



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan

## Welsh Language Impact Assessment

## Welsh Language Impact Assessment

<b>Title:</b> Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan	<b>WLIA Reference No</b> (completed by WLU):				
<b>Name of person completing form:</b>	<b>Julie Annetts</b>				
<b>Date:</b>	<b>September 2016</b>				
<b>Policy lead:</b>	Lisa Dunsford/Julie Annetts				
<b>Contact details:</b>	Julie Annetts x6061 Julie.annetts@wales.gsi.gov.uk				
<b>Programme/Project Type</b> x <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Project or programme</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <span style="margin-left: 180px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Research, evaluation</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Grant <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Services</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Business change <span style="margin-left: 180px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Contracts, tenders</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Construction, Capital <input type="checkbox"/> ICT <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify below)					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>					
<b>Costs: How much is the projected whole life cost for the programme/project?</b> If below £25k, then a full WLIA is not always required (see guidance).					
Under £25k	£25k - £49k	£50 - £249K	£250K - £1m	Over £1m	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Of the above, please provide details if there are any identified costs directly associated with the Welsh language?</b> none					
<b>How long is the programme/project expected to run?</b>					
Up to 1 yr	Up to 2yrs	Up to 5yrs	Up to 10yrs	More than 10 yrs	Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Key milestone dates for the programme/ project:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASD Stakeholder Advisory Group formed 2012</li> </ul>					

- Consultation on the draft refreshed Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan. 4 March 2016
- Roll out of first four regions for the Integrated autism service in Wales from April 2016.
- Completion and publication of the refreshed ASD SAP and Delivery Plan by September 2016

## STAGE 1: PLANNING

**What are the aims and objectives of the policy?**

**What are the desired outcomes/ what constitutes 'success'?**

### Aims

1. To refresh the Autistic Spectrum Disorder Strategic Action Plan will deliver improvements identified priority areas.
  - Awareness Raising, Information and Training
  - Assessment, Diagnosis and Support
  - Addressing Support Needs
  - Education and Employment

### Outcomes

2. People with autism in Wales and their carers and families can access information, services and support which meet their needs.

**What policy options have been considered?**

**and**

**What impacts will there be if the policy is *not* implemented?**

This is a refresh of existing autism policy.

Priorities for action have been identified in consultation with stakeholders.

A scoping exercise was undertaken to examine models of autism services across the UK and evidence based options presented to Ministers. Ministers agreed to the implementation of a national autism integrated service for Wales.

People with autism in Wales will continue to experience gaps in access to information, services and support.

**Does the programme demonstrate a clear link with the Welsh Government's strategy for the Welsh language - *laith fyw: laith byw*?**

There are no clear links with the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy other than that individuals with autism who communicate in Welsh as their first

language have access to bilingual information, services and support.

**What are the impacts/ effects (both positive and/or adverse) on the Welsh language you have identified at the initial planning stage**

i.e. Welsh speakers, Welsh language communities, Welsh medium education, Welsh learners, services available in Welsh?

1. An assessment of available research and stakeholder feedback indicates that this policy will have minimal impact on the Welsh language, other than information and services being available to individuals with autism and their families in Welsh where this is their preferred method of communication. This is already in place with existing materials produced by the ASD Strategic Action Plan.
2. All materials and resources are and will continue to be available bilingually. The availability of assessment diagnostic and support being available in Welsh will be determined by the skills of professionals undertaking this work and the skills of work force. The roll out of the National Integrated Autism Service commenced in April and the health boards in the first four regions are now recruiting staff, these health boards will have duties under the Welsh Language Standards in relation to the Welsh Language Standards. Specialist autism training for staff will commence in January and this will include considering Welsh Language Standards in planning and delivery.

**Who are the stakeholders? Are the needs of Welsh speakers and learners addressed? To what extent are Welsh language interest groups likely to respond positively to the proposals?**

The stakeholders are people with autism and their parents and carers, also professionals working in this area and interested third sector organisations.

Welsh language interest groups are not likely to have a specific interest in this policy other than to ensure that all information and services are available and can be accessed bilingually.

An ASD Advisory Group was established to agree the priorities for action for the refreshed action plan and the impact on the Welsh Language was not raised as an issue of concern by members, including those representing stakeholder groups. There are Welsh language speakers as members of the group.

Consultation documents including on-line surveys on the ASD SAP and service provision are always made available in Welsh. Officials undertook informal meetings with stakeholder groups including parents and carers, to discuss the action plan. Although specific questions were not asked about services available in Welsh, there were no concerns raised about Welsh Language service provision. Services are largely provided by health boards and local authorities which have duties to consider the provision of services in Welsh as part of the Welsh Language standards. For formal consultation events simultaneous translation is offered at Welsh Government hosted events, however even in areas where there is a high percentage of Welsh speakers we did not have requests for translation services. There is no nationally

available information about the provision of autism services specifically in Welsh by statutory services.

The consultation on the refreshed ASD Strategic Action Plan was published bilingually. Of 76 responses received two responses were in Welsh, one raised the provision of Welsh language services, overall the consultation did not draw out gaps in services for individuals requiring services in Welsh.

**Where an assessment was not completed, or no impacts were identified, please provide a full account for record keeping purposes?**

(This could be used in the Welsh Language Tribunal in future)

When developing the refreshed ASD SAP information was gathered from a wide range of sources to identify gaps in services. This included a short literature review and the establishment of an ASD Stakeholder Advisory Group. In 2012 stakeholder events were held across Wales with the support of the third sector and again in 2015 the WLGA undertook a series of bilingual on-line surveys and meetings with stakeholder groups to identify priorities for action. A consultation on the draft refreshed ASD action plan was undertaken in March 2016. Little information was found on identified gaps in services or positive action in relation to people with autism who are Welsh speakers. Feedback from stakeholders did not raise significant gaps in Welsh Language service provision.

The ASD Adults Diagnostic Pre and Post Diagnostic Network were previously funded by the Welsh Government to improve services and this included developing a diagnostic pathway. Some work has been undertaken to explore translating nationally recognised assessment tools into Welsh, this was not taken forward, as demand for this provision was not identified. A Task and Finish Group on ASD Diagnosis reported in March 2016, this group did not identify gaps in provision relating to assessment and diagnosis services available in the medium of Welsh.

- What aspects of the policy's aims and objectives are potentially relevant to the Welsh language?
- Which of the Welsh Language Standards potentially apply?
- Could the policy affect service users, and therefore Welsh speakers wishing to use services in Welsh?
- Will the proposal potentially affect the use of the Welsh language, the numbers of Welsh speakers, the sustainability of Welsh speaking communities, or fluency and confidence of Welsh speakers and learners to use Welsh?
- Will the proposed policy potentially affect Welsh medium education?
- Will there potentially be positive or negative effects for the Welsh language or are there opportunities to promote the Welsh language or its use through this policy?

The policy concerns the development and delivery of autism services and as such are relevant to Welsh Language users.

The Welsh Language Standards will apply in relation to service delivery in the medium of Welsh.

The policy should not affect the use of the Welsh Language, numbers of Welsh Speakers, sustainability of Welsh speaking communities, or fluency and confidence of Welsh speakers to learners to use Welsh.

The proposed policy should not affect Welsh medium education. Education

authorities would have duties to provide support in the chosen language. There should not be positive or negative effects on the Welsh language or opportunities to promote the Welsh language.

**What actions/ further work has been identified at the initial planning stage?**  
 e.g. data requirements, need for peer review, external engagement with Welsh speaking groups, identify stakeholders or consultation list, need to contact Welsh Language Unit for advice)?

A national integrated autism service is being rolled out across seven health board footprint regions from April 2016 until March 2019. The WLGA has been funded to lead and co-ordinate implementation and this will include identifying whether the needs of Welsh speakers with autism are being accommodated and to lead and share good practice to improve services if there is a demand for improvement in Welsh language service provision.

As part of the delivery of the refreshed ASD SAP and the integrated autism service all materials and resources including DVDs and the associated website will be produced bilingually.

**STAGE 2: IDENTIFYING AND ASSESSING IMPACTS**

**Impact Assessment Summary**  
**Summarise the detailed impact assessment carried out together with the scores assigned.**

**Positive effects/ impacts:**

There are no specific positive effects/impacts other than training, resources and materials being available bilingually.

**Adverse effects/ impacts:**

There are no specific negative effects/impacts

**Opportunities to promote the Welsh language e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life, Welsh at work increased?**

The policy will not provide opportunities to promote the Welsh language.

**Evidence/ data used including demographic profile when considering the effects/ impacts:**

Available literature suggests that 1% of the general population will have autism. Feedback from stakeholders including people with autism, parent and carers and professionals.

<p><b>What is the overall anticipated likely impact on the Welsh language if this policy is taken forward based on the</b></p>	<p>Positive: <input type="checkbox"/>          Adverse: <input type="checkbox"/>          Neutral: X<input type="checkbox"/></p>
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impact assessment/ risk assessment?	Unknown: <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Decision following IA</b>	1. No major change <input type="checkbox"/> X
	2. Adjust the policy to improve impacts <input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Continue the policy with mitigation measures <input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Stop and remove the policy <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b><i>If answered 2,3, or 4 above – then answer the following:</i></b>  <b>How will you address these impacts in order to improve the outcomes for the Welsh language? Details of mitigation measures/ action points/ alternative options to reduce adverse impacts and increase positive outcomes:</b></p> <p>A bilingual communications strategy will be developed to raise awareness of the ASDinfoales website and the information, training and resources available.</p>	
<p><b>If engaging or consulting, what are your plans? What questions do you wish to ask stakeholders about the Welsh Language Impact Assessment and Welsh language related issues?</b></p>	
<p>The consultation on the draft refreshed Autism action plan was published bilingually in March 2016. 76 written response were received, two were received in Welsh. One raised the important of Welsh language service provision, but there were no significant issues raised about gaps in service provision through the medium of Welsh received.</p>	
<p><b>STAGE 3: POST CONSULTATION AND PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION</b></p>	
<p><b>Following consultation, what changes have you made to address any Welsh language issues that were raised?</b></p>	
<p>There were no issues about lack of service provision in the Welsh language raised by the wide range stakeholders involved in the development of the ASD SAP. This includes statutory services, such as social services and education, third sector organisations and people with autism and their parents and carers. However delivery of the autism action plan and the integrated autism service will take into account the needs of Welsh language speakers where a demand is identified for service provision in the Welsh Language. The demand for Welsh Language support will be collected as part of the monitoring data for the service. This will be achieved in part by ensuring all resources including website pages are produced bilingually.</p>	
<p><b>How will you monitor the ongoing effects during the implementation of the policy?</b></p>	
<p>Through the publication of a delivery plan, an annual bilingual update report and continuing engagement with stakeholders through an ASD SAP implementation advisory group.</p>	
<p><b>Please outline how you will continue to capture effects/ impacts in future monitoring and</b></p>	

<b>evaluation?</b>
We will build consideration of the use and promotion of the Welsh language into our planned independent evaluation of the ASD SAP and IAS.
<b>Any other comments – ongoing results of evaluations, emerging impacts</b>

**4. Declaration**

<b>Policy lead:</b>
<i>*Please delete as appropriate:</i>
<b>The policy does not have an impact upon the Welsh language. Where there were identified adverse impacts or missed opportunities, the appropriate amendments and actions have been put in place.</b>
Name: Lisa Dunsford
Department: DHSS
Date (s): September 2016
Signature:
Planned Review Dates:
September 2017

<b>SRO ENDORSEMENT and REVIEW</b>	
I am satisfied that the WLIA is an accurate reflection of the programme/project at this stage of development. By signing, I am able to confirm that the Welsh Language Standards have been given the appropriate attention. I will re-assess the programme/project at key stages throughout the life of the programme/ project, including policy reviews.	
Signed	Date



(Senior Responsible Owner)	
Signed (Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date
Signed (Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date
Signed (Senior Responsible Owner)	Review Date