

APPENDIX: 2016 Autism Self-Assessment Framework

1. Responses to the SAF should relate to adults unless otherwise stated. This is in line with the responsibilities of the Autism Act
2. Most questions, unless otherwise indicated, are joint questions and relate to the local area partnership, which may be led by the Local Authority (LA) and/or the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

No.	Question	Response
Planning		
6	Is autism included and explicitly considered in the local JSNA?	Green: Yes
6.01	Does your local JSNA specifically consider the needs of children and young people with autism?	Yes
7	Do you collect data on those people referred to and/or accessing social care and/or health care and does your information system report data on people with a diagnosis of autism, including as a secondary condition, in line with the requirements of the social care framework?	Amber: Current data recorded annually but there are gaps identified in statutory health and/or social care services data. Some data sharing exists between services
7.01	Do you collect data on the total number of people currently known to adult social services with a diagnosis of autism (whether new or long-standing), who meet eligibility criteria for social care (irrespective of whether they receive any)?	Yes
7.02	How many people assessed as having autism meet social care eligibility criteria?	172
7.03	How many people assessed as having autism and learning disabilities meet social care eligibility criteria?	172
7.04	How many people assessed as having autism, who are also in receipt of treatment for mental health problems, meet social care eligibility criteria?	0
8	Does your Local Joint Strategic Commissioning Plan (or other statement of joint commissioning intentions such as Health & Wellbeing Strategy, Autism Strategy or Market Position Statement etc., reflect local data and needs of people with autism?	Yes
8.01	Do you publish any data other than that collected in the JSNA?	No
8.02	Taking together any data in the JSNA and any other sources referenced here, how adequately do current collections of data sources service the requirements of planning and commissioning?	Amber: Have made a start in collecting data and have plans to progress.
9	Are your Local Authority and local Clinical Commissioning Group(s) (including the support service) both engaged in the planning and implementation of the strategy in your local area?	Green: CCG are fully engaged and work collaboratively to implement the NHS responsibilities of the strategy and are equal partners in the implementation of the strategy at a local level.
9.01	Do you have a local Autism Programme Board or equivalent in place which meets at least once a year and includes representatives of at least Adult Social Care and the Clinical Commissioning Group(s)?	Yes

10	How have you and your partners engaged people with autism and their families and carers in planning?	Amber: Some autism specific consultation work has taken place. Autism Partnership Group is regularly attended by one person with autism and one parent/carer who are meaningfully involved.
11	Have reasonable adjustments been made to general council services to improve access and support for people with autism?	Red: Only anecdotal examples.
12	In your area have reasonable adjustments been promoted to enable people with autism to access NHS services including primary care or GP services, mental health and acute services?	Amber: There are some examples of reasonable adjustments being made to NHS services to improve access for people with autism, across a small range of services.
12.01	In your area have reasonable adjustments been promoted to enable people with autism to access health and social care information, support and advice?	Amber: There are some examples of reasonable adjustments being made to health and social care information, support and advice services, across a small range of services.
12.02	In your area have reasonable adjustments been promoted to enable people with autism to access other public services including colleges and universities, libraries and all forms of public transport?	Amber: There are some examples of reasonable adjustments being made to public services to improve access for people with autism, across a small range of public services services.
13	How do your transition processes from children's services to your local adult services take into account the particular needs of young people with autism?	Amber: Transition process triggered by parental request. Training in some but not all services designed for use by young people, and data collection on young people with autism and/education health and care (EHC) plans with autism as a primary or secondary need.
13.01	How many children who had been identified as having autism, were in Year 10 in the school year 2015-2016?	18
13.02	How many children who had been identified as having autism, were in Year 11 in the school year 2015-2016?	19
13.03	How many children who had been identified as having autism, were in Year 12 in the school year 2015-2016?	26
13.04	How many children who had been identified as having autism, were in Year 13 in the school year 2015-2016?	14
13.05	How many children with autism have completed the transition process in the school year 2015-2016?	14

14	How does your planning take into account the particular needs of adults age 65 and older.	Amber: There is some work in needs assessment, data collection and/or service planning for people with autism aged 65 and older.
15	How do your planning and implementation of the strategy take into account the particular needs of women with autism?	Islington's Women's Crisis House facilitates a communication group for women which is accessible to women with autism. Resident impact assessments are completed whenever changes to existing services are proposed or when new services are introduced. These cover all the equality characteristics. Comprehensive analysis of different sources of population data is carried out when planning services to ensure they are in line with predicted need and demand. The Camden & Islington diagnostic service also record demographic data for all patients that they assess.
16	How do your planning and implementation of the strategy take into account the particular needs of people who have autism in BME communities?	Resident impact assessments are completed whenever changes to existing services are proposed or when new services are introduced. These cover all the equality characteristics. Comprehensive analysis of different sources of population data is carried out when planning services to ensure they are in line with predicted need and demand. The Camden & Islington diagnostic service also record demographic data for all patients that they assess.
Training		
17	Have you got a multi-agency autism training plan?	Yes
18	Is autism awareness training being/been made available to all staff working in health and social care?	Amber: Client facing staff identified as a priority. Good range of local autism training that meets NICE guidelines - and some data on take up.

		Workforce training data available from statutory organisations on request. Autism training plan/strategy near completion.
18.01	Do you record uptake levels of autism awareness training for Local Authority and/or NHS staff working in health and social care?	Yes
19	Specify whether self-advocates with autism and/or family carers are included in the design of training and/or whether they have a role as trainers. If the latter specify whether face-to-face or on video/other recorded media.	Yes
20	Is specific training provided to staff that carry out statutory assessments on how to make adjustments in their approach and communication?	Amber: At least 50% of assessors have attended specialist autism training.
21	Do you have specific training that focusses on adults with autism over the age of 65?	No
22	Do Clinical Commissioning Group(s) ensure that all primary and secondary healthcare providers include autism training (at levels outlined in the statutory guidance) as part of their ongoing workforce development?.	No
23	Criminal Justice services: Do staff in the local police service engage in autism awareness training?	Yes
24	Criminal Justice services: Do staff in the local court services engage in autism awareness training?	Yes
25	Criminal Justice services: Do staff in the local probation service engage in autism awareness training?	No
Diagnosis		
26	Have you got an established local autism diagnostic pathway? Comment: Does the pathway meet people with autism's needs regardless of whether or not the person meets learning disability criteria?	Amber: Local diagnosis pathway established or in process of implementation / sign off but unclear referral route. A transparent but out of locality diagnostic pathway is in place. Some NICE guidelines are being applied.
27	If you have got an established local autism diagnostic pathway, when was the pathway put in place?	11/2013
28	In the year to the end of March 2016, how many people were referred out of area for diagnosis, despite a local diagnostic pathway being in place?	0
29	In weeks, how long is the average wait between referral and assessment?	40
29.01	When will your area be able to meet NICE recommended [QS51] waiting time and expect to be able to keep within them? Comment: briefly note any contingency arrangements you have in place to manage short term increases in rate of referral to diagnostic services.	Red: We do not anticipate being able to reach NICE recommended waiting times sustainably by March 2017
30	How many people have been referred for an assessment but have yet to receive a diagnosis?	36
31	In the year to the end of March 2016 how many people have received a diagnosis of an autistic spectrum condition?	16
32	Of the people who received a diagnosis in the year to end March 2016, how many:	

32.01	Do not meet Care Act eligibility criteria?	Unknown.
32.02	Have completed all relevant post diagnostic and care assessments and are not considered to need specific support at the present time?	The service do refer people on for social care assessment if deemed appropriate, however they are not made aware of the outcome of this assessment. We are working with the diagnostic service to understand how we can collect this information going forward.
32.03	Have completed all relevant assessments and are now receiving any support identified as relevant?	
32.04	Have completed all relevant assessments but are awaiting some or all of the support identified as relevant?	
32.05	Have not yet completed all relevant assessments of their support needs?	
33	How would you describe the local diagnostic pathway, i.e. Integrated with mainstream statutory services with a specialist awareness of autism for diagnosis or a specialist autism specific service?	
34	In your local diagnostic pathway does a diagnosis of autism automatically trigger an offer of a care assessment (or re-assessment if the person has already had a current Care Act assessment)?	No
35	Can people diagnosed with autism and a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted psychology assessments?	Green: All services are reasonably adjusted (in accordance with NICE Guidance) to provide access to post diagnostic specialist assessments. Access to autism specific services is also available when necessary.
35.01	Can people diagnosed with autism and without a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted psychology assessments?	Amber: Available everywhere. Mainly reasonably adjusted services, with some access to autism specific services (when necessary) and some generic services.
36	Can people diagnosed with autism and a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted speech and language therapy assessments?	Green: All services are reasonably adjusted to provide access to post diagnostic specialist assessments. Access to autism specific services is also available when necessary.
36.01	Can people diagnosed with autism and without a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted speech and language therapy assessments?	Green: All services are reasonably adjusted to provide access to post diagnostic specialist assessments. Access to autism specific services is also available when necessary.
37	Can people diagnosed with autism and a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted occupational therapy assessments?	Green: All services are reasonably adjusted to provide access to post diagnostic specialist assessments. Access to autism specific services is also available when necessary.
37.01	Can people diagnosed with autism and without a learning disability access post diagnostic specific or reasonably adjusted occupational therapy assessments?	Red: Availability patchy or mainly generic services, with a small number of reasonably adjusted services

38	Is post-diagnostic adjustment support available with local clinical psychology or other services for those people diagnosed with autism and a learning disability?	Yes
38.01	Is post-diagnostic adjustment support available with local clinical psychology or other services for those people diagnosed with autism and without a learning disability?	Yes
39	Do crisis services in your area routinely anticipate and provide for the crisis needs of people with autism but without a learning disability?	Amber: Mental health crisis services will and do respond to mental health crises in people with autism whether or not these involve an acute mental illness.
Care and Support		
40.01	What is the number of adults assessed as being eligible for adult social care services who have a diagnosis of autism and in receipt of a personal budget?	101
40.02	What is the number of those reported in question 40.01 (question 1, section 6 in the response spreadsheet) above who have a diagnosis of autism but not learning disability?	0
40.03	What is the number of those reported in question 40.01 (question 1, section 6 in the response spreadsheet) above who have both a diagnosis of autism AND learning disability?	101
41	Do you have a single identifiable contact point where people with autism whether or not in receipt of statutory services can get information signposting autism-friendly entry points for a wide range of local services?	Single point of access with Autism specific reasonable adjustments at entry point
42	Do you have a recognised pathway for people with autism but without a learning disability to access a care assessment and other support?	Yes
43	Do you have a programme in place to ensure that all advocates working with people with autism have training in their specific requirements?	Amber: Programme in place, not all advocates are covered.
44	Do adults with autism who could not otherwise meaningfully participate in needs assessments, care and support planning, appeals, reviews, or safeguarding processes have access to an appropriately trained advocate?	Amber: Yes. Local advocacy services are working at becoming autism-aware.
45	Can people with autism access support if they are not eligible under the Care Act or not eligible for statutory services?	Yes
46	How would you assess the level of information about local support across the area being accessible to people with autism?	Amber: There is a moderate level of information available about support services for people with autism which is either incomplete or not readily accessible to people with autism.
47	Where appropriate are carers of people assessed as having autism and eligible for social care support offered assessments?	Green: Upon assessment of people with autism carers are routinely identified and offered a carers assessment. Carers can also self-identify and request a carers assessment. Information about how to obtain a carers assessment is

		clearly available.
Housing and Accommodation		
48	Does the local housing strategy and/or market position statement specifically identify autism?	Red: Needs of people with autism (as distinct from needs of people with other disabilities) not specifically mentioned in housing strategy and/or market position statement (for two tier authorities in any district council areas)
49	Do you have a policy of ensuring that local housing offices all have at least one staff member who has training in autism to help people make applications and fill in necessary forms?	No
Employment		
50	How have you promoted in your area the employment of people on the Autistic Spectrum?	Amber: Autism awareness is delivered to employers on an individual basis. Local employment support services include autism. Some contact made with local job centres
51	Do autism transition processes to adult services have an employment focus?	Green: Transition plans include detailed reference to employment, access to further development in relation to individual's future aspirations, choice and opportunities available.
Criminal Justice System		
52	Are the Criminal Justice Services (police, probation and, if relevant, court services) engaged with you as key partners in planning for adults with autism?	Amber: * discussions between local authority adult social care services and criminal justice service agencies are continuing; * representatives from criminal justice service agencies sit on autism partnership board or alternative
53	Is access to an appropriate adult service available for people on the Autistic Spectrum in custody suites and nominated 'places of safety'?	Amber: Yes, but appropriate adults do not necessarily have autism awareness training
Local Innovations		
54	<p>Please outline any innovations you have put in place in line with the Care Act:</p> <p>The Islington Autism Project is launching in October 2016 which is an operational team consisting of a senior practitioner and a support worker. This team will be able to offer short-term (3 months max.) specialist support to people with a primary need of autism who may or may not be eligible for services under the Care Act.</p> <p>This work will focus on facilitating access to mainstream services, managing any tenancy issues and employment support.</p> <p>This cohort of people have historically either been inappropriately allocated to learning disability or mental health teams or have lacked any Council support.</p>	

55	<p>If you wish, describe briefly (up to 1500 characters) one initiative of your council, relating to the provision of care for people with autism, which you think have been successful:</p> <p>Spectrum is Islington’s day opportunities service for people with autism and moderate – severe learning disabilities, which has been in operation since February 2014. The service was established in response to an identified gap in provision for this cohort who have complex needs and, often, behaviours that challenge.</p> <p>The service is equipped to work with up to 15 individuals per day; supporting them to participate in a range of activities tailored to their needs and preferences. These include activities that are; leisure-based, educational, therapeutic, sensory and vocational. The service operates out of a purpose-built high-quality accessible building which offers opportunities for skills development and an environment that can be tailored to a person’s needs. The service also makes effective use of community resources to encourage social inclusion and facilitate an interesting and varied programme of activities. The service was recently reviewed by the National Autistic Society as part of their Accreditation programme. The outcome of the review was very positive and Spectrum is now an accredited site. The review panel described Spectrum’s work with people with autism as an example of good practice and further highlighted Spectrum’s collaborative work with family carers.</p>
Self-advocate and Family Carer Accounts	
56.01	<p>Family Carer Account 1:</p> <p>I think we’re lucky to live in Islington, which is on the whole a tolerant and diverse borough. My son, with severe learning difficulties and health problems as well as autism, has always been treated with support and affection by his local community. He has become well-known in local shops and cafes and - now he’s older - the local pub! Even on the occasions when he’s been overwhelmed and lashed out or been disruptive, people have been understanding. I feel the local authority has been supportive too, which is increasingly difficult when budgets are being cut. At times when there are different opinions as to how/where his needs can be met, I have been able to negotiate rather than go into battle with local officers. I believe that the jointly-commissioned and pooled funding of the NHS and social services budgets to provide a combined learning disability partnership for adults has been a great strength of the borough, and there is an atmosphere of commitment to partnership working with families. I think autistic people and their families also benefit enormously from having an excellent, family-friendly voluntary organization in the borough, which provides high-quality practical, day-to-day and advocacy support, and works well as a channel of communication regarding family concerns into the various partnership boards that operate at borough level.</p>
56.02	<p>Self-Advocate Account 2</p> <p>I am experiencing trouble with my neighbours in my Council flat - they make lots of noise and I am very sensitive to noise, I have raised this with the housing team and they sent the noise patrol, but they don't understand that my autism makes me more sensitive to noise than other people.</p>
56.03	<p>Self-Advocate Account 3</p> <p>Islington is an understanding borough, more understanding than other boroughs that I have lived in. There is always a lot going on.</p>
56.04	<p>Self-Advocate Account 4</p> <p>N/A</p>
56.05	<p>Self-Advocate Account 5</p> <p>N/A</p>