Scottish Borders Autism Strategy Delivery Plan 2015 - 2025: Overview

Healthy Life

Autistic people enjoy the highest attainable standard of living, health and family life, and have timely access to diagnostic assessment and integrated support services.

Outcome 1: Children and adults experience good quality, early diagnosis and intervention services

- a. Professionals have opportunities to be trained in a range of diagnostic tools
- People are assessed by a specialist multiagency / multi-disciplinary team of experienced professionals
- c. People have access to appropriate, immediate post-diagnostic support
- d. Data collection makes the best use of existing databases

Outcome 2: Autistic people, and their parents or carers, have easy access to a wide range of information, in a variety of formats

- a. People have access to a "named person" equivalent
- b. People are provided with appropriate information at key stages
- c. There is a central point of access for information
- d. The online resource is promoted and shared amongst professionals
- e. Links to Carers' Strategy are in place.
- f. Training and support is available to parents and carers

Choice and Control

Autistic people are treated with dignity and respect.

Services are able to identify their needs and are responsive to meet those needs.

Outcome 3: Professionals are confident in their knowledge and understanding of Autism

- a. Existing training is mapped and coordinated
- b. Mandatory Autism training modules are included as part of CPD in Education, Health and Social Work
- c. Training across children and young people's services is linked to GIRFEC
- d. Autism Champions promote awareness and understanding across mainstream services

Outcome 4: Autistic people are confident and supported in accessing appropriate specialist and mainstream services

- a. People have access to longer-term postdiagnostic support
- Services for Autistic people with no learning disability are funded, and generic services are Autism friendly
- c. Autism characteristics are reflected in the assessment process within statutory services

Outcome 5: Autistic people, and their parents or carers, feel involved in service delivery and planning

- a. There is effective service user involvement within services themselves, and representation in strategic decision making
- b. Improved communication between professionals, Autistic people and their parents or carers is promoted
- c. There are forums for Autistic people, and for parents or carers

Independence

Autistic people are able to live independently in the community with equal access to all aspects of society.

Services have the capacity and awareness to ensure that people are met with recognition & understanding.

Outcome 6: Autistic people feel understood and accepted in their community, and are able to access a range of social activities

- a. There are local campaigns and events
- b. There are strong transport links to facilitate better access to services
- Autistic people, and their parents or carers, are able to maximise access to appropriate benefits
- d. Support is available for Autistic people to access a range of social opportunities
- e. A range of Autism befriending opportunities are available and promoted
- f. A range of Autism specific social activities are available locally and nationally
- g. There are strong links with leisure opportunities locally, which enhance access for Autistic people

Outcome 7: Autistic people live in housing that meets their needs

- a. Autistic people have access to a range of different types of housing support
- b. Housing providers and planning agencies ensure that an allocation of new build accommodation is developed with the needs of Autistic people taken into account
- c. There is improved access for Autistic people with a housing need
- There is a central point of information for housing options available and how to apply for housing

Active Citizenship

Autistic people are able to participate in all aspects of community and society by successfully transitioning from school into meaningful educational or employment opportunities.

Outcome 8: Autistic people, and their parents or carers, feel supported in the transition from children's to adult services.

a. Each person has an individual plan which details their employability goals

Outcome 9: Autistic people feel confident and supported to find and sustain meaningful work

- a. Potential employers and other agencies have awareness and understanding of Autism
- b. Support is in place to prepare people for employability opportunities
- c. There is a bank of agencies that can provide specific opportunities
- d. NHS Borders and SBC have opportunities for volunteering or work experience placements
- e. Strong links with Job Centre Plus are in place

SBC Autism Strategy Priorities

- 1. Autism awareness and Training
- 2. Diagnosis
- 3. Getting the right services at the right time, for adults with Autism and no learning disability
- 4. Purposeful occupational activities
- 5. Social support and opportunities
- 6. Improving access and provision of housing
- 7. Ensuring inclusion for Autistic people and their families

Scottish Borders Autism Strategy: Priorities	Healthy Life	Choice & Control	Independen ce	Active Citizenship
1. Autism Awareness and Training	Х	Х	Х	Х
(ICF Outcomes: Awareness of Autism / Improved access to Autism training)				
2. Diagnosis	X			
(ICF Outcomes: Improved access to diagnostic assessment across the lifespan /				
Improving information and resources pre and post diagnosis)				
3. Getting the right services at the right time for adults with Autism and no	X	X	X	
learning disability				
(ICF Outcomes: Improved access to information on local services / Improved				
access to services)				
4. Purposeful occupational activities				X
(ICF Outcomes: Improved access to employment support services, education,				
training and volunteering)				
5. Social support and Leisure opportunities			X	
(ICF Outcomes: Increased access to a range of social opportunities within the				
community)				
6. Improving access and provision of housing			X	
(ICF Outcomes: Improved awareness of the needs of Autistic people, and as a				
consequence, improved housing provision)				
7. Ensuring inclusion for Autistic people and their families		X		
(ICF Outcomes: Improved inclusion and involvement for Autistic people and				
their families in development and delivery of services)				

Scottish Autism Strategy: Best Practice Indicators	Healthy Life	Choice & Control	Independence	Active Citizenship
1. A local strategy	X	X	X	Х
2. Access to training and development	X	X	X	X
3. Easy access to useful and practical information about Autism	X	X	X	X
4. An Autism training plan	X	X	X	X
5. A process for data collection which improves the reporting of how many	X			
Autistic people are receiving services and informs the planning of these services				
6. A multi-agency care pathway for assessment, diagnosis and intervention	X			X
7. A way to get feedback to inform service improvement and encourage		X		
engagement				
8. A multi-agency coordinated focus on meeting the needs of Autistic people	X	Х	Х	
9. Clear transitions at each important life stage			Х	Х
10. A self-evaluation framework to ensure best practice implementation and		X		
monitoring.				

National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes	Healthy Life	Choice & Control	Independence	Active Citizenship
1. People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer	Х		Х	
2. People, including those with disabilities or long term conditions, or who are frail, are able to live as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community			Х	X
3. People who use health and social care services have positive experiences of those services, and have their dignity respected	X	Х	Х	Х
4. Health and social care services are centred on helping to maintain or improve the quality of life of people who use those services		Х	Х	Х
5. Health and social care services contribute to reducing health inequalities		Х		
6. People who provide unpaid care are supported to look after their own health and wellbeing, including to reduce any negative impact of their caring role on their own health and wellbeing	X			
7. People using health and social care services are safe from harm				
8. People who work in health and social care services feel engaged with the work they do and are supported to continuously improve the information, support, care and treatment they provide	X	X		
9. Resources are used effectively and efficiently in the provision of health and social care services	X	X		

	SBC Local Objectives	Healthy Life	Choice & Control	Independence	Active Citizenship
	1. We will make services more accessible and develop our communities	X	X	X	
	2. We will improve prevention and early intervention	X	X		X
	3. We will reduce avoidable admissions to hospital				
	4. We will provide care close to home			Х	
	5. We will deliver services within an integrated care model	X			
	6. We will seek to enable people to have more choice and control	Х	Х	Х	X
	7. We will further optimise efficiency and effectiveness	X	X		
	8. We will seek to reduce health inequalities		X		
	9. We want to improve support for unpaid carers to keep them health and able to continue in their caring role.	Х			
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