

# Appendix E

Lincolnshire CQC Assurance Pilot - Proposed Actions Template– Jan 2024

Lead Officers: Justin Hackney, Assistant Director Adult Care and Wellbeing

## **1.1 CQC Feedback – Pathway for Autistic People**

“The pathway for autistic people was not entirely clear, with no social work team identified specifically to support them. They were allocated to either the learning disability team, the mental health team or the adult frailty and long-term conditions team. The local authority is a key partner in the Autism Partnership Board, and it is expected that further work will be developed in respect of the support offer for autistic people.”

## **1.2 Work already in progress:**

The Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) includes a chapter on Autism. This is attached as Appendix G. A Learning Disability and Autism (LDA) Delivery Group, a multi-agency group forming part of the MHDLDA Alliance and chaired by the LCC Assistant Director for Specialist Adult Services and Adult Safeguarding, has recently been established. The group has a focus on improving outcomes for people with a learning disability and/or autism. It has received a presentation from LPFT on the new All-Age Autism Strategy and Associated Action Plan for 2023/24.

## **1.3 Proposed further actions:**

The comments provided by the CQC in their Assurance Pilot letter have been discussed at the LDA Delivery group. There was a unanimous view that creating a specialist assessment and care management team within Adult Care would be counter-productive and could lead to poorer access to care and support. The group suggested it would be more sensible to develop Autism Champions in each team. This would fit well with the autism champions network being developed as part of the All-Age Autism Strategy arrangements.

Work has commenced on an updated Autism plan for 2024/25, giving an opportunity for partners to influence what actions are included. An options paper will be developed and associated proposed actions confirmed. Final agreed actions will be fed into the updated action plan.

The NHS Integrated Care Board lead officer with responsibility for the Lincolnshire All-Age Autism Partnership Board will be invited to present the Lincolnshire All-Age Autism Strategy and related action plan to a future meeting of the Adult Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

## **1.4 What does success look like:**

Those people who need an autism diagnosis receive one without having to wait a long time (NHS responsibility). People with an autism diagnosis are able to access adult social care easily, if they need it (a diagnosis of Autism does not of itself confer entitlement to Adult Social Care). People accessing services are supported by teams who have received training in autism and have expert advice to draw upon if this is needed.

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