

Autism Strategy for Worcestershire

Agenda item 6

Date	3 March 2015																
Board Sponsor	Dr Richard Harling, Director of Adult Services and Health Gail Quinton, Director of Children's Services																
Author	Richard Keble, Head of Joint Commissioning and Hannah Needham, Strategic Commissioner: Early Help & Partnerships																
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>Yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>Groups of particular interest</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Children & young people</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communities & groups with poor health outcomes</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <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)	Yes	Children & young people	Yes	Communities & groups with poor health outcomes	Yes	People with learning disabilities	Yes
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Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Health and Well-being Board is asked to note progress of development and to approve consultation on the all age Autism Strategy. 																
Background	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Health and Well Being Board received a report about the proposed Adults 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. 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.

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 Act but the developments across Children's Services for children and young people with Autism. An all age Strategy would also offer the basis for more integrated provision for children, young people and adults.
5. The Health and Well Being Board at its November 2014 meeting
 - a) **Considered and discussed the content of the Draft Autism Strategy for Adults in Worcestershire;**
 - b) **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;**
 - c) **Requested that an all age Strategy be developed and brought back for consideration and sign off in March 2015.**
6. Attached is now a draft all age Autism Strategy for Worcestershire which has been signed off as a draft by the management teams of both Children's Services and Adult Services. However, it is recommended that further work is carried out as part of a consultation phase to test the ambition and expectations within this all aged Strategy to ensure they remain meaningful to those it is aimed at.
7. Consultation is due to commence on 4 March 2015 and will run until 10 April 2015. It will be brought back to the Board at its May 2015 meeting for final sign off. The draft strategy and the consultation plan is appended.

Next Steps