



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

ALL AGE AUTISM STRATEGY EASY READ 2023-2025



This is a plan to make life better for all people with autism in Havering. This plan is for children, young people and adults with Autism.

March 2023

1. Why do we need a plan?



We want to increase autism awareness to make sure that the borough becomes autism inclusive.



We want people with Autism to have the same opportunities as everybody else.



We want autistic people and their families to be at the centre of everything we do.



We want to focus on people's strengths and support them to be the best they can be and overcome barriers.








We want guidance, support and advice to be easily accessible for everyone at the right time.




2. What is Autism?

	<p>Autism is a condition that lasts a person's whole life and affects how they see the world and how they relate to other people.</p>
	<p>Autism is known as a spectrum condition because each person with autism displays their autism individually.</p>
	<p>Some people with Autism can live independently with no support, while others need specialist care.</p>
	<p>People with Autism may be over-sensitive or under-sensitive to touch, tastes, light, smells or colours. They may also have other conditions like ADHD, learning disability and/or Dyspraxia</p>
	<p>Around one out of every 100 people are autistic.</p>

3. Why an Autism Strategy?





	<p>The strategy aims to join up health, care and education and treat the autistic person as a whole.</p>
	<p>The strategy aims to develop services to diagnose Autism earlier.</p>
	<p>The strategy aims to support children as they grow up and into adulthood.</p>
	<p>The strategy aims to get agencies to work together to provide a holistic approach to meet children's needs.</p>
	<p>The strategy aims to improve understanding of autism in all its forms.</p>

4. Autism Self-Assessment 2018

	<p>In 2018, we took an Autism Self-Assessment with the help of the Autism Partnership Board, the NHS, and the Autism Steering Group.</p>
	<p>What works well:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some good low-level support for people who don't get support under the Care Act 2014• Some data is kept and used for planning• Some good work is being done in hospitals• The Partnership Board has people with Autism involved
	<p>Things Havering could do better:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Better transition and clearer paths for young people as they grow up• Better recording of Hate Crime• Better awareness of Autism and training across the borough• Support after diagnosis needs to be better






Part 1: Autism Partnership Board

What we plan to do

	<p>We held a series of consultation events between April and July 2019</p>
	<p>We want to ensure all papers and consultation materials are as accessible as possible</p>
	<p>We want to work with health colleagues to make sure actions are completed</p>
	<p>We want to appoint a person with autism as Co-Chair of the Autism Partnership Board.</p>

Part 2: Supporting Children and Adults with Disabilities

What we plan to do

	<p>We want to work with children, young people and their families at an early stage to improve pathways for those moving into adult's services.</p>
	<p>We want to communicate better with young people and their parents about what is possible for the future</p>
	<p>We want to work with schools to develop their understanding of employment pathways</p>
	<p>We want to work with post 16/19 education providers to develop their offer</p>
	<p>We want to develop health pathways and processes for people aged 18-25 with healthcare needs</p>



We want to develop a special educational needs and disabilities move on event for young people

Part 3: Integrated Care Board

What we plan to do



We want to work with LBH colleagues to make sure actions are completed



We want to make sure all information in public buildings is accessible and up to date



We want to work with autism ambassadors to assess access to services



We want information about diagnostic pathways to be easier to understand

	<p>We want to look into providing support both before and after autism diagnosis</p>
	<p>We want all NHS staff to have autism awareness training</p>

Part 4: Employment

What we plan to do

	<p>We want to develop better links with local employers</p>
	<p>We want to make sure specialist services are aware of Havering works support</p>
	<p>We want to encourage Council providers to create employment opportunities</p>

	<p>We want to develop a wide range of work opportunities across the borough</p>
	<p>We want to make targeted use of the apprenticeship levy to support young adults with autism</p>

Part 5: Housing

What we plan to do

	<p>We want to make sure that staff in LBH housing services have autism awareness training</p>
	<p>We want to make sure young people with autism have access to supported housing schemes</p>
	<p>We want to use data to plan for the future need for housing for people with autism</p>

Part 6: NELFT/CAHMS

What we plan to do

 A close-up photograph showing two individuals, one in a light blue shirt and another in a dark blue shirt, looking at a tablet computer held by the person in the blue shirt.	<p>We want to improve information and access to diagnostic pathways</p>
 A photograph of three people smiling and looking at each other. A woman in a white top is on the left, a woman in a yellow hijab is in the center, and a man in a dark shirt is on the right.	<p>We want to look into providing support both before and after autism diagnosis</p>



We want to reduce waiting times for autism assessments

Part 7: Education and Development




What we plan to do



We want to contribute to national training







We want to ensure that all LBH staff have autism awareness training

	<p>We want to provide training to support staff in schools and colleges to promote supported employment</p>
	<p>We want to focus on outcomes for children with EHCP's who are preparing for adulthood</p>
	<p>We want to support schools to work with young people with their transition to adulthood both pre and post 16</p>

Part 8: Autism Ambassadors



What we plan to do

	<p>We want to work with TFL and bus providers to raise awareness of autism</p>
	<p>We want to promote the travel training programme and support specialist transport providers</p>

	<p>We want to work with LBH to ensure all staff have autism training</p>
	<p>We want to work with Havering works to develop understanding of employment pathways</p>
	<p>We want to make sure all information in public buildings is accessible and up to date</p>
	<p>We want to make sure information about autism support and services are available</p>

Part 9: Criminal and Youth Justice System

What we plan to do

	<p>We want to use the National Toolkit for frontline staff on neurodiversity</p>
	<p>We want to work with the police to ensure front line staff have autism training</p>



We want to work closely with the criminal youth justice system to improve support for autistic people