

Autism Strategy for Worcestershire

Agenda item 13

Date	28 January 2015														
Board Sponsor	Dr Richard Harling, Director of Adult Services and Health														
Author	Richard Keble, Head of Joint Commissioning														
Relevance of paper	<p>Priorities</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Older people & long term conditions</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mental health & well-being</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Obesity</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alcohol</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other (specify below)</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </table> <p>Groups of particular interest</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Children & young people</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>Communities & groups with poor health outcomes</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>People with learning disabilities</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </table>	Older people & long term conditions	Yes	Mental health & well-being	Yes	Obesity	No	Alcohol	No	Other (specify below)	No	Children & young people	Yes	People with learning disabilities	Yes
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Item for	Information and assurance														
Recommendation	<p>1. The Health and Well-being Board is asked to note progress of development and consultation of the Autism Strategy.</p>														
Background	<p>2. Health and Well Being Board received a report about the proposed Autism Strategy for Worcestershire in November 2014. This strategy is set in the context of the National Strategy for Adults with Autism and the Statutory Guidance for Autism, which requires Local Authorities and their NHS partners to have such a strategy in place.</p> <p>3. The Autism Act 2009, "Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives: The Strategy for adults with autism in England (March 2010) and subsequent documents issued by the Department of Health focus on adults with autism, therefore the previously presented draft strategy focused on adults only.</p>														

Next Steps

4. The Health and Well Being Board discussed the advantages of turning this adult strategy into an all age strategy, incorporating not only recent legislation in the Children's and Families Bill. It would also offer the basis for a more integrated service for children, young people and adults.
5. The Health and Well Being Board
 - Authorised consultation on this Strategy and requested a progress report be brought back to the Board in January 2015 for consideration, along with a progress report on consultation on a children and young people's Autism Strategy; and
 - Requested that an all age Strategy be developed and brought back for consideration and sign off in March 2015.
6. That the Strategy has now been amended to include reference to children and young people's and we are now consulting on an all age Strategy.
7. Consultation has now commenced. A report about the outcome of the consultation and the finalised Autism Strategy for Adults and Children will be presented to the Health and Well Being Board in March 2015.