



**Leicestershire Partnership**  
NHS Trust

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**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND JOINT  
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 17 JULY 2024**

**LEARNING DISABILITY AND AUTISM COLLABORATIVE**

**REPORT OF LEICESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP NHS TRUST**

**Executive Summary**

1. The LLR Learning Disability and Autism (LDA) Collaborative was established in October 2022 to improve services for people with a learning disability and autistic people. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was in place between Leicestershire Partnership Trust (LPT) and the LLR Integrated Care Board (ICB) placing responsibility for the leadership of the Collaborative with LPT; this arrangement moved to a formal contract on 1 April 2024.
2. The Collaborative works closely with Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) local authorities and other stakeholders to commission, deliver and improve services for people with a learning disability and autistic people living in our area.
3. The Collaborative benefits from strong and inclusive collaborative leadership practices, the diversity of skills of the multiagency team, robust programme and project management, energetic engagement and co-production, and a vibrant health equity agenda (Appendix 1).
4. The Collaborative has significantly improved performance in the areas that it is accountable for (Appendix 2):
  - Reducing the number of people with a learning disability and autistic people being cared for in hospital;
  - Ensuring timely learning through reviews of the lives and deaths of people that die, and;
  - Ensuring people with a learning disability access their Annual Health Checks (AHCs).

### LDA Collaborative Priorities 2024/25

5. During 2024/25, the LDA Collaborative is focusing on several agreed priority areas:
- **Earlier Help for Autistic Adults:** adopting a robust three pillar response (Keyworkers, Dynamic Support Pathway (DSP) and Care and Treatment Reviews (CTR)) in partnership with adult mental health services that provides improved quality of life through earlier intervention, reduced admissions to hospital and earlier discharge.
  - **Stronger Community Care:** improved quality of care from community providers and improved care environments through improved contracting, benchmarking, support and training (focused on Positive Behavioural Support (PBS)). Fewer people therefore requiring hospital care.
  - **Reduced Inequalities:** more inclusive measurement of progress to reduce inequalities that aligns to our Collaborative Vision (Appendix 3), supports partners plans and directs investment. Further increases in the number of people benefitting from Annual Health Checks and good quality Health Action Plans. A robust response to our LeDeR 'top ten' (Appendix 4) across health and care services e.g. improved nutrition support, more appropriate use of the Mental Capacity Act and a reduction in the medication of autistic adults.
  - **Greater involvement of care providers:** a more inclusive community of practice that helps all service providers to improve the quality of care experienced by people with a learning disability and autistic adults. A broader and more inclusive community that celebrates excellent care, earlier help and a healthier and a more empowered population.
  - **Better Access:** a reduction in waiting times experienced by people for Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust LDA services that reflects the impacts of combined inequalities (intersectionality).
  - **Improved employment and carer support:** aligned strategies and plans across health and care for Learning Disability, Autism and children and young people with a Special Educational Needs or Disabilities, shaped by lived experiences, more people in employment, and better access to respite care.

### LDA Inpatient Performance

6. Over recent years, the number of adults, children and young people with a learning disability and autistic people in mental health hospitals has reduced substantially; ensuring many more people are able to live in a less restrictive setting and experience more fulfilling lives, closer to family and friends in their own community.

7. The most recently published national data confirmed that LLR was ranked second in the Midlands and eighth nationally in terms of our inpatient performance.
8. LLR is currently either at or below trajectory for both our adult, and children and young people inpatient performance. We are adopting a reporting mechanism by diagnosis, aligning with the national planning guidance requirement to reduce admissions of autistic people into mental health inpatient care and continue to discharge people with a learning disability with the longest lengths of stay.

### **Learning from the lives and deaths of people with a learning disability and autistic people - (LeDeR Reviews)**

9. Learning from the lives, and deaths, of people with a learning disability and autistic people through LeDeR reviews is a key priority for the LDA Collaborative; through comprehensive LeDeR reviews we can ensure that important learning is shared, and implemented, across both health and social care with the aim of increasing the level of care provided and increasing overall life expectancy for individuals with a learning disability and autistic people.
10. LLR is currently joint second in England in relation to the number of LeDeR reviews completed within the 6 months KPI timeframe.
11. During 24/25, communication and learning from LeDeR reviews has been enhanced with the publication of the LeDeR Top 10 – this is a practical guide for staff and teams to help them set local improvement goals. Importantly, this also seeks an increase in the referral rate to LeDeR following the deaths of autistic individuals who do not have a learning disability (a new cohort included in the programme in 23/24).
12. The Collaborative is adopting a reporting mechanism focusing on the six high impact actions outlined by NHS England and continuing our focus on embedding learning into action from all LeDeR reviews.

### **Annual Health Checks**

13. The Collaborative has been working to increase the uptake of Annual Health Checks (AHCs) for people aged over 14 years with a Learning Disability.
14. The national target is for 75% of the people included on the GP LD Register to attend an AHC and during 23/24 the LLR achieved 82.6%, making us the highest performing system in the Midlands and 5<sup>th</sup> nationally.

15. During 24/25 the Collaborative is continuing our focus on those individuals who had not attended their AHC for two years or more and increasing uptake of AHCs amongst those aged 14-20 years.
16. The Primary Care Liaison Nurses are continuing to work with the GP practices in LLR to further improve the accuracy and size of the LD Registers and focus on improving the quality of the accompanying individual Health Action Plans.

### **Plans for 2024/25**

17. During 2024/25, the Collaborative will continue:
  - Our joint working and focus on reducing the numbers of adult and young people in hospital;
  - Continue to deliver the annual health checks prevention programme across primary care;
  - Continue to review every death of an autistic person in LLR and those with a learning disability;
  - Develop a programme of work to ensure we can apply the quality principles we have in hospitals in our commissioned community services to ensure everyone has access to high quality care.

### **Supporting the LDA Collaborative**

18. As members of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee, the LDA Collaborative is seeking your support in the following areas:
  - Implement the LeDeR Top 10 actions identified from local learning to help prevent deaths of people with a learning disability and autistic people (aged 18 and over);
  - Strengthen the response to the needs of people with a learning disability and autistic people across the system in non-specialist services;
  - Press for further improvements in Annual Health Check uptake and associated Health Action Plans;
  - Take every opportunity to speed up adoption of the Reasonable Adjustment Digital Flag (RADF) across the system;
  - Encourage all partners to complete the Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disabilities and Autism;
  - Seek all opportunities to embed learning disabilities and autism considerations in all pathways, strategies and plans across all system partners.

### **Recommendations**

19. The Committee is requested to:
  - (a) Note the LDA Collaborative's achievements to date and our priorities for 2024/25;

- (b) Support the LDA Collaborative in championing the importance of supporting people with a learning disability and autistic people across LLR.

**Officers to contact**

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