



## Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy and Implementation Plan 2019 -2022



**Joint Foreword:**

**Cllr Gordon Watson and Cllr David Roche:**

**To be Developed**

## **Autism and Me - 'Autism is like my superpower' (Chat 'n' Chill):**

Our Neurodiverse population (which includes autistic people) bring many gifts and strengths to Rotherham.

Chat 'n' Chill' is a Rotherham based youth group for autistic young people. They have just celebrated their 10th Anniversary and wanted Whistle Video to create this video for them to promote this amazing group.

**<https://www.whistlevideo.com/chatandchill>**

## **Introduction:**

Autistic children, young people and adults, their families and carers, and the practitioners who work with them have been a central part of this strategy and its development. They will continue to be closely involved in order to achieve the aims and actions set out within this strategy.

The Rotherham Autism Partnership Board has played and will continue to play a key role in developing this strategy.

To develop the strategy, a series of workshops were held from April to June 2018 with representatives from a wide range of practitioners, autistic people, parents, families, carers and local businesses. The workshops gathered information and ideas of key priorities for people with autism in Rotherham. This information then led to the development of the areas for focus as well as the actions for improvement.

Comments from one of the workshops with autistic people and their carers included

*“We need to have an autism-friendly Rotherham”*

*“We are aspiring to do things that are possible”*

*“I get support mainly from other parents and carers – they know what it is like”*

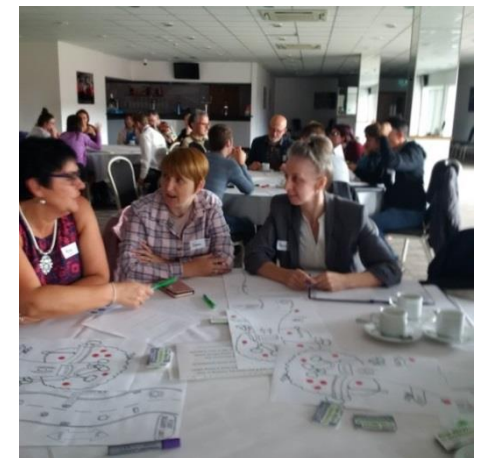
## **Developing Rotherham’s Strategy and Plan in Partnership:**

A core principle which underpins the development of the strategy is that: *People with autism and their families and carers are at the centre of everything we do.*

To develop the strategy, the following has occurred (and continues to occur)

- Series of meetings were held from April to June 2018 with practitioners, autistic people (including young people), parents, families, carers and local businesses.
- A workshop was held in June 2018 facilitated by Speak Up Autism.
- Groups: We met with Rotherham Parent Carers Forum (RPCF), Genuine Partnerships, Chat ‘n’ Chill, Healthwatch – CAMHS advocate and Rotherham’s Autism Stakeholders Group

The Rotherham Autism Partnership Board have stated they wish to develop (and own) the supporting delivery plan which will accompany Rotherham’s Autism Strategy. Both the strategy and the plan will be



reviewed annually.

# Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy 2019 - 2022: Plan on a Page

## Rotherham's All Age Autism Strategy 2019 - 2022: Plan on a Page

What do we need to achieve?

Autism Act 2009  
Statutory Guidance  
Equality Act 2010  
Care Act 2014  
Children and Families Act 2014

Transforming Care

NICE Guidance  
CG 142 and QS51

Rotherham's HwBB  
Strategy

Rotherham's Place  
Plan

Where are we now?

Rotherham Autism  
Needs assessment  
(2018)

Autism Self  
Assessment  
Framework (2018)

Review of adult  
autism diagnosis  
and provision (2018)

Rotherham SEND  
Strategy

How are we going to get there?

Starting Well and Developing Well:  
1. All Children and young people start school ready to learn for life  
2. Children and young people are healthy and safe from harm  
3. Children and young people are ready for the world of work

Moving on Well into Independence

Living Well and Aging Well:  
1. Autistic Adults able to use their talents and Strengths  
2. Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will get the right support when needed  
3. Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will be better supported to grow old

Key Priorities in 2019

Ensuring services are aware about the needs of people with autism

Ensuring the voice of children, young people and adults with autism are heard

To develop a local Rotherham All Age Diagnostic and Post Diagnostic Pathway

Ensuring Information is easier to find and understand .

All autistic children, young people, adults and their families are at the centre of everything we do.  
Focus on people's strengths to overcome barriers.  
Guidance, information and support are easily available  
The right support at the right time and making every contact count.  
Increasing awareness of autism across Rotherham.  
Supporting individuals to live the life they choose.



# What is Autism?

Autism is considered to be a disability under the Equality Act 2010. It is not an illness or a mental health problem (although autistic people may be at higher risk of experiencing mental health problems). A video has been developed to explain what is autism and this can viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fy7gUlp8Ms>

The language we use is important because it embodies the person and can therefore help change attitudes towards autism. The National Autistic Society (NAS) undertook research to find out what terms / language to use (see <https://www.autism.org.uk/about/what-is/describing.aspx> )

The research found that all groups like the terms 'on the autism spectrum' and 'Asperger syndrome'. Autistic adults prefer the identity-first terms 'autistic' and 'Aspie', whereas families didn't like 'Aspie'. Practitioners also like the term 'autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or conditions (ASC)'. To reflect the findings of this research, the strategy will use the term 'autistic' – particularly when talking about and to adults who identify themselves in this way.



A local group called Chat 'n' Chill were involved in developing this strategy and have created a video to explain what does autism mean to them. It can be viewed here at: <https://www.whistlevideo.com/chatandchill>

## **Why do we need a strategy?**

A strategy is a plan. Every area in the country will have a plan and, in Rotherham, we decided to make a new plan for everyone with autism. One of the most important starting points in making this plan was the Autism Act (2009).

The Autism Act describes what we need to do to make services better. It says people with autism may not always get what they need. This could be because services do not understand what they need or public places are not inclusive.

We also know what matters to people in Rotherham, and used this in our strategy.

- It can sometimes be difficult to gain a formal diagnosis of autism.
- People with autism have strengths and can develop their skills, explore interests, improve physical health and improve social interaction and, in many cases, can find employment. All autistic people can, and do, learn and develop with the right sort of support.

Our plan describes how the Council, the NHS and partners will invest and improve the services and outcomes over the next three years – from 2019 to 2022.

## **Rotherham's Principles:**

**Principles are the most important things that will help to make the plan work.**

Our principles are:

- **All** autistic children, young people, adults and their families are at the centre of everything we do
- Focus on individual's strengths to overcome barriers
- Guidance, information and support are easily available
- The right support at the right time and making every contact count
- Increasing awareness of autism across Rotherham
- Supporting individuals to live the life they choose

# Ensuring a Person Centred Approach for autistic people living in Rotherham:

It will be really important that we use the amazing resources we have – the knowledge and skills of autistic children, young people and adults; understanding the value of relationships between families, friends and informal (neighbours and community) networks; and recognising the importance of local community and voluntary groups.

This strategy sets out how we will do this and is built around the *Vision for Adult Social Care* which promotes active independence, Rotherham's *Vision for Children and Young People's Services* and *VOICES*. The visions can be linked:

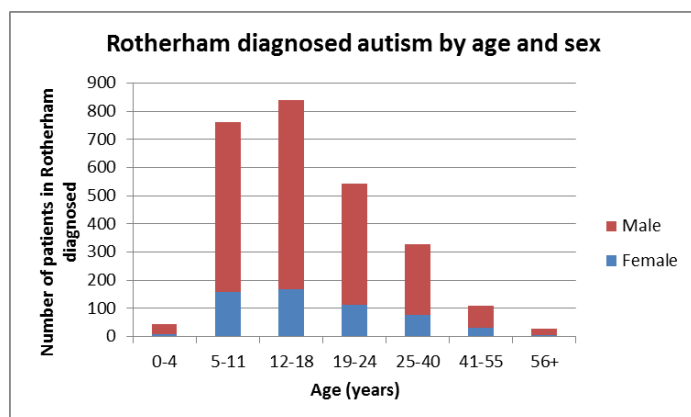
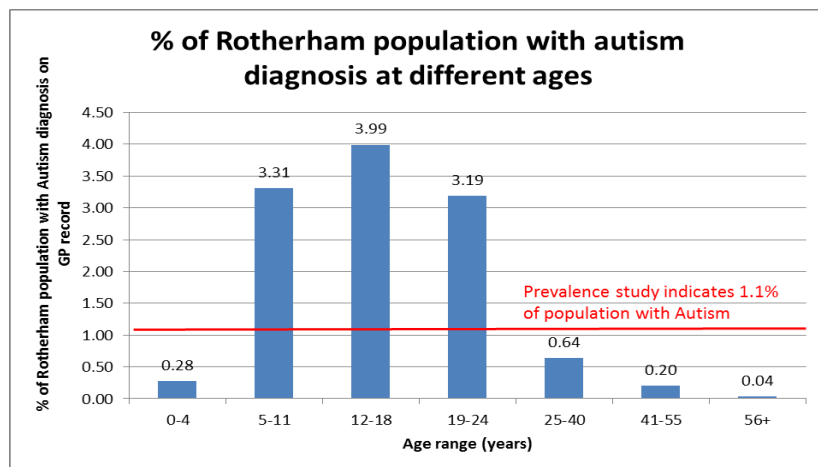
Vision for Rotherham's Children and Young People's Services	VOICES Priority Actions	Adult Social Care Vision (2017-2020)
Children, young people and their families are ready for the world of work	Make transitions to adulthood better and plan them with me	Act to help yourself
Children and young people are healthy and safe from harm	Get me help quicker	Act when you need it
Children and young people start school ready to learn for life	Believe	Act to live your life

The strategy will be structured around the themes of: Starting Well, Developing Well, Moving on Well, Living Well and Aging Well.

It promotes people being treated fairly as individuals, and being offered opportunities to help them make the most of their talents.

It involves partners across the Council, health services, the police and probation services, and within the community and voluntary sector to ensure that we deliver the best possible outcomes for autistic people. Using the vision of 'Active Independence' we will work to ensure that autistic people are: secure, responsible and empowered'.

# The Local Picture:



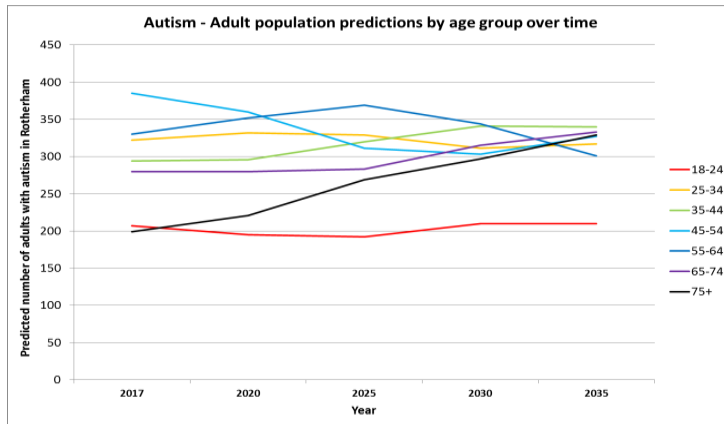
From the estimated national prevalence rate, we would expect 1.1% of the Rotherham's autistic population to be diagnosed. This is around 2,900 people.

However, we have found out that there are 2,707 Rotherham registered patients with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger's syndrome on their GP records. Most of these are younger people; this tells us two things:

- That overall our local rates of diagnosis are probably higher than the national average
- That there may be a number of adults that we have not diagnosed

Nationally 15% of autistic people will be female. In Rotherham, this ranges from 22% (0-4 year olds) to 38% (in 41-55 year olds) with an average of 27%. There are a number of theories that might explain why more men and boys than women and girls get an autism diagnosis. Some think our current assessments don't work well in identifying autistic women and girls. There are a number of theories that might explain why more males than females are diagnosed; these include current assessments not identifying female presentations and females acting in a way which

masks (hides) some of the challenges they face



## Predicting future prevalence in Rotherham

Projecting Adults Needs and Service Information (PANSI) data for 18-64 year olds and Projecting Older People Population Information (POPPI) data for people aged 65 and over, have produced a profile with predicted numbers of autistic people up to 2035. This shows (see Fig 1) that over the next fifteen years there will be a significant increase in the number of autistic people. This is due to increases in the numbers of older autistic people whereas the number in younger age groups will remain relatively stable.

**More Information about autism can be found in Rotherham's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment:**

**[https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/jsna/downloads/file/140/rotherham\\_context\\_-\\_autism](https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/jsna/downloads/file/140/rotherham_context_-_autism)**

## **Rotherham's 'offer' for autistic children, young people and their families**

Rotherham has developed a broad offer to support children, young people and their families. Details of Rotherham's 'offer' to children, young people and their families can be found on: <http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/> . The offer can be divided into: Universal, Targeted, Specialist and Highly Specialist. Examples are also provided.

**Universal** (Available to the whole population) - Early Years; Education; Leisure Services- libraries, museums and country parks, GPs and 0-19 Child Health Services;

- **Rotherham Leisure Services:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/leisure>
- **Rotherham Libraries and Neighbourhood Hubs:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/libraries>
- **Rotherham Council Museums and Parks:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/museums>
- **Rotherham Parent Carers Forum:** <http://www.rpcf.co.uk/public/rotherham336.html.nc>
- **Healthwatch:** <https://healthwatchrotherham.org.uk/>
- **Rotherham GP's:** <https://www.nhs.uk/Services/Trusts/GPs/DefaultView.aspx?id=89726>

**Targeted** (specific support for those children and young people who are felt to be vulnerable) - Short Breaks; Early Help; Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support Services in Schools, traded Therapies offer in schools, Autism Family Support team; Autism Communication Team;



- **RMBC Autism and Communication Team (ACT)** and **Rotherham Autism Information and Advice Service:** providing information, advice and guidance to parents/carers and their families – this is a traded service:  
[https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/directory\\_record/115640/autism\\_communication\\_team](https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/directory_record/115640/autism_communication_team)

**Specialist- Social Care** (autistic children and young people who require a highly individualised and personalised programme of work); Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; Therapies Services; Child Development Centre (under 5 year old); Educational Psychology Service; Youth Offending Team

- **Child Development Centre (CDC)** (aged 0-5 years of age):  
[http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/child\\_development\\_centre/](http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/child_development_centre/)
- **Developmental disorders diagnostic pathway (ADHD/ASD):**  
<http://camhs.rdash.nhs.uk/practitioners/rotherham/developmental-disorders-diagnostic-pathway-attention-deficit-hyperactive-disorder-autism-spectrum-disorder>

**Highly Specialist:** Looked After Children's Services; CAMHS Tier 4 services and Forensic Psychology Services – accessed via a referral.

## **The gaps and concerns for autistic children, young people and their families**

- Diagnosis and post diagnostic offer – Families report very long delays and fragmentation – work will be focused on improving Rotherham's diagnosis and post diagnosis offer for children and young people and their families.
- That services are not recording the CAMHS advocate feedback
- That these assessments are not compliant with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) CG128.

These gaps and concerns are addressed in the action plan.

## **Rotherham's 'offer' for autistic adults, carers and their families:**

Through our Preparing for Adulthood Board we are working to support better transitions for autistic young people.

**Universal (available to everyone);** Voluntary Groups, Education, Leisure Services-libraries, museums and country parks and GPs.

- **Housing:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/housing>
- **Rotherham Leisure Services:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/leisure>
- **Rotherham College:** <https://www.rotherham.ac.uk/adultlearning/>
- **Rotherham Libraries and Neighbourhood Hubs:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/libraries>
- **Rotherham Council Museums and Parks:** <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/museums>
- **Rotherham Gismo:** <https://www.rotherhamgismo.org.uk/> - Rotherham Gismo is a one stop shop for all voluntary, community and faith sector needs in Rotherham (inc services and support for autistic adults in Rotherham).
- **National Autistic Society: Rotherham Branch:** <http://rotherham.webeden.co.uk/>
- **Healthwatch:** <https://healthwatchrotherham.org.uk/>
- Rotherham has developed a **Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy** - see [https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/3922/neighbourhood\\_strategy](https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/file/3922/neighbourhood_strategy) We want autistic people to be included.

## **Targeted (available where autistic adults may need some additional support);**

Training, Employment support, some day support services.

- **Training:** Carers and Family Members of Adults with Autism can access free learning and development opportunities including face to face training, e learning and distance learning short qualifications. The Adult Social Care Workforce, including care providers, carers and volunteers also accesses fully funded training opportunities organised through the ACH&PH Learning and Development Team.

- **Employment Support:** <https://www.autismplus.org/news/2017/may/support-find-employment-rotherham> . Rotherham Council offers: RMBC Employment Solutions Service. The service is available to Rotherham Council and Housing Association tenants and occupants and adults at risk of homelessness (regardless re who the landlord is) and will support adults referred to help them find full or part time work, create a CV , provide advice about apprenticeships, identify training opportunities, work experience and look at solutions if an adult is facing barriers in terms of getting into employment. Also **Working –Win:** The Health-led Employment Trial is an experimental trial testing a new employment support service for people with a health condition. The trial aims to find out how good this new service is at helping people to find and stay in work. See: <https://www.workingwin.com/>
- **Day Support - Rotherham Autism Hub** provided by Autism East Midlands: <https://www.autismeastmidlands.org.uk/adult-services/flexible-day-opportunities/rotherham-autism-hub/>

**Specialist** (Available to autistic adults who require a highly individualised and personalised programme of support – usually a referral is required or meeting eligibility for adult social care)

- **Adult diagnosis (18 +):** Sheffield Adult Autism and Neurodevelopmental Service (SAANS)
- **NHS Learning Disability Services** (available to autistic adults who have a learning disability): <https://www.rdash.nhs.uk/services/our-services/learning-disability-services/service-information/ld-rotherham/how-to-contact-us-and-find-our-site-in-rotherham/>

## **The Gaps and concerns for autistic adults, carers and their families:**

People report that information is not accessible or easy to find

That there isn't a local diagnosis service in Rotherham (individuals have to travel to Sheffield) and that there is no post diagnosis offer.

Housing: Families are concerned about housing options.

These gaps and concerns are addressed in the action plan.

## **Autism Self Assessment Framework (SAF) 2018**

The purpose of the self-assessment is to enable local adult strategy groups to review their current progress in the implementation of the Autism Statutory guidance and Autism Strategy locally. It will also help to identify future priorities and plan in partnership with health partners, other key organisations and local autistic people and their families.

The ratings reached were based on a 'confirm and challenge' session held with Rotherham's Autism Partnership Board. The SAF identified the following themes Rotherham's Autism Partnership Board wanted the Rotherham's Autism Plan to focus on. These are:

- a. Diagnosis: Children and Young people in Rotherham are waiting too long for a diagnosis – this was identified as red for CYPS
- b. Care and Support - Ensuring information for autistic people and their

Section	Rotherham Autism Self-Assessment (2016)	Estimated RAG 2018
Planning	Amber	Amber
Training	Amber	Amber
Diagnostic Pathway	Amber	Amber
Care and Support	Amber	Red
Accommodation	Amber	Red
Employment	Amber	Amber
Criminal Justice System	Amber	Amber

<p>families is made more accessible</p> <p>c. Accommodation: Ensuring that Rotherham’s Housing Strategy captures the housing needs of people with autism</p> <p>d. Criminal Justice System</p>	
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# **Implementation Plan 2019-2022- Rotherham All Age Autism Strategy**




## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (appendix 1)

Governance – Lead will be accountable to the Autism Partnership Board

### Priority 1 – Starting Well

Lead: Jenny Lingrell (Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion – CYPS)

All Rotherham's autistic children and young people are healthy and safe from harm

	Lead	What are we doing?  Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
1.1	RMBC/CCG	<p><b>Improve the children’s diagnosis and support pathway</b></p> <p>Establish a robust profile of the waiting list RDASH hold.</p> <p>Develop a multi-agency approach to “concerning behaviours”.</p> <p>Review the efficiency and effectiveness of the current pathway and explore alternatives.</p> <p>Benchmark Rotherham against other CAMHS Services and identify areas of good practice.</p> <p>Explore creative solutions (which may include alternative commissioning options) to reduce waiting times</p> <p>Review the Autism support offer funded through the CAMHS local transformation plan.</p> <p>That the diagnosis and support pathway is NICE compliant</p>	<p>Pathway document created</p> <p>All practitioners understand and adhere to pathways protocols</p> <p>Timely diagnosis</p> <p>Young people and families understand pathways and is visible.</p>	<p>June 2019 (sign off)</p> <p>Dec 2019 (promotion)</p>	Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion	<div></div> <p>Enc 10 - CAMHS Local Transformation Plan.p</p>	
1.2	CCG	<p>Implement a <b>new sensory support offer</b> for children and young people Rotherham</p>	<p>Children and young people are able to access an appropriate sensory assessment and</p>	<p>October 2019</p>	Children’s Joint Commissioning Manager (RMBC & CCG)		

			support  Young people and families understand pathways and is visible.				
1.3	CCG	Use the CAMHS / Schools Pilot Project and the Trail Blazers pilot (see: <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/cyp/trailblazers/mh-support-teams/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/cyp/trailblazers/mh-support-teams/</a> ) to develop new ways of working and increase understanding of social, emotional, mental health for autistic children and young people.	Commenced 2019	April 2020	Children's Joint Commissioning Manager (RMBC & CCG)	To add update and clarification of activity.	
1.4	RMBC / CCG Training	<p>Scoping exercise to develop wider workforce links across all schools, colleges and <b>health practitioners in regard to receiving autism awareness training</b></p> <p><b>Training: Rotherham's offer free training to families, teachers, schools is based on the autism education trust schools programme see: <a href="https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/">https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/</a> and this is advertised on Rotherham's SEND local offer, see: . <a href="http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org">http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org</a></b></p> <p>Speak up offer regular autism awareness training to Rotherham's GP's</p>	<p>Baseline data established</p> <p>All schools, colleges and GP's / primary care staff to have autism awareness training.</p>	<p>Sept 2020</p> <p>Sept 2022</p>	Primary care – TBC		

## Priority 2- Developing Well

Lead: Jenny Lingrell ( Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance & Inclusion – CYPS)

Rotherham's autistic children and young people start school ready to learn for life.

Lead	What are we doing? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date RAG rated	RAG
2.2	RMBC/CCG  <b>Promoting healthy Lifestyles for children and young people with autism</b>  Ensuring we Identify health inequalities and address areas adding to future implementation plan for the autism strategy – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) does capture this data. A SEND JSNA is being developed.  National screening programmes take up  Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks.  Ensure that children and young people are participating in the 5 ways to wellbeing campaign – accessible information and promotion.	Increased health and wellbeing of people with autism  Increase in take up of programmes to include increased take up of people with autism	June 2022	RMBC Public Health Specialist		
2.2	RMBC/CCG/ RDaSH  <b>Suicide prevention for autistic children and young people:</b>  That Rotherham's suicide prevention program includes autistic people	Reduction in numbers of children and young people who are deemed at risk of suicide	March 2022	RMBC Public Health Specialist		

## Priority 3 - Moving on Well into Independence:

Children and young people are ready for the world of work.

**Lead: Garry Parvin**


Lead	What are we doing? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
3.1	RMBC/ CCG/ TRFT/ RDASH/ schools and colleges  <b>To ensure that transition pathways consider the needs of autistic young people</b>  Those services involved in transition review current transition pathways to see how they meet the needs of autistic young people – <b>baseline created.</b>	Autistic young people and their families report that transitions to adulthood were better	October 2020	Assistant Director Integration	Preparing for adulthood audit and plan	
3.2	RMBC  <b>Ensure the effective coordination and delivery of programmes providing targeted support to autistic people.</b> This includes initiatives such as Working Win, Pathways, Work and Health, Building Better Opportunities and Jobcentre Plus work coaches  <a href="https://www.workingwin.com/articles/the-health-led-employment-trial">https://www.workingwin.com/articles/the-health-led-employment-trial</a>  <a href="https://www.jobcentreguide.co.uk/rotherham-jobcentre">https://www.jobcentreguide.co.uk/rotherham-jobcentre</a>	Autistic people and their families are aware of the supported employment opportunities  More autistic young people are either in work, college or training	April 2021	Rotherham Business Growth Board's employment and skills sub-group		
3.3	RMBC  <b>Ensure that advanced planning and coordination of care occurs for autistic young people moving into adult social care.</b>  A clear pathway is developed and is advertised through Rotherham's Local Offer:	Autistic people and their families report that transitions to adulthood were better	April 2021	Head of Service:		
3.4	RMBC/ RCCG  Link <b>information and advice</b> to ensure consistency and quality of information through local offer which will ensure:	Feedback from carers in relation to information is	July 2020	SEND Strategic Board		

		<p>Raising awareness of what services are available and how to access them</p> <p>Signpost parents and carers to available sources of support and advice</p> <p>Local Offer webpage is reviewed and is designed to be as accessible as possible and easier to navigate.  <a href="http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/">http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/</a></p> <p>Autistic young people are aware of the Rotherham Youth Cabinet:  <a href="http://www.youthi.org.uk/youthi/homepage/6/rotherham_youth_cabinet">http://www.youthi.org.uk/youthi/homepage/6/rotherham_youth_cabinet</a></p>	improved.					

## Priority 4- Living Well

Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will get the right support when needed

Lead: Garry Parvin

	Lead	What are we doing?  Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
4.1	CCG	<p>Review Of current <b>adult diagnostic service</b>, to include local and national indicators of volume and waiting lists.</p> <p>New adult diagnostic pathway developed that demonstrates improvement to accessing specialist assessments with an investment of £300k</p> <p>Specialist assessments are available closer to home</p> <p>Parents with autism</p>	<p>Review complete with clear recommendations</p> <p>Published pathway available</p> <p>Clinic is operational in Rotherham.</p>	<p>Dec 2018</p> <p>October 2019</p> <p>October 2019</p>	<p>Joint Head of Learning Disability, Autism and Transitions Commissioning</p>	<div></div> <p>5. Enc 8 All Age Neurodevelopmental F</p>	
4.2	RMBC	<p><b>E Awareness campaign</b> for 2020 to be developed which target key organisations (<b>all</b> RMBC social care staff, RDaSH and TRFT).</p> <p>Wider Awareness campaign (phase 2) to extend to partners and universal community services</p>	<p>E learning in place for 2020</p> <p>Plan in place for 2020</p>	<p>Nov 2020</p> <p>Nov 2021</p>	<p>RMBC Learning and Development</p>		
4.3	RMBC/ VAR	<p>We will map all the voluntary groups who work with autistic people. For example:</p> <p>Chat and Chill</p> <p>Life Act Drumming</p> <p>Men in Sheds</p>	<p>Feedback from autistic people carers in relation to information is improve</p>	<p>Nov 2020</p>			



		<p>Speak Up for Autism</p> <p>Drop in at Mobary Gardens</p> <p>NAS Rotherham</p> <p>My Place (<a href="http://www.ymcawhiterose.org.uk/ohso_feature/myplace-facility-rotherham/">http://www.ymcawhiterose.org.uk/ohso_feature/myplace-facility-rotherham/</a>)</p> <p>Rotherham's Gizmo and connect to support webpage is reviewed and is designed to be as accessible as possible and easier to navigate.</p>					
4.4	RMBC/RCCG/ RDASH/ TRFT/ SY Police	<b>All public bodies to ensure that the needs of autistic young people and adults are considered and captured in Equality Impact Assessments (EIA).</b>	Autistic young people report that public services are more accessible	October 2020	All equalities leads:  Principle equality lead: RMBC equality lead		
4.5		<p><b>Carers assessments:</b></p> <p>Ensure that carers who support autistic people needs are better met through the carers assessment.</p>	Carers report that they are better supported	November 2021			
4.6	RMBC/ SYP	<p><b>Hate crime awareness training sessions</b> (dealing with hate crime, being radicalised, controlling and coersive behaviour, being groomed or abused in other ways.)</p> <p>Develop content of training and literature to suit audience</p> <p>Hold awareness session</p> <p>Evaluate plan next stage of roll out of training</p>	Training package available	<p>Sept 2020</p> <p>July 2021</p> <p>Sept 2021</p>	SYP / RMBC Learning and Development		
4.7	RMBC	<b>Hold public awareness raising sessions in relation to autism awareness and hate crime/safeguarding.</b>	Sessions delivered	<p>Nov 2020</p> <p>May 2021</p>	SYP / RMBC Learning and Development/ Speak up autism		

				Oct 2021 Jan 2022			
4.8	South Yorkshire Police	<b>Autism awareness training sessions for <u>all</u> South Yorkshire Police officers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training for all officers on Autism Awareness</li> <li>• Training to Atlas Court Call Handlers</li> <li>• Training to Custody Suite Staff</li> </ul>		March 2020	SYP Lead		
4.9	South Yorkshire Police	<b>The launch of the Autism Alert Card across the South Yorkshire Police Force.</b>		September 2019	SYP Lead		
4.10	South Yorkshire Police	<b>Development of easy read materials for victims and witnesses to help reduce anxiety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trial in custody suite for Widgets to support communication.</li> </ul>		January 2020	SYP Lead		
4.11	RMBC/CCG	<b>Suicide prevention for autistic people:</b>  To capture action					
4.12	RMBC	Scope opportunities to deliver <b>autism awareness training for cabinet members and seek Cllr champion</b>	80% Cllrs trained	July 2020	NAS and RMBC		
4.13	RMBC	<b>Housing:</b> Rotherham Council are developing new supported living options for people with a learning disability and autism in 2019/20.  Work will be done with RMBC Housing to look at developing housing related support options – shared lives, key ring to support people with autism	More autistic people have greater housing choice.	September 2022	RMBC Strategic Housing lead		

## Priority 5 – Aging Well

Autistic Adults living in Rotherham will be better supported as they grow old.

Lead: Garry Parvin

Lead	What are we doing? Activity and Planned Output	Success Criteria	Date for completion	Project owner	Progress to date	RAG
5.1	RMBC/ RCCG  We will ensure that the needs of autistic people are included in strategies and plans to meet the needs of older people in Rotherham. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JSNA data to be updated and reviewed</li> <li>• Annual health checks take up and quality of the health checks.</li> <li>• <b>Suicide prevention for autistic people</b></li> <li>• <b>Projects for older people are accessible for autistic people</b> – VAR  <a href="https://www.autism.org.uk/about/adult-life/ageing.aspx">https://www.autism.org.uk/about/adult-life/ageing.aspx</a></li> <li>• </li> </ul>	Autistic older people report that services / community opportunities are accessible to meeting their needs	April 2021	Head of Prevention and Early Intervention		

