



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Refreshed Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan

## Delivery plan 2016-2020

## Refreshed Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan – Delivery plan 2016-2020

- 1.1 The refreshed Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan has been developed in response to what people with autism, their family and carers have said is important to them. We have worked with a wide range of stakeholders to identify key priority themes and actions that will make a real difference to the lives of children and adults with autism. We are committed to improving the lives of people with autism and to ensure their families and carers also receive the support they need.
- 1.2 This Delivery Plan accompanies the refreshed Strategic Action Plan and sets out how the Welsh Government will work in partnership with stakeholders to deliver the commitments we have made. We have described the outcomes we want to achieve and how we will monitor the progress being made.
- 1.3 We have already commenced delivery of some of the key commitments and many will take time to fully implement. We will be regularly monitoring and reviewing progress and will take action if progress is not satisfactory and there are gaps in the services and support available. We will publish an annual update report on the Welsh Government website.

The aim of the refreshed Strategic Action Plan is

**Children, young people and adults with autism and their family and carers to have their needs understood, and to be supported to achieve their well-being outcomes**

<b>Assessment and Diagnosis</b>			
<b>What do we want to achieve?</b>	<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How will we know?</b>	<b>Who is involved?</b>
Children, young people and adults with	Deliver improvements to children's assessment and diagnostic services. This will include the implementation of	Care pathways developed by health boards for neurodevelopmental conditions are	Welsh Government - Together for Children and Young People Programme

autism have access to timely referral, assessment and post diagnostic services, which meet their needs	the national standardised diagnostic assessment pathway to ensure consistency	implemented across Wales from November 2016	Local health boards
	Improve timeliness of access, for children and young people, a new 26 waiting time target from referral to first assessment appointment	Health boards report delivery of 26 week waiting time target for access to assessment services by March 2017	Local health boards
	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	Waiting time data updated on a quarterly basis indicate waiting time targets are being met  Family and carers report access to the standardised pathway within 26 weeks of referral	Welsh Government  Local health boards  Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and Integrated Autism Service
	Deliver improvements to adult diagnostic services through the National Integrated Autism Service. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of a national model that will be implemented across Wales</li> <li>• On-going monitoring and reporting of progress against the agreed standards for the service.</li> </ul>	Regional partnership boards reporting progress in the roll out of the diagnostic service for adults from April 2016.  Regional Partnership Boards report that adults diagnostic assessment meets agreed service standards  People with autism reporting	Regional Partnership Boards  Local health boards  Local authorities  Welsh Local Government Association

	Regional partnership boards will be required to report on progress	satisfaction in accessing the new adult assessment and diagnostic service	
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### Meeting Support Needs

What do we want to achieve?	What we will 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>Bring forward legislative reform for children and young people with additional learning needs in December 2016 and monitor progress</p>	<p>The timetable for legislation is progressed and stakeholders are provided with regular updates on stages reached</p>	<p>Welsh Government 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 sectors</p>	<p>Primary Schools programme is rolled out across all local authority areas from 2016  Early years and secondary school and further education programmes delivered and rolled out across Wales from 2017</p>	<p>Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association ASD Implementation Advisory Group</p>
	<p>Improve opportunities for people with autism. 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</p>	<p>The Getting Ahead Two project reports good progress in relation to agreed project outcomes</p>	<p>Getting Ahead Two project</p>
	<p>Welsh Government to take action to become an autism friendly employer by</p>	<p>Welsh Government seeks to achieve accreditation in the</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p>

	participating in the Positive About Working with Autism Programme	Positive About Autism Charter in 2017	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
	<p>Delivery of the National Integrated Autism Service. This will be implemented from April 2016 over a three year period and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of a standard diagnostic assessment service for adults</li> <li>• Provision of advice and support for all people with autism including their family and carers.</li> <li>• Development of training and support packages for professionals</li> </ul>	<p>The integrated service will be delivered and operating in all regions in Wales by March 2019</p> <p>Adults with autism reporting satisfaction in accessing diagnostic services</p> <p>People with autism 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 and support packages available</p>	<p>Regional Partnership Boards</p> <p>Local health boards</p> <p>Local authorities</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan. And integrated autism service</p>

### Awareness Raising, Information and Training

What do we want to achieve?	What we will do	How will we know?	Who is involved?
<p>People with autism 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 people with autism and their family and carers as well as professionals are made aware of the resources available on the ASDinfoales website</p> <p>Develop a communications strategy setting out specific actions by end of January 2017</p>	<p>The communications strategy is completed by January 2017 and implemented</p> <p>People with autism and their family and carers and professionals report increased awareness of the resources available on the ASDinfoales website</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>
	<p>Continue to develop information and resources for identified priority areas, to be freely available through the ASDinfoales website Priority areas will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis</p>	<p>Annual update report by the ASD National Lead</p> <p>People with autism, their family and carers report satisfaction with the information and resources available</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p> <p>Independent evaluation of the Strategic Action Plan and integrated autism service</p>
	<p>Develop and deliver training resources and material to raise awareness of autism and provides support for professionals and others working with</p>	<p>Annual update report by the ASD National Lead</p> <p>Professionals report satisfaction</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>

	children or adults with autism. Priority areas will be updated on an annual basis	with the training material and resources available	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 the National Offender Management Service	Non-devolved organisations engage with Welsh Government activities and training to raise awareness of the needs of people with autism receiving their support	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association Non-devolved organisations
	Continue to support the ASD National Lead and team to provide expert advice and guidance on autism to the Welsh Government, professional groups and stakeholders	Annual update report by the ASD National Lead	Welsh Government Welsh Local Government Association



### Delivering the Priorities for Act

What do we want to achieve?	What we will do	How will we know?	Who is involved?
<p>Children, young people and adults with autism and their family and carers are involved and consulted in the delivery of the ASD SAP.</p>	<p>Establish an Implementation Advisory Group to monitor progress and delivery of the specific actions in the Strategic Action Plan and Delivery Plan. This group will be established before 1 April 2017</p>	<p>The ASD Implementation Advisory Group is established within three months of the publication of the refreshed action plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The advisory group meets at least twice yearly</li> <li>• The group engages and consults widely with stakeholders</li> <li>• The advisory group agrees a work plan to support the delivery of the ASD SAP</li> </ul>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>ASD Implementation Advisory Group</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</p>	<p>Regional Partnership Board progress reports indicate progress in relation to achieving specific actions including timeliness of</p>	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Regional Partnership Boards</p>

	include performance information and timeliness of assessment and diagnosis	assessment and diagnosis	ASD Implementation Advisory Group
	Collect information on the number of people with autism who have a care and support plan. This will be included as part of the new social services data collection from April 2017	The new data will be available by February 2019	Welsh Government The ASD Implementation Advisory Group
	Undertake an independent evaluation of the refreshed Strategic Action Plan National Integrated Autism Service.	The Welsh Government commissions and establishes an Independent Evaluation of the ASD SAP by March 2017	Welsh Government The ASD Implementation Advisory Group
	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	Monitoring information on the implementation of legislative requirements to be included in the annual update report on the Strategic Action Plan	Welsh Government