

Independent review of services for children and young people with a learning disability and/ or Autism in Midlands Liaison & Diversion Services and Werrington Young Offender Institute

Service Specification

Independent Review Requirements

NHS England and NHS Improvement (Midlands Region) wishes to commission an independent review of the current services and pathways for those in NHS England Health & Justice commissioned Liaison & Diversion Services which operate across the criminal justice pathway and Werrington Young Offender Institute (**see Appendix 1 for the full list**)

Definition for the review: Any child or young person (aged between 10 years and 18 years) with a diagnosed or suspected learning disability and/or autism.

Out of Scope: learning difficulty is out of scope for this project, as are other forms of neurodiversity.

The review is required to determine:

1. The observed (diagnosed, suspected, treated) versus expected prevalence of children and young people with a learning disability and / or autism, by service area (see Appendix 2), using local Health Needs Assessment data, non-custodial service data or relevant national prevalence data. Within this analysis specific consideration also needs to be given to protected characteristics implications and differences.
2. The breakdown of offence types of children and young people with a learning disability and/ or autism. To include (this is not an exhaustive list)
 - Harmful Sexual Behaviour related offences
 - Gang related offences
 - Violence against another person
 - Theft
3. The breakdown of disposal outcomes for those children and young people with a learning disability and/or autism (ie, sentenced, caution, conditional caution).
4. What screening is in place for learning disability and / or autism in each of the Liaison & Diversion Services and the Young Offender Institute
 - If screening and assessment is undertaken what tools are used and how is this information shared as the child or young person passes along the criminal justice pathway?
 - If screening and assessment is not undertaken
 - What other sources of information are or could be utilised – i.e. review of Summary Care Record
 - what models could be adopted?
5. How is information about screening and assessments shared as the child or young person passes through the criminal justice pathway and who this information is shared with?

6. What training is in place for Liaison & Diversion staff, Police Custody Staff, HCPs in Police Custody, Detention Officers and Prison Staff regarding learning disability and autism?
7. Do staff working in Liaison & Diversion Services and the Young Offender Institute feel confident in recognising, engaging, and supporting a child or young person who may have a learning disability and/or autism?
8. What appropriate reasonable adjustments (including the environment) should be provided, regardless of whether the child or young person has a confirmed diagnosis?
9. For each Liaison & Diversion Service and the Young Offender Institute what specific learning disability, autism care pathways are in place that cover screening, support, assessments and referral for specialist interventions
10. What access is there from Liaison & Diversion Services and the Young Offender Institute into specialist services (for example speech and language therapy and specialist mental health or other health treatment programmes)?
 - Where there are gaps or obstacles what is required and what is the most suitable delivery model (e.g. for the Young Offender Institute is it in-house provision, community in reach or external referral)
11. How many Liaison & Diversion practitioners have a background in learning disability services, and what is the current position for the Young Offender Institute with regards to provision of learning disability practitioners, where are the gaps?
 - What type of healthcare professionals/ skills are needed and where?
 - What is the most suitable delivery model ?
12. What models of learning disability and autism healthcare champions are in place?
13. For the Young Offender Institute is medication usage for this cohort being monitored? Is there evidence of over medication of this group and what steps could be taken to address this?
14. Is joint care planning with other health and social care services undertaken?

For each of the points above the review is required to identify:

- Gaps and / or obstacles
- Risks
- Areas of good practice
- Possible remedial options

Methodology

1. A mixed methodology is anticipated as being required, ranging from desk top reviews, talking to staff and stakeholder focus groups, surveys and site visits.
2. It is required that all Liaison & Diversion Service Leads, YOI Healthcare provider and Prison Governor are included in the project, potentially via questionnaires or on-line surveys.

3. For in depth information collation (such as interviews, focus groups and case studies) all Liaison & Diversion Services and the Young Offender Institute are to be engaged in this process.
4. To understand the full pathway, an agreed number of case studies are required to be undertaken. NHS E/I (Midlands) will facilitate engagement and access to providers across the pathway (health and criminal justice).
5. The review must include people with Lived Experience as an active partner in this review. This will include, the undertaking of the information gathering element of the project and in testing out recommendations being made in the main report.
6. Experience. The organisation and individuals undertaking the project must have an up to date DBS check and appropriate safeguarding training and will comply with Safeguarding requirements at all times.

Final Report Requirements

To facilitate discussions and engagement with new Integrated Care Systems (listed in **Appendix 2**) two reports are required 1. East Midlands and 2. West Midland. Each report is required to have clear and evidenced:

- Generic findings and SMART recommendations, e.g. including those common across all Liaison & Diversion Sites a
- Specific findings and SMART recommendations broken down by establishment and ICS area (See Appendix 2) where these have been identified
- Specific findings and SMART recommendations for those with one or more protected characteristics.

Contracting

The NHS Standard Contract (short form) will be used to commission this service and raise a Purchase Order

[NHS England » Shorter-form NHS Standard Contract 2021/22 \(Particulars, Service Conditions, General Conditions\)](#)

Timescales and Cost

Providers are asked to provide an outline timetable to complete this review along with the costs, as part of the bid (see bid template).

Costs will be broken into ¼ and paid at the beginning, at two agreed review mid points and upon receipt of the agreed final report.

Appendix 1 – List of Liaison & Diversion Services

Area	Provider
Staffordshire	Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
	North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Coventry and Warwickshire	Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust
Black Country	Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Birmingham and Solihull	Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
Worcestershire	Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Herefordshire	Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
Shropshire and Telford	Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Lincolnshire	Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Derbyshire	Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Nottinghamshire	Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Leicestershire	Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Please note that from 01/04/22 the three services shaded above will become a single service across West Mercia and be delivered by a single provider (Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust)

Appendix 2: Integrated Care Systems

West Midlands	East Midlands
Birmingham and Solihull	Derbyshire
Black Country	Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
Coventry and Warwickshire	Lincolnshire
Herefordshire and Worcestershire	Northamptonshire
Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent	