The central vision of the strategy can be summarised as follows:

“All adults with autism are able to live fulfilling and rewarding lives within a society that accepts and understands them. They can get a diagnosis and access to support if they need it, and they can depend on

¹ Department of Health. *Fulfilling and rewarding lives: the strategy for adults with autism in England*. London : s.n., 2010.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/think-autism-an-update-to-the-government-adult-autism-strategy>

Department of Health *Think Autism: fulfilling and rewarding lives, the strategy for adults with autism in England: an update*. London : s.n., 2014.

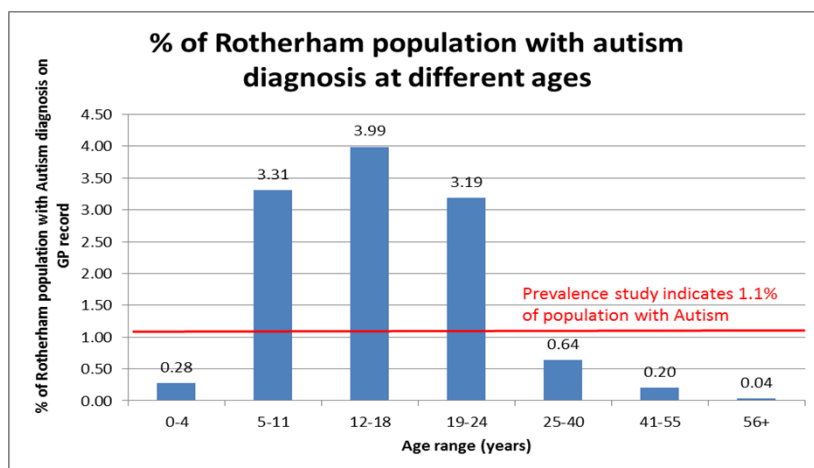
mainstream public services to treat them fairly as individuals, helping them to make the most of their talents”.

Revised Statutory Guidance

The Department of Health published statutory guidance to support the updated strategy in December 2014, following a public consultation exercise. The revised statutory guidance covers nine areas:

- Training of staff who provide services to adults with autism;
- Identification and diagnosis of autism in adults, leading to assessment of needs for relevant services;
- Planning in relation to the provision of services for people with autism as they move from being children to adults;
- Local planning and leadership in relation to the provision of services for adults with autism;
- Preventative support and safeguarding in line with the Care Act 2014 from April 2015;
- Reasonable Adjustments and Equality – This is a theme that is relevant to all our functions and which we plan to monitor through Equality Impact Assessment;
- Supporting people with complex needs, whose behaviour may challenge or who may lack capacity;
- Employment for adults with autism;
- Working with the criminal justice system.

The Local Picture:



From the estimated national prevalence rate, we would expect 1.1% of the Rotherham's autistic population to be diagnosed. This is around 2,900 people^{3 4}.

Rotherham Council's Children's Service have recorded 1,487 children / young people who are autistic, out of this cohort 688 children have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

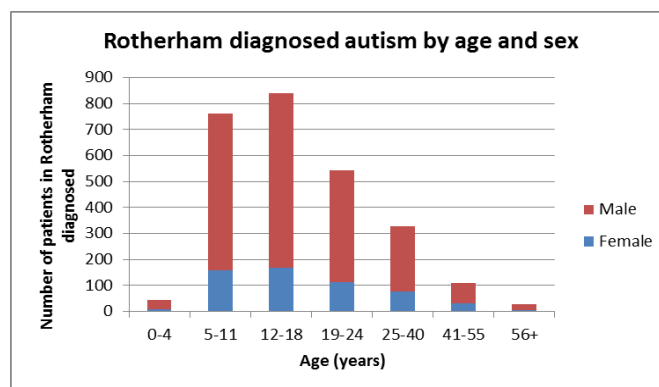
In reviewing Rotherham's GP records, we have found out that there are 2,707 Rotherham registered patients with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger's syndrome. Most of these are younger people; this tells us two things:

- That overall our local rates of diagnosis are probably higher than the national average
- That there may be a number of adults that we have not diagnosed

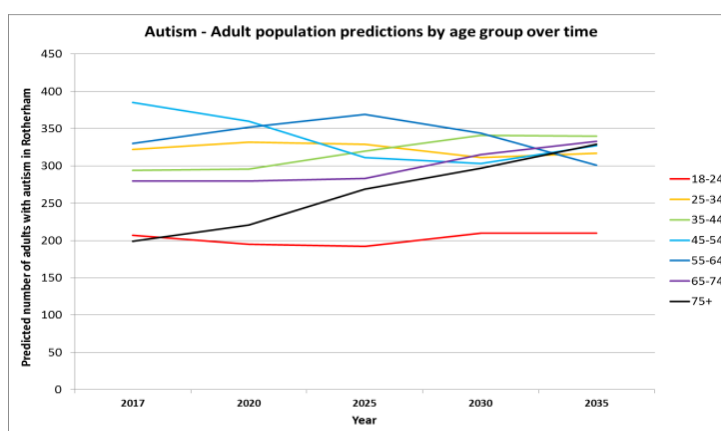
Numbers of people diagnosed with autism as split by age and sex.

³ Baird G, Simonoff E, Pickles A, et al. 'Prevalence of disorders of the autism spectrum in a population cohort of children in South Thames: the Special Needs and Autism Project (SNAP)', *Lancet*, 2006; 368(9531):210-215

⁴ Brugha TS, McManus S, Bankart J, et al. 'Epidemiology of autism spectrum disorders in adults in the community in England', *Arch Gen Psychiatry*, 2011, 68(5), 459-465



Nationally 15% of autistic people will be female. In Rotherham, this ranges from 22% (0-4 year olds) to 38% (in 41-55 year olds) with an average of 27%. There are a number of theories that might explain why more men and boys than women and girls get an autism diagnosis. Some think our current assessments do not work well in identifying autistic women and girls. There are a number of theories that might explain why more males than females are diagnosed; these include current assessments not identifying female presentations and females acting in a way which masks (hides) some of the challenges they face predicting future prevalence in Rotherham.



Projecting Adults Needs and Service Information (PANSI) data for 18-64 year olds and Projecting Older People Population Information (POPPI) data for people aged 65 and over, have produced a profile with predicted numbers of autistic people up to 2035. This shows (see Fig 1) that over the next fifteen years there will be a significant increase in the number of autistic people. This is due to increases in the numbers of older autistic people whereas the number in younger age groups will remain relatively stable.

For more Information about autism can be found in Rotherham's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment:

Why do we need a strategy?

A strategy is a vision and this vision is delivered by a plan. Every area in the country will have both a vision and a plan. In Rotherham, we decided to make a new plan for everyone with autism. One of the most important starting points in making this plan was the Autism Act (2009).

The Autism Act describes what we need to do to make services better. It says people with autism may not always get what they need. This could be because services do not understand what they need, or public places are not inclusive.

We also know what matters to people in Rotherham and used this in our strategy.

- It can sometimes be difficult to gain a formal diagnosis of autism.
- People with autism have strengths and can develop their skills, explore interests, improve physical health and improve social interaction and, in many cases, can find employment. All autistic people can, and do, learn and develop with the right sort of support.

Our plan describes how the Council, the NHS and partners will invest and improve the services and outcomes over the next three years – from 2020 to 2023.

Rotherham's Principles and Values:

Principles and values are the most important things that will help to make the strategy and its plan work.

Our principles are:

- All autistic children, young people, adults and their families are at the centre of everything we do
- Focus on individual's strengths to overcome barriers
- Guidance, information and support are easily available
- The right support at the right time and making every contact count
- Increasing awareness of autism across Rotherham
- Supporting individuals to live the life they choose

It will be really important that we use the amazing resources we have in Rotherham– the knowledge and skills of autistic children, young people and adults; understanding the value of relationships between families, friends and informal (neighbours and community) networks; and recognising the importance of local community and voluntary groups.

This strategy sets out how we will do this and is built around the *Vision for Adult Social Care* which promotes active independence, Rotherham's *Vision for Children and Young People's Services* and *VOICES*. The visions can be linked:

Adult Social Care Vision (2017-2020)	VOICES Priority Actions	Vision for Rotherham's Children and Young People's Services
Act to help yourself	Make transitions to adulthood better and plan them with me	Children, young people and their families are ready for the world of work
Act when you need it	Get me help quicker	Children and young people are healthy and safe from harm
Act to live your life	Believe	Children and young people start school ready to learn for life

It promotes people being treated fairly as individuals and being offered opportunities to help them make the most of their talents.

It involves partners across the Council, health services, the police and probation services, and within the community and voluntary sector to ensure that we deliver the best possible outcomes for autistic people. Using the vision of 'Active Independence' we will work to ensure that autistic people are secure, responsible and empowered.

The Strategy

Rotherham's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (A Healthier Rotherham by 2025) states that Rotherham will take a 'Life Course Approach' in supporting its residents to live healthy and happier lives. Rotherham's all age autism strategy will take a similar approach about how we want the future to be for autistic people living in Rotherham.

1. Starting Well: All Rotherham's autistic children and young people are healthy and safe from harm

Vision:

This is about ensuring that Rotherham will be a great place to grow up in; where autistic children, young people and their families have fun and enjoy living, learning and working.

How will we get there?

Working with partners, our voluntary organisations and community groups we have identified five priority areas on which to focus our implementation plan. Some examples of the operational activity that is underway are:

A digital diagnostic pathway has been commissioned from Healios who will support local CaMHS service.

Planning is underway to re-design our C&YP diagnostic pathway in 20-21.

Education settings have engaged in training, licensed by Autism Education Trust.

New specialist education places have been created, at primary and secondary, for children with Autism.

Rotherham Opportunities College offers local post-19 education provision.

Project Search offers supported internships.

Rotherham Parent Carers Forum are commissioned by Rotherham CCG to offer regular drop-in sessions to support families on the diagnostic pathway.

In speaking to autistic children and families living in Rotherham we will:

1. Continue to improve the children's diagnosis and support pathway.
2. Review the Autism support offer funded through the CAMHS local transformation plan.
3. That the diagnosis and support pathway is NICE compliant.
4. Implement a new sensory support offer for children and young people Rotherham.
5. Use the CAMHS / Schools Pilot Project and the Trail Blazers pilot (see: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/cyp/trailblazers/mh-support-teams/>) to develop new ways of working and increase understanding of social, emotional, mental health for autistic children and young people.
6. To develop wider workforce links across all schools, academies, colleges and health

practitioners about receiving autism awareness training.

2. Developing Well: All Rotherham's autistic children and young people start school ready to learn for life

Vision:

Whilst tackling inequalities in health needs focused action from the start of life and in the early years, the commitment needs to be maintained throughout childhood and adolescence. Good education and healthcare, and opportunities for good work and training are needed in order to support young people with autism to thrive.

How will we get there?

1. Promoting healthy Lifestyles for children and young people with autism

- Ensuring we Identify health inequalities and address areas adding to future implementation plan for the autism strategy – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) does capture this data. A SEND JSNA is being developed.

- National screening programmes take up.
- Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks.
- Ensure that children and young people are participating in the 5 ways to wellbeing campaign – accessible information and promotion.

2. Ensuring that the mental health needs (including Suicide prevention) for autistic children and young people are met:

1 in 4 Autistic young people are prone to mental health problems – if they do not have the right support. Affective disorders such as depression and anxiety are the most common co-morbid secondary psychiatric disorders.

We will ensure that Rotherham's suicide prevention program includes autistic people.

3. Moving on well to independence: Rotherham's autistic children and young people are provided with the same opportunities to thrive going into adulthood.

Vision:

Families need help and accessible support and information to enable children to develop life skills to live independently. Autistic young people need support and training to develop life skills, including managing personal relationships and support to access employment opportunities.

How will we get there?

We will ensure that transition pathways consider the needs of autistic young people. Ensuring that young people plans are put in place to meet these needs as young people move into adult life. This will see the development of both a targeted offer and a universal offer (open to all).

1. Pathways, Work and Health, Building Better Opportunities and Jobcentre Plus work coaches.
2. We will make sure that all provision made through the graduated response – this is a person centred

approach to ensure people's needs are identified. and,

We will ensure the effective coordination and delivery of programmes providing targeted support to autistic people. This includes initiatives such as the European Social Funding (ESF) Pathways Programme – Pathways to Progression - Supporting 15 to 19 year-olds not in education employment or training (NEET) to engage in learning or employment and Pathways to Success.



4. Living well: Autistic adults living in Rotherham will get the right support when needed

Vision:

All autistic people living in Rotherham enjoy the best possible health and wellbeing and have a good quality of life.

How will we get there?

1. Autistic people and their families have told us they aspire to have a range of housing options; housing is a fundamental requirement to ensure people with autism can live as independently as they are able. Families and people with autism benefit from autism friendly homes – often associated with the benefit of additional rooms; outdoor areas to allow for personal space and aide coping mechanisms. A clear pathway and greater choice of appropriate accommodation is needed to assist people to move in a structured way to independence within their chosen community.

Housing: Rotherham Council are developing new supported living options for people with a learning disability and autism in 2020/21.

2. People with autism experience general barriers in engaging with the police and criminal justice system. People with autism are sometimes reluctant to engage with the Police when they are victims of crime. A lack of understanding and awareness of autism within the Criminal Justice System (CJS) is also a potential barrier.

- Autism awareness training sessions is planned for all South Yorkshire Police officers
- Hate crime awareness training sessions (dealing with hate crime, being radicalised, controlling and coercive behaviour, being groomed or abused in other ways).

3. Local diagnostic and post diagnostic services need to be able to undertake a comprehensive assessment that can take alternative diagnoses and co-existing disorders into account. They also need to be able to identify specific needs relating

to communication, behaviour, physical or sensory conditions that might, regardless of diagnosis, suggest a need for further assessment.

Rotherham CCG will:

- Review Of current adult diagnostic service, to include local and national indicators of volume and waiting lists.
- New local adult diagnostic pathway developed that demonstrates improvement to accessing specialist assessments with an investment of £300k.
- Specialist assessments are available closer to home.

4. There was general agreement that more awareness and an understanding of autism was needed. This was not limited to health and care services. It also includes:

- Schools, colleges and early years services
- Workplaces
- Housing
- General community
- Transport providers
- Leisure services
- Reception staff

- An E Awareness campaign in 2020 will be developed which target key organisations (**all** RMBC social care staff, RDaSH and TRFT).
- A Wider Awareness campaign (phase 2) to extend to partners and universal community services

- We want all public bodies in Rotherham to ensure that the needs of autistic young people and adults are considered and captured in Equality Impact Assessments (EIA).

- We will raise public awareness in relation to autism and hate crime/safeguarding.

5. Autistic people living in Rotherham have talked about having mental health problems and problems in accessing the right support -

- Mental health awareness (including suicide prevention) for autistic adults by raising awareness of 'Being the One (see: <https://www.be-the-one.co.uk/>)'
- Ensuring Rotherham wide opportunities such as the 5 ways to wellbeing and Ensure the opportunities offered by Get Healthy Rotherham is accessible for autistic people (see: <https://www.gethealthyrotherham.co.uk/>)

5. Ageing well: Autistic adults living in Rotherham will be better supported as they grow old

Vision:

This is about making sure autistic people, as they grow older, receive the right kind of support to help them live as well as possible.

better use of technology such as wearable devices and monitors to support people with long term health problems in new ways, helping them to stay well and live independently for longer.

How will we get there?

1. As the population grows older, the number of adults with autism is projected to rise, with an associated increase in the need for care and support for independent living.
 - Rotherham will aim give autistic greater control over the care they receive as people grow older, with more care and support being offered in or close to people's homes, rather than in hospital.
2. Stakeholders, including service providers, voluntary organisations, people with autism, families and carers, have told us they want to see improvements in support and services locally.
 - In Rotherham's Integrated Health and Social Care Place Plan there is a commitment to make

Next Steps: Implementation Plan 2020-2023 - Rotherham All Age Autism Strategy

People in developing this strategy said they wanted action and not just 'fancy' words. Time was spent developing a clear implementation plan with programmes of work to ensure the strategy 'lives' and delivers the vision. We have identified the following ongoing challenges:

- Supporting services and the community to be open to support people with autism: for the community to celebrate neurodiversity.
- Diagnosis and post diagnostic offer for Children and Young People and Adults.
- Rotherham CCG and RDaSH are working to create 'all age' solutions to address the diagnosis waiting list issues and develop a local post diagnostic offer for adults.
- Ensuring that the right support is available and is cost effective.

How we will measure success?

Clear success criteria is identified and measured in the plan. The Autism Partnership Board reporting to Rotherham's Health and Wellbeing Board every 6 months will monitor progress. This will be done with Rotherham's autistic adults, young people, children, families and practitioners who work with them.

Priority 1 – Starting Well

Lead: Jenny Lingrell (Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion – CYPS)

All Rotherham's autistic children and young people are healthy and safe from harm

Lead	What will Rotherham do? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG	
1.1	RMBC/CCG	<p>Improve the children's diagnosis and support pathway Establish a robust profile of the waiting list RDASH hold. Develop a multi-agency approach to "concerning behaviours". Review the efficiency and effectiveness of the current pathway and explore alternatives. Benchmark Rotherham against other CAMHS Services and identify areas of good practice. Explore creative solutions (which may include alternative commissioning options) to reduce waiting times Review the Autism support offer funded through the CAMHS local transformation plan. That the diagnosis and support pathway is NICE compliant</p>	<p>Pathway document created</p> <p>All practitioners understand and adhere to pathways protocols</p> <p>Timely diagnosis</p> <p>Young people and families understand pathways and is visible.</p>	<p>30th June 2020 (sign off)</p> <p>31/12/2020</p> <p>31/12/2020</p>	<p>Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion</p>		
1.2	CCG	<p>Implement a new sensory support offer for children and young people Rotherham</p>	<p>Children and young people are able to access an appropriate sensory assessment and support</p> <p>Young people and families understand pathways and is visible.</p>	<p>30th October 2019</p>	<p>Children's Joint Commissioning Manager (RMBC & CCG)</p>		

1.3	CCG	<p>Monitor the effectiveness of the CAMHS / Schools Pilot Project and the Trail Blazers pilot (see: https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/cyp/trailblazers/mh-support-teams/) in developing new ways of working and increase understanding of social, emotional, mental health for autistic children and young people.</p>	Commenced 2019	30 th April 2021	Children's Joint Commissioning Manager (RMBC & CCG)		
1.4	RMBC / CCG Training	<p>For all schools (working with academies), colleges and health practitioners to receive autism awareness training</p> <p>Training: Rotherham's offer free training to families, teachers, schools is based on the autism education trust schools programme see: https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/ and this is advertised on Rotherham's SEND local offer, see: . http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org</p> <p>Speak up offer regular autism awareness training to Rotherham's GP's</p>	95% of All schools, colleges and GP's / primary care staff to have autism awareness training.	31 st December 2022	Children's Joint Commissioning Manager (RMBC & CCG)		

Priority 2- Developing Well

Lead: Jenny Lingrell (Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion – CYPS)

Rotherham's autistic children and young people start school ready to learn for life.

Lead	What will Rotherham do? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date RAG rated	RAG	
2.2	RMBC/CCG	<p>Promoting healthy Lifestyles for children and young people with autism</p> <p>Ensuring we Identify health inequalities and address areas adding to future implementation plan for the autism strategy – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) does capture this data.</p> <p>National screening programmes take up</p> <p>Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks.</p> <p>Ensure that children and young people are participating in the 5 ways to wellbeing campaign – accessible information and promotion and Rotherham's suicide prevention program includes autistic people</p>	<p>Autistic people report increased health and wellbeing</p> <p>A year on year reported increase in take up of public health programmes</p>	30th June 2022	<p>RMBC Public Health</p> <p>Gilly Brenner</p> <p>Garry Parvin and Anne Charlesworth</p> <p>Ruth Fletcher-Brown – Public Health</p>		

Priority 3 - Moving on Well into Independence:

Children and young people are ready for the world of work.

Lead: Garry Parvin

	Lead	What will Rotherham do? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
3.1	RMBC/ CCG/ TRFT/ RDaSH/ schools and colleges	<p>To ensure that transition pathways consider the needs of autistic young people</p> <p>Those services involved in transition review current transition pathways to see how they meet the needs of autistic young people.</p> <p>To develop a universal transition planning passport for all young people 14 - 25.</p>	<p>Autistic young people and their families report that transitions to adulthood were better</p>	31 October 2021	Ian Spicer - Assistant Director Integration		
3.2	RMBC	<p>Ensure the effective coordination and delivery of programmes providing targeted support to autistic people. This includes initiatives such as Pathways, Work and Health, Building Better Opportunities and Jobcentre Plus work coaches</p>	<p>Autistic people and their families are aware of the supported employment opportunities</p> <p>More autistic young people are either in work, apprenticeships, work placements, volunteering college or training</p>	30 th April 2021	Jenny Lawless and Rotherham Business Growth Board's employment and skills sub-group		
3.3	RMBC	<p>Ensure that advanced planning and coordination of care occurs for autistic young people moving into adult social care.</p> <p>A clear pathway is developed and is advertised through Rotherham's Local Offer:</p>	<p>Autistic people and their families report that transitions to adulthood were better</p>	30 th April 2021	Head of Service: Gordon Waigand		

3.4	RMBC/ RCCG	<p>Link information and advice to ensure consistency and quality of information through local offer which will ensure:</p> <p>Raising awareness of what services are available and how to access them</p> <p>Signpost parents and carers to available sources of support and advice</p> <p>Local Offer webpage is reviewed and is designed to be as accessible as possible and easier to navigate. http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/</p> <p>Autistic young people are aware of the Rotherham Youth Cabinet: http://www.youthi.org.uk/youthi/homepage/6/rotherham_youth_cabinet</p>	Feedback from carers in relation to information is improved.	31 st July 2020	Sue Wilson - SEND Strategic Board		

Priority 4- Living Well

Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will get the right support when needed

Lead: Garry Parvin

	Lead	What will Rotherham do? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
4.1	CCG	<p>Review Of current adult diagnostic service, to include local and national indicators of volume and waiting lists.</p> <p>New adult diagnostic pathway developed that demonstrates improvement to accessing specialist assessments with an investment of £300k</p> <p>Specialist assessments are available closer to home</p> <p>Parents with autism</p>	<p>Review complete with clear recommendations</p> <p>Published pathway available</p> <p>Clinic is operational in Rotherham.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>31st December 2020</p>	Garry Parvin Joint Head of Learning Disability, Autism and Transitions Commissioning		
4.2	RMBC	<p>E Awareness campaign for 2020 to be developed which target key organisations (all RMBC social care staff, RDaSH and TRFT).</p> <p>Wider Awareness campaign (phase 2) to extend to partners and universal community services</p>	<p>E learning in place for 2020</p> <p>Plan in place for 2020</p>	<p>30th Nov 2020</p> <p>30th Nov 2021</p>	Claire Tester - RMBC Learning and Development		
4.3	RMBC/ VAR	<p>Neighbourhood Teams and Voluntary Action Rotherham will map all the voluntary groups who work with autistic people. For example:</p> <p>Chat and Chill</p> <p>Life Act Drumming</p> <p>Men in Sheds</p> <p>Speak Up for Autism</p> <p>Drop in at Mowbray Gardens</p>	<p>Feedback from autistic people unpaid carers in relation to information is reporting improvement.</p>	<p>30th Nov 2021</p>	Martin Hughes - Neighbourhoods		

		<p>NAS Rotherham</p> <p>My Place (http://www.ymcawhiterose.org.uk/ohso_feature/myplace-facility-rotherham/)</p> <p>Rotherham's Gizmo and connect to support webpage is reviewed and is designed to be as accessible as possible and easier to navigate.</p>				
4.4	RMBC/RCCG/ RDASH/ TRFT/ SY Police	All public bodies to ensure that the needs of autistic young people and adults are considered and captured in Equality Impact Assessments (EIA).	Autistic young people report that public services are more accessible	30 th October 2021	Principle equality lead: RMBC equality lead	
4.5		<p>Carers assessments:</p> <p>Ensure that carers who support autistic people needs are better met through the carers assessment.</p>	Carers report that they are better supported	30 th November 2022	Jo Hinchcliffe	
4.6	RMBC/ SYP	<p>Hate crime awareness training sessions (dealing with hate crime, being radicalised, controlling and coercive behaviour, being groomed or abused in other ways.)</p> <p>Develop content of training and literature to suit audience</p> <p>Hold awareness session</p> <p>Evaluate plan next stage of roll out of training</p>	Training package available	<p>30th Sept 2021</p> <p>31st July 2022</p> <p>30th Sept 2022</p>	Nick Knowles (SYP) / Claire Tester RMBC Learning and Development	
4.7	RMBC	To increase awareness raising sessions in relation to autism awareness and hate crime/safeguarding.	An awareness campaign to be developed with VAR,	31 st Jan 2023	Nick Knowles (SYP) / Claire Tester, RMBC Learning and Development	

			Rotherham partnership, older persons forum, business forum				
4.8	South Yorkshire Police	<p>Autism awareness training sessions for <u>all</u> South Yorkshire Police officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for all officers on Autism Awareness • Training to Atlas Court Call Handlers • Sessions delivered to Custody Suite Staff 		30 th March 2021	Nick Knowles SYP Lead		
4.9	South Yorkshire Police	<p>The success of the Autism Alert Card across the South Yorkshire Police Force.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate both uptake and success 		30 th September 2022	Nick Knowles SYP Lead		
4.10	South Yorkshire Police	<p>Development of easy read materials for victims and witnesses to help reduce anxiety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial in custody suite for Widgets to support communication. 		31 st January 2022	Nick Knowles SYP Lead		
4.11	RMBC/CCG	<p>Promoting healthy Lifestyles and better mental health for autistic adults Ensuring we Identify health inequalities and address areas adding to future implementation plan for the autism strategy – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) does capture this data.</p> <p>National screening programmes take up - bowel, breast, cervical cancer screenings</p> <p>Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks.</p> <p>Ensure that autistic adults are participating in the 5 ways to wellbeing campaign – accessible information and promotion.</p>		31 st November 2022	Ruth Fletcher-Brown – Public Health		

		<p>That Rotherham's suicide prevention program includes autistic people</p> <p>To raise awareness of the risk of suicide for autistic people through 'being the One'</p> <p>Ensure the 5 ways to wellbeing is accessible for autistic people</p>					
4.12	RMBC	<p>Scope opportunities to deliver autism awareness training for cabinet members and seek Cllr champion</p>	<p>To aim for 100% of Councillors have accessed training</p>	<p>31st July 2020</p>	<p>NAS and Claire Tester - RMBC</p>		
4.13	RMBC	<p>Housing: The Council are developing new supported living options for people with a learning disability and autism in 2019/20.</p> <p>A bid has been made to the Local Government Association to develop a strategic needs assessment of the accommodation needs of people with a learning disability, autism and mental health needs.</p> <p>Work will be done with RMBC Housing to look at developing housing related support options – shared lives, key ring to support people with autism</p>	<p>More autistic people have greater housing choice.</p>	<p>30th September 2022</p>	<p>Sarah Watts - RMBC Strategic Housing lead</p>		

Priority 5 – Aging Well

Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will be better supported as they grow old.

Lead: Garry Parvin

Lead	What will Rotherham do? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
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5.1	RMBC/ RCCG	<p>We will ensure that the needs of autistic people are included in strategies and plans to meet the needs of older people in Rotherham.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JSNA data to be updated and reviewed • Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks. • Mental health promotion (inc Suicide prevention) for autistic people • Projects for older people are accessible for autistic people – VAR https://www.autism.org.uk/about/adult-life/ageing.aspx • Rotherham works as part of the Sheffield City Region and South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System to make better use of technology such as wearable devices and monitors to support people with long term health problems in new ways, helping them to stay well and live independently for longer. 	Autistic older people report that services / community opportunities are accessible to meeting their needs	30 th April 2022	<p>RMBC: Public Health</p> <p>Gilly Brenner</p> <p>Anne Charlesworth</p> <p>Ruth Fletcher-Brown – Public Health</p> <p>Sue Turner</p>		
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Glossary of Terms used in this Strategy:

Term	Expanded Version	Meaning (if applicable)
ADASS	Association of Directors of Adult Social Services	ADASS is the association of directors of adult social services in England. We are a charity and the association aims to further the interests of people in need of social care by promoting high standards of social care services and influencing the development of social care legislation and policy.
ASC	Autistic Spectrum Conditions	Autism spectrum Condition (ASC) is the name for a range of similar conditions, including Asperger syndrome, that affect a person's social interaction, communication, interests and behaviour.
CAMHS	Child And Adolescent Mental Health Services	CAMHS is used as a term for all services that work with children and young people who have difficulties with their emotional or behavioural wellbeing.
EIA	Equality Impact Assessments	An equality impact assessment is a process designed to ensure that a policy, project or scheme does not discriminate against any disadvantaged or vulnerable people – this includes autistic people.
Rotherham HWB	Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board	Rotherham HWB is the single strategic forum to ensure coordinated commissioning and delivery across the NHS, social care, public health and other services directly related to health and wellbeing. The HWB also sets the strategic direction for the Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership Place Board, which was set up to drive integration and deliver transformation across health and social care. The HWB has a comprehensive outcomes framework and receives quarterly performance reports on the place plan to assure progress. Partners provide constructive challenge and are keen to collaborate across organisational boundaries for the benefit of people in Rotherham.
Rotherham's Integrated Health and Social Care Place Plan		This plan aligns to the new Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Plan is intended to work as a catalyst to deliver sustainable, effective and efficient health and care support and community services

		with significant improvements underpinned by collaborative working through the development of the Rotherham Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). Partners are fully committed to working together to make decisions on a best for Rotherham basis to achieve the transformations set out in this Plan.
Life Course Approach		A life course approach to health is based on the understanding that multiple factors, which include biological, social, psychological, geographic, and economic, shape health over the life course. This approach aims to increase the effectiveness of interventions throughout a person's life, focusing on a healthy start to life then targeting the needs of people at critical periods throughout their lifetime such as adolescence, moving into work, pregnancy, retirement, bereavement and end of life.
NAS	National Autistic Society	The NAS Rotherham Branch launched in October 2008 and is run on a voluntary basis by people affected by autism spectrum conditions (ASCs). See: http://rotherham.webeden.co.uk/
Neurodevelopmental Pathway		Neurodevelopmental Pathway is a specialist service responsible for the assessment of neurodevelopmental conditions such as Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence	The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) provides national guidance and advice to improve health and social care.
Pathways to Progression		Supporting 15 to 19 year-olds not in education employment or training (NEET) to engage in learning or employment.
Pathways to Success		A needs-led community-based programme which focuses on supporting adults with health issues from marginalised communities, not mandated for the Work Programme or inactive in the labour market to develop basic skills and move towards or into employment.

<p>The Sheffield City Region Combined Authority</p>		<p>The Sheffield City Region Combined Authority (formally the Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Combined Authority) is the combined authority for South Yorkshire in England, with powers over transport, economic development and regeneration.</p>
<p>RDASH</p>	<p>Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust</p>	<p>Specialises in delivering the following: Adult and Older Adults Inpatient and Community Mental Health; Children and Adolescent Mental Health; Learning Disabilities; Substance Misuse; Psychological Therapies, Forensic and Community Services.</p>
<p>Rotherham Business Growth Board's employment and skills sub-group</p>		<p>Is a sub group of the Rotherham Business Growth Board which oversees the Rotherham Employment and Skills Strategy.</p>
<p>Sensory Integration Support</p>		<p>Sensory integration is about how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday life. There is a theory of sensory integration and a therapeutic approach based on the theory.</p>