



Newham London

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

2013 – 2016

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

Newham Autism Strategy for Adults was developed in partnership with the Newham Autism Steering Group. The role of the steering group is to:

- Oversee the development and implementation of Newham Council's Autism Plan
- Monitor and review the plan and ensure the targets set are met
- Ensure co-production with customers, families and carers in the development and implementation of the strategy.

The following are members of the Newham Autism Steering Group. We thank everyone for their contributions to the development of the Newham Autism Strategy for Adults.

Autism Awareness and Support Group

Community organisations representation

Ellingham Employment Services

Families and carers for people with autism in Newham

John F Kennedy School

National Autistic Society (Newham local branch)

Newham Asperger Syndrome Service

Newham College

Newham Clinical Commissioning Group

Newham Community Health Team for people with learning disabilities

Newham Council

Newham Jobcentre Plus/Department for Work and Pensions

Newham Parents for Inclusion

Newham Sixth Form College (NewVIc)

People with autism in Newham

Provider organisations representation

## Foreword

I am delighted to present this three year multidisciplinary Autism Strategy for Adults.

This strategy has been developed with the help of Newham's Autism Steering Group. Residents of Newham have also played an important role in the development of this plan by sharing their ideas and views with us to help develop and improve the services for adults with autism, their families and carers.

We want to ensure that a good level of advice and support is available for adults with autism, their families and carers in Newham.

This strategy provides a clear framework for the changes required by the national strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' (2010) to provide adults with autism the same opportunities as anyone else to live fulfilling and rewarding lives.

This strategy sets many challenges not only for health and social care services but for all public and local services. The vision of partnership working has been shared in the development of this strategy and this collaborative work needs to continue to ensure services improve for people with autism, their families and carers in Newham.

Newham is committed to the priorities set out in this strategy and I look forward to working with you all to implement the changes required to provide adults with autism in Newham the same opportunities as anyone else to live fulfilling and rewarding lives.

Finally, I want to thank all the people of Newham who have attended consultation events to share their views and recommendations or sent in suggestions for improvements. Your contributions have been vital and helped to inform and shape the strategy. I would also like to thank all the staff and partners involved in delivering and improving services for people with autism, their families and carers in Newham.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clive Furness". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

**Councillor Clive Furness - executive member for health and adult commissioning,  
Newham Council.**

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

## Executive Summary

This strategy explains how Newham Council, Newham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and their partners plan to work together to support the needs of adults with autism in Newham.

Newham Council is responsible for the eligible social care and support needs of people with autism and Newham CCG is responsible for commissioning health services for people in the local community.

Newham residents have played an important part in the development of this strategy by sharing their ideas and views with us through consultation to help develop and improve the services for adults with autism, their families and carers. They have provided feedback on unmet needs and desirable service improvements. This strategy addresses these issues and builds on some improvements which have been made in services and support for people with autism in Newham in the recent years.

The strategy sets out Newham's vision, aims and outcomes for people with autism for the years ahead and also states the key principles that underpin this approach. The strategy also seeks to shape the local approach in implementing the requirements of the National Autism Strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' (2010).

Our vision in Newham is that all people with autism, whatever their age, have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives. This vision is shared by all public, voluntary and independent organisations that have been working collaboratively in Newham to improve services for people with autism, their families and carers.

We want to support adults with autism to be independent, to have choice and control so they can live fulfilling lives as fully participating members of the wider community, including the right to voice their opinions and experiences and to ensure that services meet their individual needs.

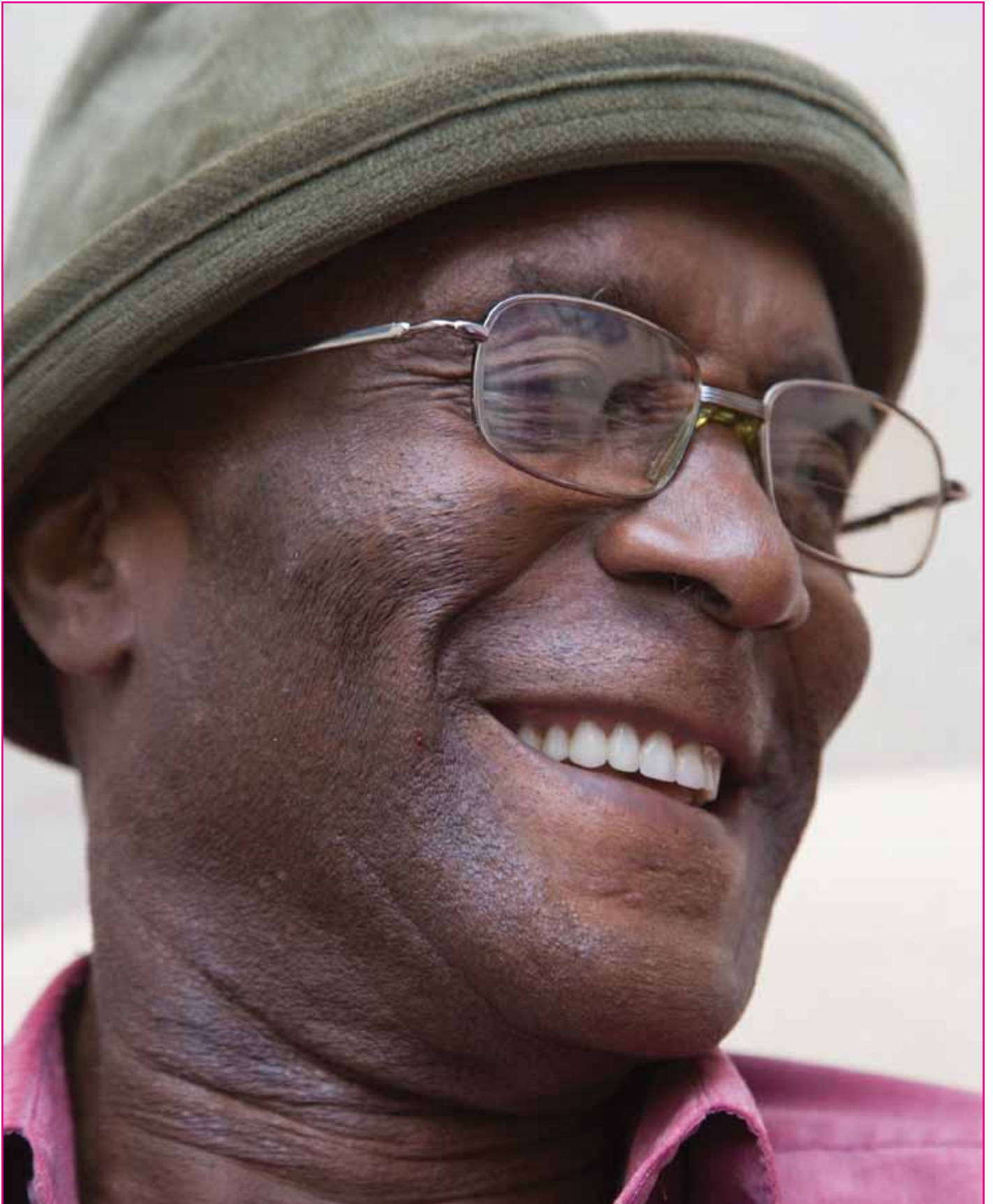
The National Autism Strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' (2010) does not allocate any additional funding to meet the strategy requirements. Therefore any recommendations, changes or new pathways will need to be met within the existing budgetary provision in both health and social care.

The strategy identifies that many people with autism have not previously been well served by the traditional approaches to assessment, treatment and care. Further levels of detailed planning will be required as we work to implement the strategy over the next three years and we will ensure this is carried out in partnership through the Autism Steering Group whose work will be over seen by the Health and Wellbeing Board. We want to ensure that a good level of advice and support is available for adults with autism, their families and carers in Newham.

People with autism who have eligible needs will benefit from the council's approach to adult social care. The model is based on more effective use of universal service provision, timely and targeted prevention and enablement, maximising choice and control, whilst ensuring vulnerable people requiring on-going support are assisted to determine their own solutions from a more responsive market place.

The strategy sets many challenges not only for health and social care services but for all public and local services. The vision of partnership working has been shared in the development of this strategy and this collaborative work will continue to ensure services improve for people with autism, their families and carers in Newham.





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## 1.0 Introduction

Newham's autism strategy has been developed in response to legislation, the National Autism Strategy (2010), statutory guidance and the local priorities in relation to autism. The strategy sets out how Newham Council, Newham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and their partners plan to deliver support for adults with autism in the next three years. It has been developed through consultation with people with autism, their families and carers whose feedback and recommendations have been used to inform this strategy.

This strategy links to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy which is concerned about improving the health and social care outcomes for local people and reducing health inequalities for all people including people with autism, their families and carers. This strategy will also link with other plans when they are developed including the carers strategy. The Newham Autism Strategy for Adults is for adults aged 18 years and above. However, the strategy addresses the requirements for improvement of the transition process for young people with autism leaving school.

Newham has established a multidisciplinary autism steering group consisting of people with autism, their family and carers, representatives from the NHS, CCG, Newham Jobcentre Plus, providers, education and Newham National Autistic Society (NAS) local branch. The Autism Steering Group reports to the Strategic Reference Group which reports directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The National Strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' (2010) requires effective and robust joint commissioning between the local authority and the CCG. The implementation of this strategy and development of joint commissioning plans will be overseen and monitored by the Autism Steering Group.

Some people with autism are able to live relatively independent lives whilst others need a lifetime of specialist support. People with autism may be at risk of harm because they misunderstand others' intentions and are unable to protect themselves from exploitation or other forms of abuse<sup>1</sup>. They may display behaviours which bring them into contact with the police or criminal justice system. Autism is still under-recognised in adults in the UK<sup>2</sup>. National research evidence shows that 90 per cent of people with autism will not do well in life, over two thirds have no work and a third have experienced severe mental health difficulties because of a lack of support<sup>3</sup>.

Our vision in Newham is that all people with autism, whatever their age, have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives. This vision is shared by all public, voluntary and independent organisations that have been working collaboratively in Newham to improve services for people with autism, their families and carers.

This strategy is a key part of our vision in Newham to improve the outcomes for people with autism. It starts with how this strategy was developed, it then talks about: our vision (what we want to achieve), our strategic objectives (what we want to do), demographics (what we know about the population), consultation (what concerns people), service mapping, gaps, what we need to do and action planning.

<sup>1</sup>Safeguarding adults at risk of harm: a legal guide for practitioners, Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

<sup>2</sup>Autism: recognition, referral, diagnosis and management of adults on the autism spectrum, National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Clinical Guidance 142, 2012

<sup>3</sup>National Autistic Society research cited in 'Supporting people with autism through adulthood', National Audit Office 2009

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

## 1.1 What is autism?

Autism is a lifelong developmental 'hidden' disability that affects the way a person communicates with, and relates to, people and the world around them.

People with autism have a wide spectrum of needs. Some people with autism have a wide variety of support needs and some have areas where they can function well and other areas where they need support.

There are three key areas of difficulty known as the 'triad of impairments' that all people with autism are likely to experience:

- **Social communication** – difficulties understanding and using verbal and non verbal language, such as gestures and tone of voice
- **Social interaction** – difficulties understanding and recognising other people's feelings and managing their own
- **Social imagination** – difficulties in understanding and predicting other people's intentions and behaviour and adapting to new and unfamiliar situations.

In addition, many people with autism find processing information difficult and can be over sensitive or under-sensitive to particular things such as smells, tastes, colours, sound or touch.

In this strategy, the term autism describes the full spectrum and includes the diagnostic categories of Asperger syndrome, high-functioning autism, autism spectrum disorder and autism spectrum condition.

## 1.2 The Autism Act (2009)<sup>4</sup>

The Autism Act (2009) explains what the government will do to make sure adults with autism can live the life they choose. The Act places two legal duties to the Secretary of State for Health:

- To produce a National Strategy for Adults with autism in England, this was produced in 2010
- To produce statutory guidance for local authorities and local health bodies, this was also published in 2010.

The statutory guidance placed a legal duty on local authorities and the NHS to implement the National Strategy. It requires the development of local strategies and action plans to implement the National Strategy. This responsibility falls jointly to the local authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

<sup>4</sup>Autism Act 2009



### 1.3 National Autism Strategy (2010)<sup>5</sup>

The National Strategy 'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives', the first ever strategy for adults with autism in England was published in March 2010. The strategy sets out the long term vision and ambition to improve the lives of adults with autism. The vision:

"All adults with autism are able to live fulfilling and rewarding lives within a society that accepts and understands them. They can get a diagnosis and access support if they need it, and they can depend on mainstream public services to treat them fairly as individuals, helping them make the most of their talents." Department of Health (2010)<sup>6</sup>

The national strategy is concerned with improving existing services and making existing policies work better for adults with autism. It sets out commitments for seven central government departments and agencies:

- The Department of Health
- The Department for Work and Pensions
- The Department for Education
- The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
- The Department for Transport
- The Ministry of Justice
- The Homes and Communities Agency.



<sup>5</sup>Autism Strategy 2010

<sup>6</sup>Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives: The Strategy for Adults with autism in England, 2010, Department of Health: Central Office for Information

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The Department of Health is the lead policy department for autism, with delivery shared across a range of government departments and agencies and local health and social care service providers. Appendix 1 (page 36) shows the service delivery arrangements for people with autism<sup>7</sup>.

The guidance states that local authorities and the NHS must:

- Appoint an autism lead who has the responsibility for the implementation of the National Autism Strategy in their area
- Involve people with autism, their families and carers in the planning of services
- Provide autism awareness training to all staff involved in the delivery of services in the public, private and voluntary sector
- Provide specialist training for key staff such as GPs, care staff and community care assessors
- Develop a plan on how to commission local services for adults with autism
- Appoint a lead professional to develop diagnostic and assessment services for adults with autism in their area
- Commission services for adults with autism based on adequate understanding of the local population
- Use guidance from the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to help develop a pathway to diagnosis
- Improve the transition process for young people with autism leaving school and should have transition procedures in place for those using mental health services.



<sup>7</sup>National Audit Office (2009) Supporting People with Autism through Adulthood. Report by Controller Comptroller and Auditor-General HC556 Session 2008-9

'Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives' (2010) "represents a shared approach towards a common goal, a society that not only accepts and understands autism, but also provides real opportunities for adults with autism to live fulfilling and rewarding lives". The five areas for action aimed at improving the lives of adults with autism are:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of autism
- Developing a clear, consistent pathway for diagnosis of autism
- Improving access for adults with autism to services and support
- Helping adults with autism into work
- Enabling local partners to develop relevant services.

Nationally and regionally there are three tiers of governance for the national strategy:

- The Adult Autism Strategy Programme Board, providing programme governance nationally
- The Delivery Group, reporting to the Adult Autism Strategy Programme Board
- Department of Health Deputy Regional Directors of Social Care and Partnerships, who will oversee progress on a regional level, working closely with local leads.

## **2.0 Delivery of the strategy in Newham**

This strategy is a key part of our vision in Newham to improve the outcomes for people with autism. It focuses on laying the foundation for the changes needed in local services and builds on some improvements which have been made in services and support for people with autism in Newham. The summary below describes what is already happening in Newham:

- In Newham we have developed a multidisciplinary autism steering group. The autism steering group reports to the Strategic Reference Group which reports directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Newham Council has already appointed an autism commissioning lead who has the responsibility for the implementation of the National Autism Strategy for the area
- Newham Council has appointed a learning disability service improvement manager responsible for service improvements in the light of the Winterbourne View Review<sup>8</sup> to improve service delivery and to ensure people with learning disabilities, including autism are safeguarded and enabled to live fulfilling lives
- Newham Council has a diagnostic pathway lead.

### **2.1 The vision – what do we want to achieve?**

The Newham vision is that all people with autism, whatever their age, have the same opportunities as anyone else to live rewarding and fulfilling lives. This vision is shared by all public, voluntary and

<sup>8</sup>Flynn, M, Citerella, V. Winterbourne View Hospital: a Serious Case Review, South Gloucestershire Adult Safeguarding Board, July 2012

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independent organisations that have been working collaboratively to improve services for people with autism, their families and carers.

We want to achieve the Newham vision by:

- Supporting adults with autism to be independent, to have choice and control so they can live fulfilling lives as fully participating members of the wider community, including the right to voice their opinions and experiences and to ensure that services meet their individual needs
- Supporting carers and family members of people with autism
- Providing the best possible services, based on currently available evidence, at the earliest possible time in life, within the resources available, giving excellent value for public money.

The Newham Autism Strategy focuses on laying the foundation for the changes needed in local services by:

- Raising awareness of autism in Newham particularly across public and mainstream services
- Working with commissioners and providers of mainstream health and social care services to make their services more accessible for people with autism
- Maximising opportunities to ensure people with autism are socially included and safe
- Developing an effective diagnosis pathway to provide both pre and post diagnosis support
- Working in partnership with housing colleagues to help people with autism to access the right housing
- Supporting peoples' plans and aspirations
- Working closely with employment organisations to support adults with autism to gain and keep work
- Working in partnership with education partners to help people with autism to access education and training.

## 2.2 Strategic objectives – what we want to do

Strategic objectives were developed from what people of Newham have told us through consultation and feedback from people with autism, their families and carers as well as professionals. To further inform the strategy, Newham Council and its partners have also drawn on the national strategy, statutory guidance and evidence from good practice and effective approaches of supporting people with autism. The objectives are not ranked in any particular order as each of them is as important as the other. This strategy proposes the following strategic objectives for 2013 – 2016:

- **Diagnosis and signposting** – achieve timely diagnosis and offer access to information, advice and a personalised approach to options for support for all those diagnosed with autism, setting out clear pathways
- **Fulfilling lives** – develop a range of local support services with the right skills to enable adults with autism to live fulfilling lives, with a particular focus on supporting participation in inclusive and meaningful activities including employment



- **Training and awareness** – promote greater awareness of autism to encourage social inclusion and to enable staff to make reasonable adjustments and support people more effectively
- **Sustainable approach** – ensure Newham Council and its partners can demonstrate delivery of these objectives and are managing effectively with the money and resources available.

From the feedback we received during the consultation and what people have told us, we believe these are the right things to do in order to achieve better outcomes for people with autism, their families and carers. Please see section 7.0 for the priority actions for 2013/2014.

### 2.3 Building resilience in Newham

Newham Council has developed a strategy to enhance the resilience of all its residents. Resilience is defined as, “more than an ability to bounce back from a single damaging event. It is about possessing a set of skills and having access to resources that allow us to negotiate the challenges we experience”.

The Newham Resilience Strategy describes three types of resilience:

- **Personal resilience** – refers to a individual’s qualities or abilities that enable them to deal with adversity and access resources and support to succeed
- **Community resilience** – refers to the communities we live in and the relationships and networks we are part of





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- **Economic and financial resilience** – refers to the ability to find a rewarding job, to withstand financial shocks and the resources to make genuine choices about your life.

The resilience agenda is about helping residents to do things for themselves, rather than encouraging a reliance on the council or health services to do things for them. Nationally, adult social care has been moving towards this approach for some time now, and in Newham, we have been re-organising our services to provide health and social care in a personalised way.

In Newham the Health and Wellbeing Board aims to drive improvement in health and social care outcomes for local people and to narrow health inequalities for all people including people with autism. Close partnership work and significant change in the way in which services operate is required.

The council is committed to ensuring that local people with support needs and their carers receive high quality personalised services and support. Commissioning puts resilience, personalisation and choice and control at the centre of the services we provide and at the core of market development. Commissioning decisions in Newham will be based on strengthening personal, economic and community resilience<sup>9</sup>.

## 3.0 The need – demographics

The 2011 Census estimates that the total population of Newham is 308,000. This is an increase approximately from 244,000 in the 2001 Census. Some of this increase may be explained by improved Census completion in 2011. The increase may also reflect increasing regeneration and increased migration over the past 10 years into Newham. The Newham population is expected to increase to almost 350,000 by 2021, the second biggest population increase in London<sup>10</sup>. Because the population is increasing, we expect there to be an increase in the number of people with autism.

Newham has an unusually young age profile in comparison to the age profile for England. Newham has a larger than average proportion of people aged under 10 years and aged 20 to 39 years, with a correspondingly smaller than average proportion aged 40 and above. People aged 65 and over make up a relatively small proportion of the Newham population in comparison to London and England as a whole. In 2011, 6.7 per cent of Newham's population was estimated to be aged 65 and above compared to 16.5 per cent nationally<sup>11</sup>.

Newham has the most ethnically diverse community in England and Wales (72 per cent of the population are from black, Asian and minority ethnic groups)<sup>12</sup> with over 100 languages spoken. Local data suggests that of the working age population, nearly 20 per cent of females and 16 per cent of males in Newham are disabled people compared to 18.57 per cent of females and 12.90 per cent of males in London<sup>13</sup>. This is a higher than average percentage in relation to London.

## 3.1 People with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) demographic trends

Projections of the prevalence of ASD in the UK differ depending on the source and have varied over time due to changes in diagnostic categories (this may explain why the two projections provided below are different). The current estimates from the National Autistic Society and the psychiatric morbidity

<sup>9</sup>Newham Resilience Narrative OP Executive July 2012 <sup>10</sup>GLA Round Population Projections 2011

<sup>11</sup>The Office for National Statistics 2011: [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/npp/national-population-projections/2010-based-projections/stb-2010-based-npp-principal-and-key-variants.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/npp/national-population-projections/2010-based-projections/stb-2010-based-npp-principal-and-key-variants.html)

14 <sup>12</sup>ONS Census return and GLA Rounded population, 2010

<sup>13</sup>Newham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2010-11

survey is that around 1 in 100 people are on the spectrum. For Newham this would mean a figure of 3,080 people of all ages with autism based on the 2011 Newham Census population of 308,000<sup>14</sup>.

A recent research study report from Autistica, reported that approximately 10 per cent of the parents who responded to their survey reported to having an autism diagnosis and an additional 11 per cent strongly suspected they had autism. Further, approximately 18 per cent of the adults with autism reported having a child with autism. This is the first research that really breaks down possible prevalence of multi-generational families with autism<sup>15</sup>.

These findings need investigating further to be certain of how representative they are, but it does indicate that a significant proportion of families in the UK are living with autism across generations. If replicated, the pattern highlights the importance of considering the needs of all family members when planning interventions and services.

Projecting Adult Needs and Service Information (PANSI) estimates the number of adults with autism in Newham from 18 – 64 years of age to be approximately<sup>16</sup>:

- 2,256 in 2012
- 2,306 in 2016
- 2,417 in 2020 (see table 2 on page 17).

We do not yet know what proportion of these numbers will require support but at present approximately 10 per cent of people with autism are receiving social care support from Newham community health services and adult social care. There is currently no information or projections for people with autism aged 65 years and above.

### 3.2 What do we know?

Local figures suggest that the majority of people with autism are not currently known to services. In Newham 229 adults with a diagnosis of autism were receiving a funded service from adult social care in May 2013. Of these:

- 78 people have high-functioning autism or Asperger Syndrome
- 151 have a learning disability and autism.

We know there is an increasing demand on services that support adults with autism. There are currently 298 young people with a diagnosis of autism between 6 and 16 year olds who have been identified to be likely to require support from adult social care after transition.

Of the 298 young people with a diagnosis of autism, 45 are female and 253 are male.

It is common throughout the UK for health and adult social care services to know only a small number of local people with autism. This is because:

<sup>14</sup>[www.autism.org.uk/autismdata](http://www.autism.org.uk/autismdata)

<sup>15</sup>[www.autistica.org.uk](http://www.autistica.org.uk)

<sup>16</sup>[www.pansi.org.uk](http://www.pansi.org.uk)

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- Many people with autism (undiagnosed or diagnosed) are supported within the family unit and do not come to the attention of services
- A lack of awareness of autism among professionals and the general population results in people not identified and diagnosed with autism
- People with suspected autism have difficulties in accessing autism diagnostic assessments and therefore remain undiagnosed.

It is often difficult for people with Asperger syndrome or high-functioning autism in particular to have their needs met by services, as their needs may fall below Newham's Fair Access to Care Services (FACS) criteria threshold of critical and substantial.

Table 1 shows the number of young people with a diagnosis of autism between school years 2 and 11 in Newham. This information helps us to predict the likely impact on services in the transition stage as well as adult social care services.

**Table 1 – Number of young people with a diagnosis of autism between year 2 and 11 in Newham**

School year	Number of young people	Age range
2	36	6-7
3	33	7-8
4	31	8-9
5	24	9-10
6	28	10-11
7	40	11-12
8	33	12-13
9	31	13-14
10	21	14-15
11	21	15-16
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	

Source: Newham transition team 2012

**Table 2 – People aged 18-64 in Newham predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders and hence likely to require services, by age from 2012 to 2020**

Age	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020
People aged 18-24 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	456	471	468	465	455
People aged 25-34 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	788	784	796	800	810
People aged 35-44 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	484	493	500	510	519
People aged 45-54 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	332	349	364	374	379
People aged 55-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	195	209	225	238	254
<b>Total Population aged 18-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders</b>	<b>2,256</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>2,354</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,417</b>

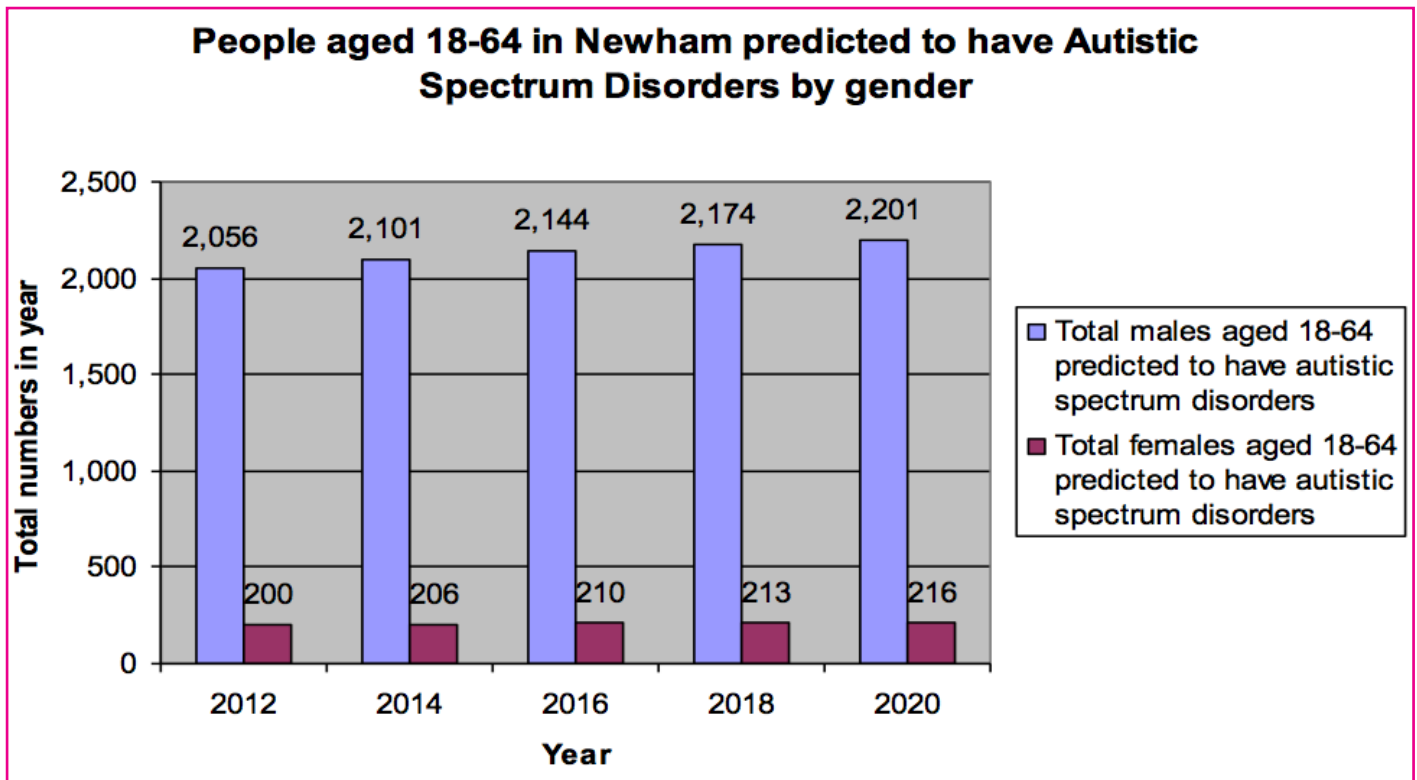
Source: [www.pansi.org.uk](http://www.pansi.org.uk), April 2013

**Table 3 – People aged 18-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders, by age and gender, projected to 2020**

Age	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020
Total males aged 18-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	2,056	2,101	2,144	2,174	2,201
Total females aged 18-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders	200	206	210	213	216
<b>Total Population aged 18-64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders</b>	<b>2,256</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>2,354</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,417</b>

Source: [www.pansi.org.uk](http://www.pansi.org.uk), April 2013

**Figure 2**



The projections in the above tables demonstrate the increase in the number of people with autistic spectrum disorders (ASD). Tables 2 and 3 show that there are more males than females, this fits with the profile found in childhood population studies. “In England, it is estimated that 1 in every 100 children has an ASD. The conditions are more common in boys than girls. Boys are three to four times more likely to develop an ASD than girls<sup>17</sup>”. However, the PANSI projections in Figure 2 above show that the ratio of males to females is about 9:1. PANSI does not give an explanation as to why the Newham figures do not correlate to the estimates on the prevalence studies. We will seek to understand this.

Currently there is limited data relating to black and ethnic minority adults with ASD in Newham. This may be due to autism getting increasingly recognised through early diagnosis in children and under recognition in adults in the UK. It may also be due to the lack of effective systems for gathering information on autism. Evidence about the prevalence of autism in different communities and the impact on family life is still inconsistent<sup>18</sup>.

However, national evidence showed that these groups experienced double discrimination which isolates them from services and other opportunities. In Newham we have set a target in our action plan for 2013/2014 to develop an effective system for gathering detailed information on numbers and equality monitoring of people with autism.

<sup>17</sup><http://www.autism.org.uk/about-autism-facts-and-statistics/some-facts-and-statistics.aspx>

<sup>18</sup>National Autistic Society research cited in ‘Supporting people with autism through adulthood’ National Audit Office 2009



### 3.3 Mapping current services for adults with autism in Newham

#### What services are there for people with autism in Newham?

This mapping will help to inform health and social care commissioning intentions, enabling partnership work to ensure commissioned services reflect what people with autism need. This mapping will also help commissioners understand the demand and supply for specific/specialised services, their costs, quality and value for money.

It is anticipated that there are likely to be more gaps for those people with high-functioning autism than for those with lower functioning levels, as their needs may fall below Newham's FACS criteria threshold of substantial and critical.

In Newham we currently have the following services:

- We have redesigned and reviewed all our in-house services. The learning disability day services now have a particular focus on employment pathways, enterprise and specific approaches to support people with learning disabilities and autism
- Newham Council currently provides and commissions a range of support services to all its carers including those for people with autism. In line with the National Carers Strategy, the council is determined to raise the profile of carers and their needs. (In addition, Newham has recently reviewed its social housing policy which identifies carers as a priority).



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- Newham has many universal services that disabled and older people including people with autism can participate in, with support if they need it. For example, the Active and Connected programme currently being delivered by community organisations in consortia arrangements with East Thames and Age UK delivers a programme of community activities that people can be supported to use
- Newham has identified an autism lead who has the responsibility for the implementation of the National Autism Strategy for the area
- Newham has established a specialist learning disabilities team to work with people with complex and challenging needs customers including autism
- We are currently writing our carers strategy to ensure the needs of all carers of adults, young people and children including people with autism are addressed
- We are developing an employment strategy for all people with support needs in Newham including people with autism



- Newham Council has developed an autism diagnostic pathway
- Autism training for staff has been commissioned as part of our workforce development plan. Three sessions lasting two days each have already been delivered by the council to its provider staff and more are planned to take place throughout 2013/2014
- In Newham we have appointed a learning disability service improvement manager responsible for service improvements in the light of the Winterbourne View review to improve service delivery and to ensure people with learning disabilities and autism are safeguarded and enabled to live fulfilling lives. We have also established a Winterbourne multi-agency working group which is taking a lead in developing Newham's health and social care responses to the Winterbourne View Review. In addition, a Winterbourne provider assurance group has been established to work with all learning disability and autism providers following the Winterbourne concordat and action plan
- Advocacy support is available for all people with social care needs including people with autism.
- Asperger/high-functioning autism service – located in adult mental health services, delivers health and social care interventions within an integrated service.
- Newham community health team for people with learning disabilities – provides specialist health interventions and support to adults with learning disabilities and people who have a diagnosis of autism to access mainstream health services.

Newham Council also has a range of other services commissioned from the community/voluntary and private sector for adults with autism as well as people with learning disabilities. Please see **appendix 2** for full services mapping.

### 3.4 Gaps

A mapping exercise and feedback from people with autism was undertaken during the development of the strategy. This feedback identified a number of gaps:

- Insufficient supply of appropriate support services, especially accommodation for people with complex needs and challenging behaviour, in particular those leaving Assessment and Treatment Units (ATU). Newham currently has 11 people in ATUs outside of Newham, the majority of whom have autism. Accommodation design for some people with autism needs to be specific, with particular regard to sensory sensitivity to allow for the social difficulties they experience
- Out of area placements are expensive and quality assurance at a distance is a challenge for commissioners. Providing high quality specialist accommodation locally to reduce such placements is significantly constrained by a shortage of affordable sites, finance and until recently, experienced providers to deliver the service. Newham currently has 21 people with autism placed out of the borough. Out of these, seven are young people in transition
- A deficit in practical support services for adults with high-functioning autism or Asperger syndrome which could remove barriers to their participation in normal life. This includes access to low level support to develop social skills, independent living skills to access employment and to support families, particularly parents with autism who have children with autism

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

- Parents identified a deficit in activities to combat isolation for those requiring home tuition especially during weekends, bank holidays and half term
- A deficit in speech and language therapy services for adults with autism
- A deficit in local transitional services including supported living for some young people with autism who are currently in school.

All these gaps along with other local market issues have been addressed in Newham's Market Position Statement (2013).

## 3.5 Consultation

In December 2012, the adult social care directorate management team (DMT) agreed a draft autism plan to which consultation was invited. Two consultation events were held in January and also on World Autism Awareness Day, in April 2013.

The consultation was widely promoted in accessible format in the Newham Mag, the council website, and service users posted consultation information on Twitter and Facebook. Consultation flyers were distributed to all local libraries, GP surgeries, schools and colleges as well as local supermarkets in Newham.

During the two consultation events, over 180 people were engaged and their views and recommendations gathered. Listening booths were also used, to allow some people who did not feel comfortable in public to record and post their feedback in confidence. All the feedback was gathered and used to inform this strategy.

The consultation feedback and recommendations made it clear that people with autism want support to access mainstream services and other support services which will meet their individual needs. The consultation also identified that there were some good local services for people with autism and their carers in Newham.

In developing the strategy we also met with Councillor Clive Furness, executive lead for health and adult commissioning, Newham Council senior management, Learning Disabilities providers forum, Co-Production forum and Welfare to Work forum. We also received written feedback from the Strategic Reference Group, Newham CCG, NewVlc, East London NHS Foundation Trust, JFK School, Newham College, Parents for Inclusion and the health and adult social care staff.

Please see section 3.6 for the views and recommendations from the consultation. This feedback was used to inform the strategy as well as develop our priorities.

The following specific views and recommendations were made by people with autism, their families and carers as well as professionals who felt it should be included in the strategy:

- There is a lack of accessible information about care pathways
- There is a lack of awareness and understanding about autism among staff and the public who may interact with people with autism
- There is a lack of awareness and understanding about autism among health professionals such as midwives, GPs, dentists and health visitors



- Professionals are not listening to families and carers of people with autism
- There are too few practical support services for adults with high-functioning autism or Asperger syndrome
- They feel unsupported and vulnerable especially at weekends as most services are provided during the week
- They had had negative experiences with some GPs and dentists, including some dentists that have refused to treat people with autism
- All people with autism, their families and their carers reported that information and forms regarding housing are over complicated. People need a lot of support to decipher this information, to fill in relevant forms and help to make choices related to housing
- There are so many different agencies involved in housing. Communication comes from so many different people and this brings confusion about who is contacting them and what their options are
- All stakeholders reported that professionals working in housing and in general use far too much jargon





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- Smooth and better transition for young people reaching end of school age
- More local appropriate schools and supported accommodation to reduce out of area placements
- All people with autism, their families and carers asked for more flexible and joined up support at the right time
- Families and carers asked for more respite opportunities so carers can regain their energy.

The following recommendations were made by the stakeholders at the consultation event:

- All health professionals must have specialist training in autism and that training must be ongoing – it is not good enough to just attend one autism awareness session
- Improve communication and make information more accessible on transition for young people, families and carers
- Advocacy services should be available to people with autism, their families and carers
- Information about available housing options for all people and particularly young people in transition should be available and accessible



- Improve communication at each stage of education, and to have clearer signposting of support services for people up to age 25
- Better monitoring and tracking of young people with autism once they leave school – up to age 25
- Specific support available for families and carers for people with autism, especially dealing with complex needs and challenging behaviour.

#### **4.0 Finance**

Just like any other local authority in the UK, Newham Council is facing financial pressures and undergoing efficiency programmes to transform the way in which services are provided and commissioned in line with the Personalisation agenda.

The National Autism Strategy ‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives’ 2010<sup>19</sup> does not allocate any additional funding to meet the strategy requirements. Therefore any recommendations, changes or new pathways will need to be met within the existing budgetary provision in both health and social care.

#### **5.0 Newham Autism Action Plan**

The action plan will follow the approach of the council’s adult social care model of care, which is based on the effective use of universal service provision, timely and targeted prevention and enablement and maximising choice and control, whilst ensuring vulnerable people requiring on-going support, are assisted to determine their own solutions from a more responsive market place.

The action plan sets out how Newham Council and CCG will implement the Autism Strategy, in particular, what we will do to respond to what people told us during the consultation, the seven recommended outcomes and three ambitions from the National Strategy ‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives (2010).

The steering group will monitor and review the action plan and ensure the targets set are met and will provide updates so people can find out how we are doing, and what has changed for people with autism in Newham.

In line with the national guidance and our commitment to improving services for adults with autism in Newham, our three year action plan will include the following actions:

- Continuing to raise and improve awareness and provide information about autism in Newham
- Continuing to improve services for people with autism, their families and carers
- Supporting adults with autism into work and training
- Improving the way we plan and prioritise the services for people with autism
- Improving access to services to facilitate independent living

<sup>19</sup>The National Autism Strategy Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives 2010

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

- Continuing identifying and responding to needs of families and carers for people with autism
- Working with all professionals to ensure people with autism, their families and carers are listened to and are involved in the shaping of services
- Close monitoring of progress and future development

Please see section 7.0 below for a full list of priority actions that will be developed into an action plan.

## 6.0 Review and monitoring

In line with policy guidance, progress in the implementation of this strategy and future development of joint commissioning plans will be overseen and monitored by Newham Autism Steering Group. The steering group will be reporting the progress of actions back to the Strategic Reference Group who will feedback directly to Newham's Health and Wellbeing Board.

Both the strategy and the action plan will be reviewed and evaluated on a regular basis to ensure that its implementation is effective and that progress is being made to meet the needs of those it is intended for.

The key tasks of the steering group will be to oversee the implementation of the strategy and to monitor progress of the action plan. Work streams will be in place to:



- Oversee the development and implementation of the action plan
- Monitor, review and ensure the targets set in the action plan are met
- Ensure co-production with service users, families and carers in the development of the Autism Action Plan and implementation of the Autism Strategy.

## 7.0 The priority actions for 2013/2014

As explained in section 3.1, these objectives and priorities have been developed through consideration of needs analysis, views and recommendations from people with autism, their families and carers as well as professionals gained through consultation.

To further inform the strategy, Newham Council and its partners have also drawn on the national strategy, statutory guidance, an evidence from good practice and effective approaches of supporting people with autism. As well as summary on what the council has achieved so far, the objectives and priorities below will form part of the action plan.

**Diagnosis and signposting** – achieve timely diagnosis and offer access to information, advice and a personalised approach to options for support for all those diagnosed, setting out clear pathways.

The priority actions in 2013/2014:

- Ensure all public, private and voluntary sector organisations are aware of the diagnosis pathway and well publicised within their organisations
- Monitor the number of referrals and ensure the pathway is clear within agreed timescales
- Ensure people with autism, their families and carers have access to the right information, advice and support on diagnosis
- Ensure the diagnosis pathway has enough resources to provide the right support to the Newham population.

**Fulfilling lives** – develop a range of local specialist support services that have the skills to enable adults with autism to live fulfilling lives, with a particular focus on supporting participation in meaningful activities including employment.

The priority actions in 2013/2014:

- Ensure the views of adults with autism and their carers are sought and taken into account in the development and delivery of services locally
- Ensure all health care providers for people with autism implement the NICE guidance on clinical effectiveness
- Ensure meaningful activities including volunteering opportunities and employment are available for people with autism
- Improve employment options for people with autism

# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

- Support community and voluntary organisations to help them continue to support networks and groups that support people with autism and their carers
- Ensure the needs of people with autism are reflected in the council's supported housing strategy
- Develop more specialist support options for people with complex autism needs and reduce out of area placements
- Ensure that information and support for families and carers is clear, accessible and well published
- Ensure people with autism, their families and carers are represented at the Autism Steering Group, to influence decision making about services for people with autism and their carers.

**Training and awareness** – promote greater awareness of autism to encourage social acceptance and to enable staff that are likely to interact with people with autism to make reasonable adjustments and operate more effectively.

The priority actions in 2013/2014:

- Agree and implement a three year training plan
- Encourage and secure commitment from public, private and voluntary sector provider organisations to deliver autism awareness training for all their staff
- Work with partners to provide specialist training for key staff such as GPs, assessors and care staff.

**Sustainable approach** – ensure Newham Council and its partners can demonstrate delivery of these objectives and are managing effectively within the money available.

The priority actions in 2013/2014:

- Ensure the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment takes into account people with autism
- Develop an effective system of gathering information with public, private and voluntary provider organisations on numbers of people with autism, to inform planning for transition and adult services
- Agree a systematic methodology to encourage people with autism, their families and carers to feedback on a regular basis their experience and contributions for services improvement
- Review membership of the steering group to ensure that all key stakeholders are represented and ensure their full participation and contributions
- Seek autism champions representatives from each provider organisation
- Invest in preventative support for people with autism to support those who are not FACS eligible for long term health and social care to prevent them reaching a crisis point, to stop problems becoming worse
- Work closely with the Criminal Justice System and police to prevent unnecessary detention of people with autism.

For more information about adult autism in Newham visit [www.newham.gov.uk/Autism](http://www.newham.gov.uk/Autism) or call **020 8430 2000** selecting option 8 on the menu.



## 8.0 Glossary

### For information – Some definitions and interpretations

#### Autism

Autism is a lifelong developmental ‘hidden’ disability that affects the way a person communicates with, and relates to, people and the world around them (see section 1.1 for more details).

#### Carer

A carer is someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who has autism, is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems.

#### Carers assessment

Carers have a legal right to an assessment of their own needs. The assessment is available to any carer who provides or is intending to provide regular and substantial care. It is a chance to discuss with social care services in the Local Authority what help is needed that would help to maintain their health and to balance caring with other aspects of life, such as work and family. Social care services use the assessment to decide what help to provide. Young people (aged under 18) who provide care to family members are also entitled to an assessment of their needs.

#### Commissioning

Working together with citizens and providers to support individuals to translate their aspirations into timely and quality services which meet their needs, enable choice and control, are cost effective and support the whole community.



# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

## **Diagnosis**

The process of identifying the nature and cause of a medical condition through the evaluation of a patient's history and through undertaking specific medical assessments.

## **Direct payments**

These are cash payments made to individuals who have been assessed as needing services, in lieu of social service provisions. The aim of a direct payment is to give more flexibility in how a person's needs are met. By giving individuals money in lieu of social care services, people have greater choice and control over their lives, and are able to make their own decisions about how their care is delivered.

## **Enablement**

Is a service for people to help them learn, or re-learn the skills necessary for daily living. Through short term interventions, people learn and recover their skills, increasing their confidence to live more independently.

## **GP's**

General Practitioner – A doctor whose practice is not limited to a specific medical speciality but instead covers a variety of medical conditions in patients of all ages.

## **Hypersensitivity**

This is when a person's sensory awareness is very acute. Some people with autism can be extremely sensitive to certain sounds or light, or to things they touch, smell and taste.

## **Individual budgets**

An amount of money allocated to meet a person's needs identified through a person's self or supported assessment and support plan. This may combine resources from different funding streams to which the individual is entitled but is most often related to meeting social care needs.

## **Newham Autism Steering Group**

A multidisciplinary group consisting of representatives from adults with autism, families and carers, health and provider organisation, education, Jobcentre Plus/Department for Work and Pension and the Newham National Autism Society local branch.

The Autism Steering Group reports to the Strategic Reference Group which reports directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This is reflected in the Newham Co Production Structure.

## **Personalisation**

Is a way of supporting people with disabilities to achieve greater choices and control over their lives through the provision of individual budgets.

## **Providers**

Organisations whose business it is to supply or provide health or social care services to help people meet their needs. These organisations may be funded by health or social care commissioners through contracts or an individual may purchase services directly from a provider.

## **Residential care**

Accommodation that is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) for people who need more than just housing to help them meet their needs.

Residential care provides 24 hour shared support and accommodation to people where it is assessed that living in less supportive accommodation would not meet their needs. Residential care can help people achieve health and well-being and learn skills for greater independence.

### **Supported housing**

These are accommodation schemes which offer vulnerable individuals accommodation with support. A person receives accommodation with access to staff with expertise in supporting people which will improve or maintain their life skills and opportunities.

### **Supported living**

Is the support that enables people with autism to live independently in their own homes, or have assured tenancies in rented accommodation, as an alternative to shared residential care or supported housing, where the accommodation is provided as part of the support.

### **Transition**

The process of change a person goes through, for example growing from childhood into adulthood. For people with disabilities this process of reaching adulthood can mean changing the services from which they receive support and this can take place over a long period.

To help young people with disabilities moving into adulthood all organisations should work together to help them plan for their future. The young person's school, health professionals, careers adviser, transition social worker, and any other organisations involved, work in partnership with the young person and family to agree how they can prepare for the process of change. They should ensure that the young person will be supported to have a voice in setting their own goals for their future.

## 9.0 Bibliography

**Autism Act, 2009**, Department of Health: The Stationary Office.

**Clinical guidance for the diagnosis, referral and management for adults with autism (June 2012)** – The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence published these guidance to help local authorities and the NHS design diagnostic pathways specifically for adults with autism.

**Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives: evaluation progress (1 April 2011)** – Guidance to help support local authorities and NHS organisations to monitor implementation of the strategy and guidance.

**Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives: The strategy for adults with autism in England, 2010**, Department of Health: Central Office for Information.

**(Implementing) ‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives’: statutory guidance for local authorities and NHS organisations to support the implementation of the autism strategy (17 Dec 2010)** – To support the implementation of the strategy, this document sets out legal duties on local authorities and health bodies. Where the guidance says that something should be done, local authorities, health and other statutory bodies have to do it. Lack of money is not necessarily a good reason for not doing it.

**(Towards) ‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives’: the first year delivery plan for adults with autism in England (2 April 2010)** – Document detailing the timescales and responsibilities for the first year. Since the general elections, the Government has reviewed the plan and will decide which actions central Government will take forward. This does not affect the duties placed on local authorities and NHS.

**Local self-assessment framework (1 April 2011)** – Primarily for commissioners to complete alongside local partners as a way to begin responding to the strategy and statutory guidance.

**National Audit Office, 2009**. Supporting people with autism through adulthood.

**HC 556 Session 2008-2009**. London: The Stationary Office.

**National Autistic Society, 2012**. Main webpage. [ONLINE] Available at: [http:// www.autism.org.uk/](http://www.autism.org.uk/) . [Accessed 03 February 12].

**Progress in implementing the 2010 Adults Autism Strategy (July 2012)** – This report outlines the progress that has been made so far by the seven government departments (DoH, Depart Education, Depart Transport, Depart for Communities and Local Government, DWP, Depart for Business, Innovation and Skills and Ministry of Justice) since the strategy was published in April 2010.

**Supporting people with Autism through Adulthood (5 June 2009)** – The National Audit Office (NAO) published in-depth and influential report, Supporting people with Autism through Adulthood, which looks at whether the support currently provided for people with autism is being provided in the most effect way.

**Review of Adults Autism Strategy (Due 2013)** – As part of the Autism Act 2009, the Government must review the impact of the autism strategy, making sure it is being implemented and that services are improving for people with autism.

**[www.autistica.org.uk](http://www.autistica.org.uk)**

## **Other National and Local Policies that apply to adults with autism**

### **Access to Work (Department for Work and Pensions)**

A specialist disability programme delivered by Jobcentre Plus, which provides work related practical advice and financial assistance.

### **Bradley Review (2009), Department of Health**

Examines the extent to which offenders with mental health or learning disabilities could, in appropriate cases, be diverted from prison to other services, and the barriers to such diversion. The review makes a series of recommendations.

### **Building Britain's Recovery: Achieving Full Employment (Department for Work and Pension).**

Sets out Government plans to combat the effects of the recession and to help young people into jobs and training more quickly and to support older workers.

### **Disability Discrimination Act (2005), Home Office**

Promotes civil rights for disabled people and protects disabled people from discrimination.

### **Equality Act (2010), Home Office**

A commitment to provide an accessible framework of discrimination law which protects individuals from unfair treatment and promotes a fair and more equal society.

### **“Getting in, Staying in and Getting on” (9 June 2011) – a review of employment support for disabled people**

This review highlights the Government's commitment and aspiration to ensure disabled people and those with health and social care support requirements are enabled to gain and sustain paid employment.

### **Health and social Care Act (2012), Department of Health**

Primary Care Trusts will be replaced by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to purchase health services, thus placing General Practitioners (GPs) at the centre of commissioning. The voice of patients will be strengthened through the development of local HealthWatch organisations and Public Health England, will lead on public health at national level, and local authorities will lead at a local level.

### **Improving Health, Supporting Justice: The national delivery plan of the Health and Criminal Justice programme Board (2009), Department of Health**

This national delivery plan contributes to key Government initiatives around protecting the public, reducing health inequalities, reducing re-offending, and health improvement and protection.

### **Improving Life Chances of Disabled People (2005), Department of Health**

Examines how disabled people in Britain should have full opportunities and choices to improve their quality of life, and should be respected and included as equal members of society.

### **Independent Living Strategy (2008), Office for Disability Issues**

States disabled people who need support to go about their daily lives will have greater choice and control over how support is provided; and disabled people will have greater access to housing, health, education, employment, leisure and transport opportunities and to participation in family and community life.

## **Mental Capacity Act (2005), Department of Health**

Provides a legal framework for people who lack capacity, placing people who lack capacity at the heart of the decision-making process; this includes people with autism and those who may not find it easy to express their choice in words. The Act requires an assumption that people have capacity to make decisions for themselves unless there is evidence to the contrary.

## **Our Health, Our Care, Our Say: A new Direction for Community Services (2006), Department of Health**

All services should become more responsive, focusing on people with complex needs, and shifting care and support closer to home.

## **Putting People First Concordat (2007), Department of Health**

Organisations to work together to provide information, advice and advocacy, early intervention and re-enablement, prevention and personalisation for people with learning disabilities.

## **Safeguarding Adults: A consultation on the Review of the 'No Secrets' Guidance (2008), Department of Health**

To safeguard and protect adults who may become vulnerable and enable them to live safely in their local communities and not be constrained by abuse.

## **Valuing Employment Now: Real jobs for people with learning disabilities (2009), Department of Health**

Sets out the goal to radically increase the number of people with learning disabilities in employment by 2025.

## **Valuing People: A new Strategy for learning Disability for the 21st Century (2001), Department of Health**

A White Paper, focusing on achieving fulfilling lives for people with learning disabilities aiming to redress inequalities.

## **Valuing People Now (2009), Department of Health**

Restates the principles and priorities in the Valuing People White Paper (2001), and commitment to achieve its aims within three years.



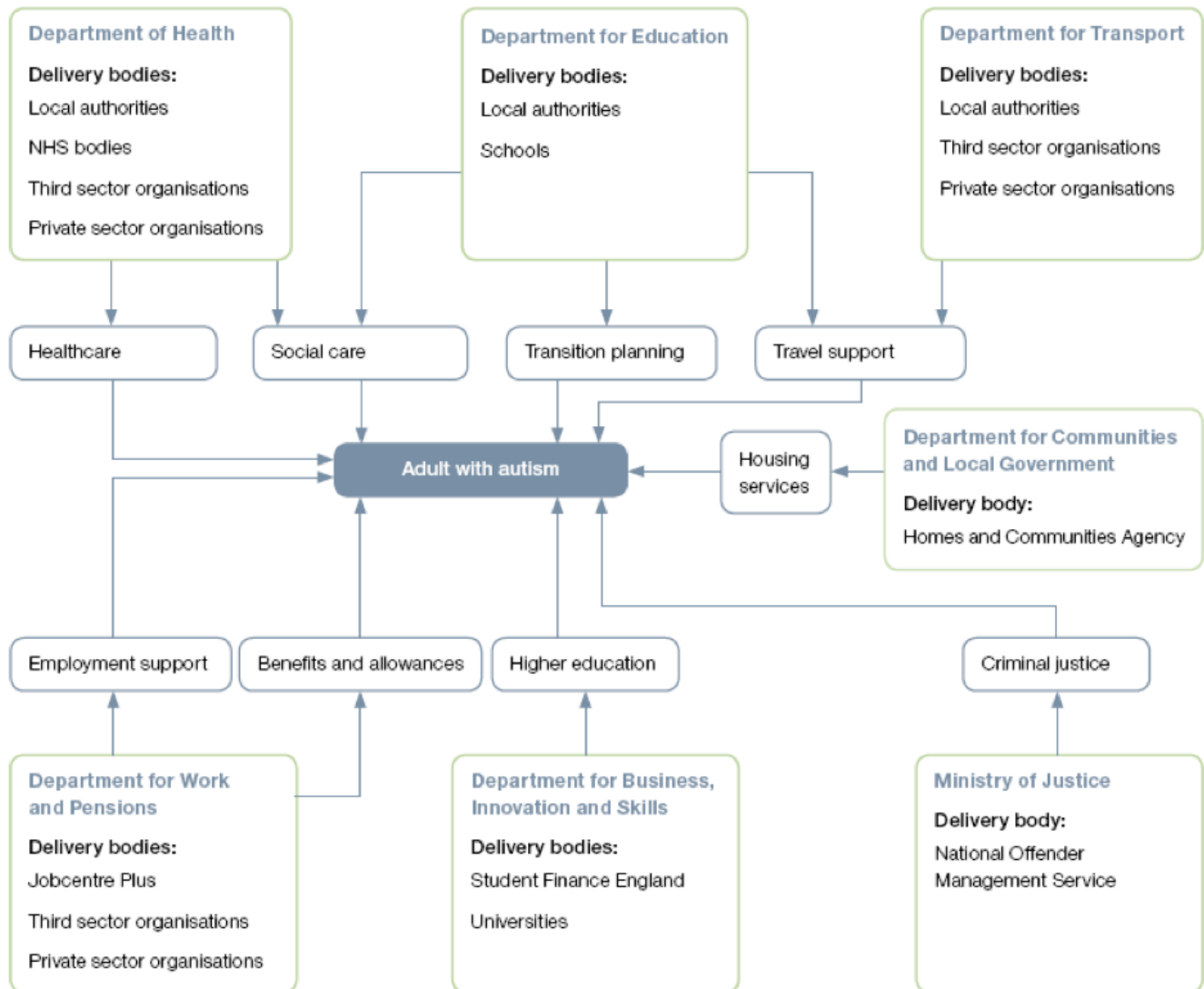


# Newham Autism Strategy for Adults

## Appendix 1 – Service delivery arrangements for adults with autism by accountable departments

**Figure 1**

Service delivery arrangements for adults with autism by accountable department



Source: National Audit Office

## Appendix 2 – Mapping

### Services for adults with autism which includes people with learning disabilities

#### 1. As of May 2013 the following services are managed by Newham Council:

**Asperger high functioning autism service** – within mental health services and health and social care interventions.

**Assessment and care management** – 1000 Newham Dockside. Provided to all people including people with learning disabilities and autism by the following teams:

- Access
- Long term
- Enablement.

**Learning disabilities day opportunities services and autism** – McGrath Road and Mariner Road. Specialist day opportunities service for people with learning disabilities and autism.

**Newham Community Gateway service** – activities are delivered outside of the two day care premises. This service provides people with learning disabilities and adults with autism with a means for social integration within the community. This is achieved through making use of what is available locally in the communities, to coordinate and provide social and leisure activities, customised to match the interests and needs of the people.

**Newham Enterprise service** – McGrath Road, Stratford, E15.

The enterprise projects provides people with learning disabilities and adults with autism with opportunities to gain experience that promotes self resilience and prepares them to pursue employment or to establish themselves as sole traders.

Many people may be experiencing work for the first time and the intensive support they receive while participating in the enterprise projects helps them to understand the demands of a work place and to develop their own work ethic and aspirations.

Currently the service supports people trading through:

- A cafe
- A small catering firm
- DJ and events production
- Recycling/up cycling
- A gardening business.

The service is flexible and people with learning disabilities and adults with autism are supported to develop ideas for new enterprises that suit their interests.

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**Newham Employment Support service** – McGrath Road, Stratford, E15.

Support to adults with learning disabilities and autism to gain and retain paid employment. Support includes:

- Vocational profiling to identify peoples aspirations, learning needs, individual skills and former experiences and job preferences
- CV preparation
- Support during the recruitment and selection process
- Job coaching
- On going support while in employment or work placement.

**Newco employment support service** – Bridge Road Depot, Abbey Road, Stratford, E15. Newco provides a voluntary, tailored and coherent range of specialist employment services under the Work Choice Programme which can respond more flexibly to the individual needs of disabled people including people with autism.

**Information and Equipment Demonstration Area (IEDA)** – Community Resource Centre, 200 Chargeable Lane, E13. A demonstration area where people can see and try a range of equipment or gain advice if they have any difficulties due to a sensory impairment or any other disability.

At IEDA people can also access:

- Information, advice and guidance about maintaining their independence and remaining safe in their home
- Occupational therapy guidance on equipment
- Rehabilitation support
- Skills that may help ncrease their independence.

## **2. Services managed by NHS Newham**

**Newham Community Health Team for People with Learning Disabilities** – Unit 7/8 Stratford Office Village, 4 Romford Road, Stratford, E15. Provide specialist health interventions, support to access mainstream health services, with a range of health services provided locally including:

- Clinical psychology
- Speech and language therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Psychiatry
- Physiotherapy
- Community nursing
- Art therapy.

## **3. Education**

**Newham College** – Newham College of Further Education, Stratford Campus, Welfare Road, E15. Provides a central plank of current vocational training and regeneration programmes in the borough. The college provides employment related training and support to people with learning disabilities and autism in the borough. The college also just received some funding to deliver a specialist course “FOCUS” for 16-25 year old adults on the autism spectrum with complex needs.

**Newham Sixth Form College (NewVIc)** – Prine Regent Lane, E13. The college specialise in working with young people aged 16-19 who have recently progressed from year 11 at school. 18 per cent of the student body reported having a learning difficulty or disability including those with autism.

**John F Kennedy School** – Beckton Campus, Tollgate Road, E16. Provides education for students with a range of special needs education, 80 per cent of the intakes are people with an autism spectrum disorder.

## **4. Newham also has a range of other services commissioned from the community/ voluntary and private sector for adults with autism as well as people with learning disabilities (Not an exhaustive list, but information forwarded by providers).**

### **Services located within Newham:**

Three Cs, 3rd Floor Norman House, 110-114 Norman Road, Greenwich. SE10. Autism friendly organisation providing arrange of support services including:

- Supported living
- Day opportunities
- Homecare and outreach services social activities
- Residential care.



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Newham has a framework list for Independent Living Support Services (ILSS) – which provides homecare/personal care support at home.

**Advance** – provides:

- Supported living
- Social activities.

**Inclusive Support Ltd (London)** – Specialist autism service provides:

- Supported living
- Social activities
- Day opportunities.

**Heritage Care** – autism friendly organisation (not autism accredited) providing a range of support services including:

- Residential care
- Supported living
- Day opportunities
- Homecare and outreach services social activities.

**Newham Network Telecare Services** – Holden Point, Waddington Road, E15. Providing telecare services.

**Look Ahead Care and Support** – another autism friendly organisation (not autism accredited) providing arrange of support services including:

- Residential care
- Supported living
- Day opportunities
- Social activities/outreach services.

**Outward Housing** – provides:

- Supported living service specially designed for adults with autism
- Remodelled residential care for adults with autism and complex needs.

**East Living** – provides:

- Supported living
- Residential
- Social activities
- Community access.

**Eastway Care Ltd** – provides:

- Day services
- Community support.

**Sanctuary** – provides:

- Specialist accommodation
- Floating support on behalf of external partners and for clients in their own homes
- Move-on accommodation services
- Supported services for thousands of disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

**VoiceAbility** – Newham Advocacy and Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) service, Stratford Advice Arcade, 107-109 The Grove, E15. Providing advocacy services.

**Services located out of Newham (Not an exhaustive list, but information forwarded by providers).**

**Ellingham employment support services** – provides arrange of employment objectives.

**National Autistic Society** – Gravesend, 393 City Road, EC1V. Providing:

- Residential care
- Day opportunities
- Social activities.

**Pashun** – Outreach Services Ltd, Unit 11, Unity Works, 22 Sutherland Road, Walthamstow, E17. Autism friendly organisation (but not autism accredited) providing a range of support services including:

- Residential care
- Supported living
- Day opportunities
- Social activities/outreach services.

**Consensa Care Ltd** – Woodford Green, Essex – Autism friendly organisation (but not autism accredited) provides residential care for people with autism spectrum disorder and learning disabilities.

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**Parents for Inclusion** – [www.parentsforinclusion.org](http://www.parentsforinclusion.org) (Free helpline – 0800 652 3145).

Parents for Inclusion is a network of parents of disabled children/and or children with special needs. The network provides support to parents so that their disabled child can learn, make friends and have a voice in ordinary school and throughout life.

Plus a range of other social care providers providing the following services:

- Shared lives in Newham and out of borough
- Supported living accommodation in Newham and out of borough
- Residential care homes in Newham and out of borough
- Day opportunities
- Outreach services
- Supported employment and work opportunities in Newham and out of borough
- Residential short breaks in Newham and out of borough
- A range of other services.

