

# Cabinet Meeting

## 24 February 2016

<b>Report title</b>	Consultation on Joint Autism Strategy	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Val Gibson Children and Young People	
	Councillor Elias Mattu Adults	
<b>Key decision</b>	Yes	
<b>In forward plan</b>	Yes	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Linda Sanders,(People)	
<b>Originating service</b>	Disabilities and Mental Health	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	Kathy Roper	Commissioning Team Manager
	Tel	01902 555043
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Place Leadership Team	11 January 2016
	Strategic Executive Board	26 January 2016

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve a three month period of consultation around the draft Autism Strategy. This will enable all key stakeholders to have active involvement in shaping the final strategy.

## **Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the draft Joint Autism Strategy for consideration by Cabinet and to seek permission to consult with wider stakeholders.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 This Autism strategy was developed by partners in Education, Health and Social Care in the city to make sure that children, young people and adults with autism get the same life chances as people who do not have autism.

- 2.2 Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopmental condition, it is a 'spectrum' disorder which means that individuals experience it differently and are affected in different ways. There is however some common challenges for people with autism. These include:

- social communication
- social interaction
- social imagination

- 2.3 City of Wolverhampton Council and Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are committed to commissioning high quality autism services and working with partner organisations to improve the lives and opportunities for children, young people and adults with autism.

- 2.4 The purpose of this strategy is to provide a clear plan outlining how support will be delivered in Wolverhampton, and to identify objectives and actions which reflect local need and diversity, in line with the vision set out in the national Think Autism 2015 Strategy:

“All children, adults and older 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.”

- 2.5 This strategy is a high level document designed to highlight key strategic priorities. There is a risk that stakeholders will not feel that the strategy provides sufficient detail to cover all areas. The implementation of the strategy will therefore be supported by a number of detailed implementation plans that will be influenced by the information gathered during the consultation activities.

## **3.0 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report, however, once the consultation is complete the implementation plans associated with the delivery of the strategy will need to include comprehensive financial plans. The delivery of the new strategy will need to be within the existing financial resources.

[GS/07012016/L]

#### **4.0 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The Adult Autism Strategy Statutory Guidance (2015) requires implementation of the adult autism strategy and provides clear requirements for local authorities, NHS bodies and NHS Foundation Trusts on what they need to do to meet the needs of people with autism living in their area. The Care Act (2014) confirms the need to put people and their carers in control of their own care and support, which is further supported by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) Guidelines
- 4.2 This strategy supports the City Council and the CCG in the delivery of these statutory duties and in relation to the Autism Act 2009 and the supporting national “Think Autism Strategy 2015”.  
[RB/18012016/L]

#### **5.0 Equalities implications**

- 5.1 There are equalities implications associated with this report as it relates to disabled children and young people. An Equalities Analysis will be completed before consultation commences and updated throughout the consultation process.

#### **6.0 Environmental implications**

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

#### **7.0 Human resources implications**

- 7.1 There are no human resources implications associated with this report.

#### **8.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 8.1 There are no corporate landlord implications associated with this report.

#### **9.0 Schedule of Background Papers**

None