

North Tyneside Autism Strategy - Progress Update

Adults Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Sub-
Committee

14th July 2022

Julie Young, Commissioning Manager

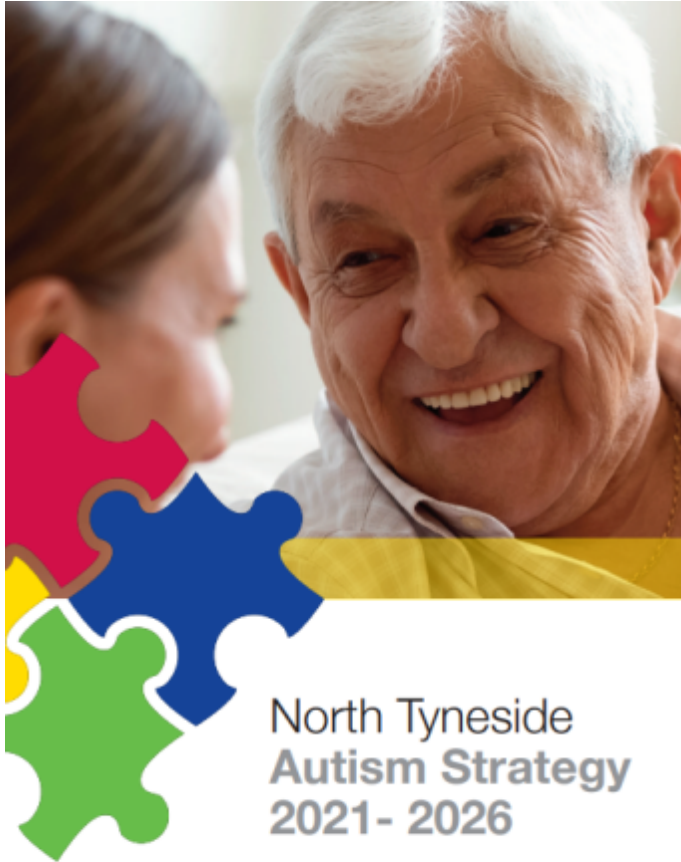
Scott Woodhouse, Strategic Commissioning Manager

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About our strategy



- It's 'all age', 2021 to 2026; whole system approach
- Developed in consultation with parents, carers, young people and partners over a 2 year period;
- With ongoing support from Inclusion North, Healthwatch and the North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum;
- Strategically aligned – it reflects the NHS Local 3 year plan and the National Autism Strategy;
- 6 high-level priorities have been agreed;
- Approved by Health and Wellbeing Board and Children's Board, Sept 2021
- Update on the first 10 months of delivery (started Oct 21)

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Autism strategy on our web pages & national update

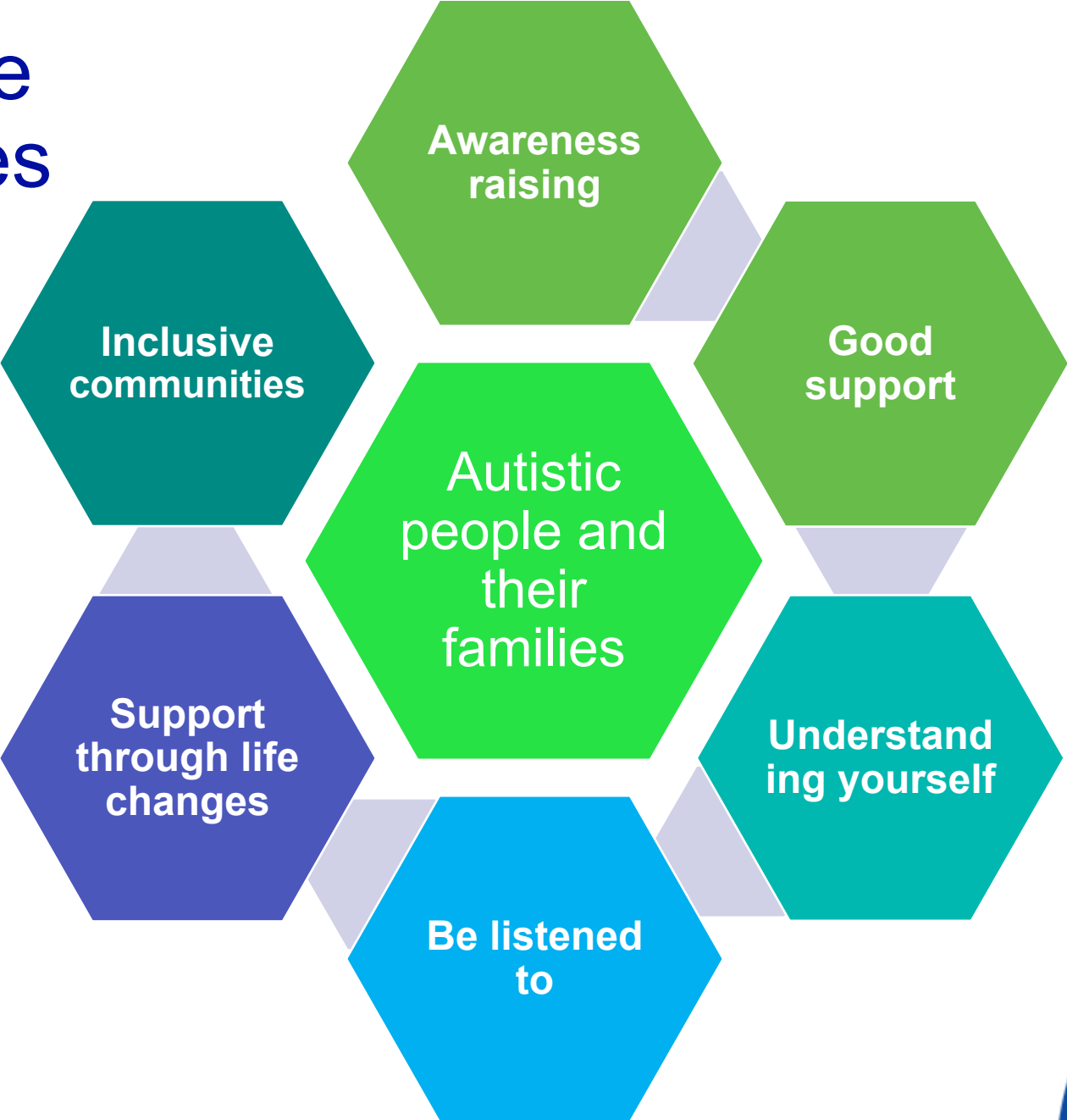
- <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/All%20Age%20Autism%20Strategy.pdf>
- On the Local Offer
- <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1253/resource-library>
- National Strategy – update
- [One year on: council implementation of the National Strategy for Autistic People, Children and Young People 2021 to 2026, 12 May 2022 | Local Government Association](#)

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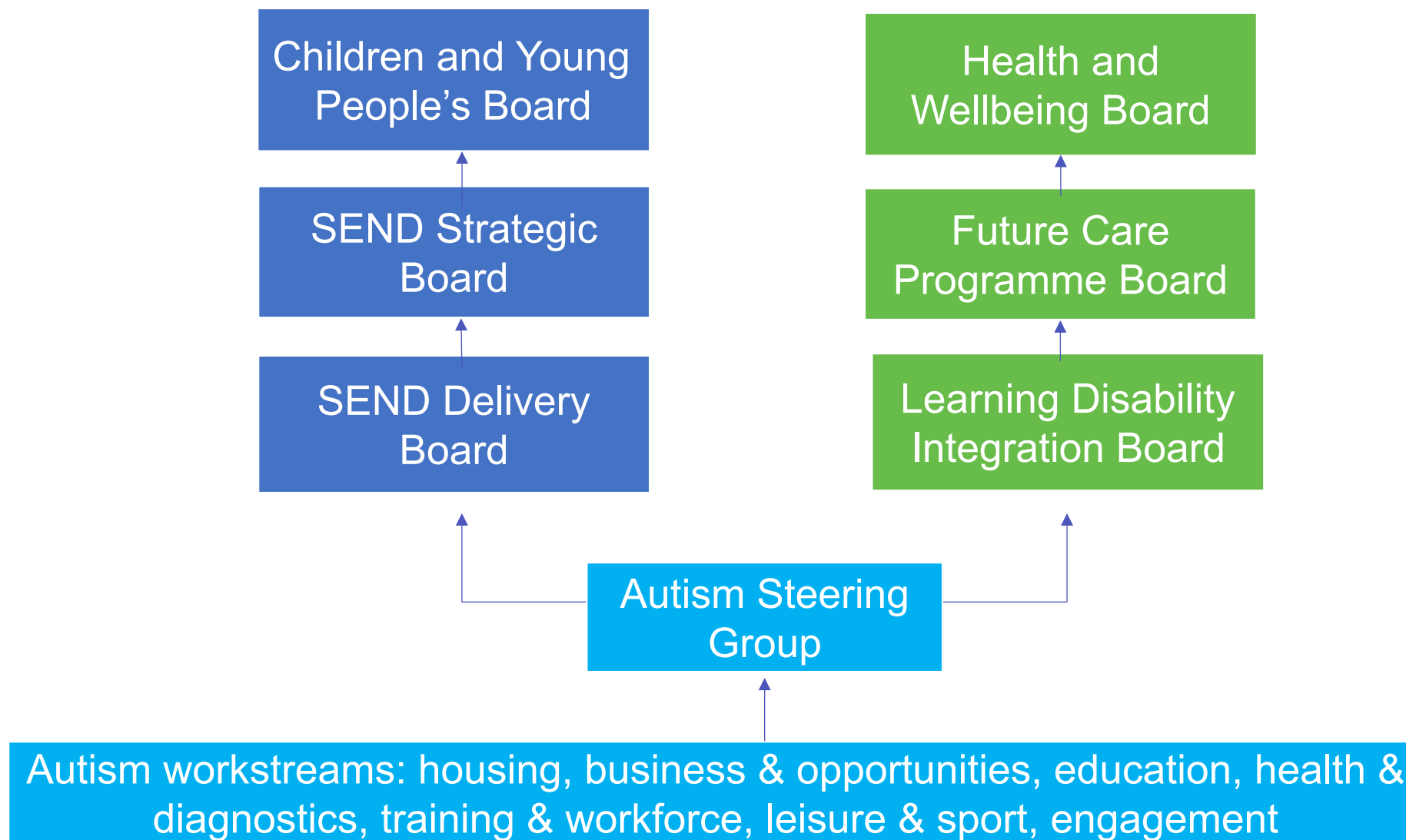


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Our North Tyneside High Level Priorities



Governance



Engagement

- A group of parents, carers and residents with lived experience who meet monthly to support the work programme;
- Includes young people – a representative has joined the steering group called Louise;
- Supported by the Parent Carer Forum, Inclusion North and Healthwatch;
- This group are and will review the ‘offer’ as a critical friend, plus: mystery shopping, hints and tips for business, engagement events, considering training materials and sharing of best practice. Parents are going to mystery shop our children's centres

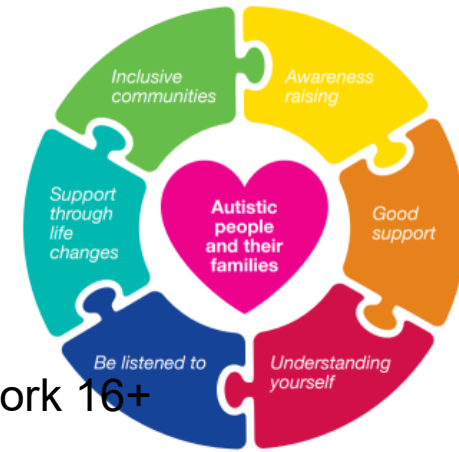


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Priority 1. Good Support



Planned Year 1

- Community offer established
- Enhanced Information and Advice offer
- Establish disability employment support advisors
- Review Housing Forensic Housing options
- COVID support & vaccinations
- Workforce training / planning

Progress to date

- New commissioned community support framework 16+ years (2022 to 2027)
- Disability support advisors - enhanced role
- Implemented a new dynamic support register with CAMHS
- Forensic housing – £500k NHSE capital funding secured
- Specialist housing flagged with Housing strategy
- Tim Lamb Centre 'Worry Group' – for age 7-12 with autism and anxiety
- Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) provision extended support to children with disabilities including autism
- COVID rollout and support to individuals and businesses from public health & commissioning flagging outbreaks

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Priority 2. Understanding yourself



Planned Year 1

- Peer Support networks developed
- System-wide approach for young carers developed
- Support pathway for parent carers developed

Progress to date

- Work underway to develop a pathway for parent carers
- Language & Communication Team - training for mainstream schools to understand autism
- Additional funding agreed for Cygnet Training for parents being delivered
- CCG investment into 2 x new Sensory OT support – children's and adult's services
- Peer support development networks new NHS funding, to build knowledge and business case to kickstart peer networks

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Priority 3. Raising Awareness



Planned Year 1

- Produce a set of principles / guide to reasonable adjustment for universal services
- Develop training and awareness raising materials

Progress to date

- Sessions about autism and carers added to core training for all staff
- Training added on Emotional Regulation, working with parent carers and autistic carers
- 2 staff supporting autistic people with mental health needs – working intensively in hospital to upskill staff on dual diagnosis
- Disability employment advisors links to Connexions and schools
- CAMHS provide language & communications team confirmed diagnosis for children living in North Tyneside

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Priority 4. Being listened to



Planned Year 1

- Co production of the strategy with children, young people, adults with autism, families and carers
- Expand the role of the steering group to include young people
- Professionals listening to, understanding barriers and hearing the voice of people with lived experience

Progress to date

- Engagement group meeting regularly
- Young person to join steering group
- Roll out of more bespoke training for staff, linked to strength based assessment and key worker model.
- Connexions working with schools careers advice to young people who are autistic also NEET and/or home educated
- Autism champion at the Front Door
- WLD team picking up transition cases Autism without an LD

Priority 5. Inclusive Communities



Planned Year 1

- Extend the digital offer
- Understand and refresh universal autism offer to all schools
- School champions developed
- Co produce and develop plans for an “Autism Friending Borough”

Progress to date

- Autism in Schools Project - 4 mainstream schools: Percy Main Primary, Whitley Bay High School, New York Primary and Monkseaton Middle School.
- Work commencing with business and with key partners, Health, DWP, LA to consider the Good Employer pledge
- Universal offer in schools being developed with health
- Pre diagnosis support for families on waiting lists/ early help – joint approach across health & social care
- Mini Forums with families/ parent carers would like to see Autism Friendly Borough, parent carer forum doing visits to LA services check if autism friendly

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Priority 6. Support through life changes



Planned Year 1

- Engagement with providers
- Targeted support from peers/ buddies or care services to support life changes
- Hospital discharge pathways
- Records flagged on health systems to enable better health care

Progress to date

- Provider Forums held quarterly, weekly newsletters, providers on steering group.
- Transitions advisory group meeting 2 weekly reviewing themes and removing barriers
- Hospital passport rolled out health looking at roll for social prescribing re early intervention.
- CCG investment e.g. STOMP (medication), OT's and Children's short break coordinator for 12 months
- Project Choice – NHS England supported internships – “Ignite your Potential”
- Local ICB lead Autism pathways refresh.

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Case Study: Access to Employment

‘North Tyneside Jobcentres have had positive results working with the Youth Employment Service North East run by North East Autism. Younger neurodiverse jobseekers have achieved concrete work outcomes such as traineeships, job starts and apprenticeships.

Wallsend Jobcentre has supported a nineteen year old jobseeker with autism with very little work experience to secure a DWP Kickstart work placement at Park Road Medical practice which is going well’.

Happened Locally

Successful role out of Autism agenda – locally



North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum CIC

North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum – Annual Conference, 25 March



World Autism Awareness Day, 2 April

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Awards

- Include in Autism – part our steering group and a provider on our new Community Framework WINNER of Great Autism Practice with the national learning disabilities and autism awards. The event was held at Birmingham ICC on Friday 8th July
- They offer support to other local providers and business developing Autism friendly sites.



Next Steps

- An end of year report will be shared at the Children's Board and HWB in Oct 2022 and across the partnership, to include outcomes and impact;
- Views of children, young people, parents and carers and adults with autism will be key;
- The steering group and work stream leads are starting to look at 23/24 programme, governance and re-focussing of priority actions, meetings happening with lead partners.
- Autism pathways document being refreshed by health colleagues.



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