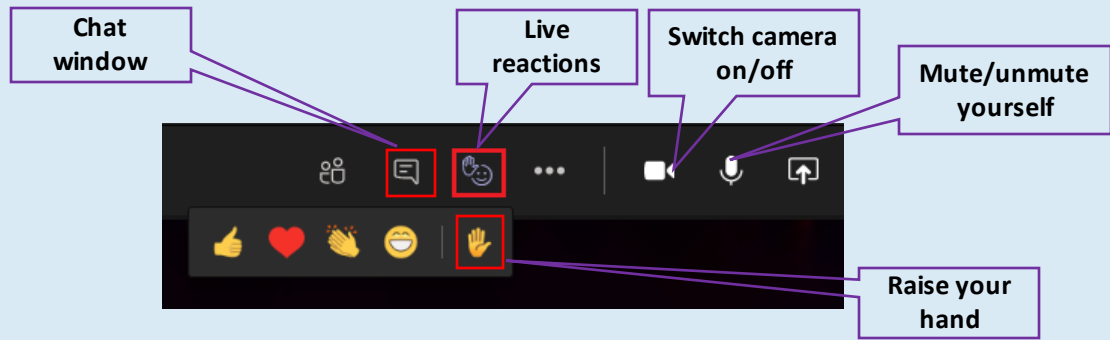


# Neurodevelopmental Service – Update for Warwickshire

Parent Carer Webinar  
21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

# Welcome



- During the presentation, please have your microphone on mute
- Feedback
- Teams meeting functions:
  - Please feel free to use the chat section to post questions
  - Or alternatively use the 'live reactions, raise your hand' feature and the moderator will invite your question
  - Closed Captions

# Questions & Answers

- Feel free to post questions in the chat during the presentation
- Q&A session will start at the end of the presentation
- All questions, including any not covered in the time allowed, will be answered and posted on Warwickshire County Council's website with a recording of the session and slides:  
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/get-involved-say>
- We'll circulate details by email to all participants after the webinar

# Speakers

- Gemma Cartwright, Neurodevelopment Team, CWPT & ICB
- Maria Dainter, Coventry & Warwickshire MIND

Supported by:

- Sam Craven, Voice, Influence & Change Development Officer, Warwickshire County Council
- Avril Upstone, Parent Carer Rep, Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice

# Neurodevelopmental Service update for Warwickshire

*Gemma Cartwright—  
System Clinical Lead for  
Neurodiversity*

# How are we supporting the Autism strategy?

## Coventry and Warwickshire Joint Autism Strategy – 5 priority workstreams

### Priority 1- supporting people with communication, sensory and emotional needs to help themselves pre and post assessment

- Dimensions review for neurodivergent individuals, and their families.
- Improving information and advice
- Reviewed FAQs
- The new Community Autism Support Service (CASS)

### Priority 2 – Reducing inequalities

- Project looking at improved access and adapted services/support
- Emotionally Based School Avoidance project in Warwickshire

### Priority 3- Develop a range of organisations locally with the skills to support autistic people

- Improving health and social care workforce development opportunities, including roll out of the Oliver McGowan training.

### Priority 5 – Co production

- ‘Working Together Charter’ - WPCV & IMPACT involved at all levels
- Autistic Adults through Grapevine or not members of the two groups?

# Priority 4 – Develop the all age autism specialist support offer

## Redesign diagnostic pathway to reduce length of wait

- Working with external partners to mobilise additional assessment capacity
- Build capacity and capability across the system for diagnosis
- Differentiated diagnosis project with Education Psychologists and Specialist Teachers. Extending to paediatrics and RISE

## Clarify responsibilities across the system for autistic people including support at key transition points

- System wide workshops, working with EBEs and parent carers regarding expectations and system offer to highlight success, barriers and gaps

## Ensure autistic people can access and receive appropriately adapted services

- CWPT Neurodiversity Clinical Offer – trust wide vision
- Publication of the 4 p's framework (see slide 11) and the Reasonable Adjustment toolkit for mental health to be amended for children's services
- Children's services self assessment regarding access and adjustment required- trust wide plan
- Autism Modules for RISE staff- target 95% by October

## Ensure services are meeting the need as part of a specialist offer

- Specialist Neurodevelopmental service offer scoping
- Complex Case Panel Pilot- consultation, joint working, individual work focusing on neurodivergent profile (Multidisciplinary & multi agency)

# Story 1: “I’m really anxious, do I have autism?”

## Currently in Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust

...I am a child who is looked after & have been referred into mental health services as I am really anxious. My referral also questions if I am Autistic. I have been told I will need to go to two different services for both things...

## With the neurodiversity clinical offer in Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust

...I am a child who is looked after, has anxiety & may also be Autistic. My anxiety is the main problem for me at the moment. My mental health worker has suggested that they see me with a Neurodevelopmental clinician to do a joint assessment for both my anxiety & the autism as they have only just met me...



## Story 2: “I’m autistic but I’m not mentally ill”

### Currently in Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust

...I am an Autistic young person who is struggling & I am at crisis point. I have been told that I do not have a mental health need so I have no service to go to for support...

### With the neurodiversity clinical offer in Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust

...I am an Autistic young person who is struggling & I am at crisis point. I don't have a mental health need so instead I am going to be seen by the specialist Neurodevelopmental community team ...

# Proposed Vision for Specialist Community Neurodevelopment Team

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Differential Diagnosis, Stepped Approach, Lifelong, Continuity, Early Intervention, Preventative, Autism Profiles, Informed by Service Users

### External partners

Education, social care, community support via Third Sector providers

### Other Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust Teams

#### Community Paediatrics

Criteria: Main Need Community Paediatrics (<5 Years)

#### Mental Health

Criteria: Main Need Children & Adult Mental Health

#### Community Neurodevelopmental Specialist Team

Criteria: Main Need is Autism & Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

## KEY BENEFITS

- ★ Right service, right time, improved experience & outcome for patients
- ★ Improved confidence in supporting people with Neurodiversity
- ★ Wrap around support for autistic people
- ★ Specialist support for complexity & co-occurring conditions
- ★ Reducing crisis

Training for Managing People with Autism & Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

Access to Expertise to assess, diagnose & deliver interventions

Dedicated Community Neurodevelopmental Team

Joint Working Criteria: Main need difficult to distinguish between impact of Neurodiversity & Mental Health

# Top Ten Achievements over the past year...

1. Delivered 4120 Autism Assessments, against a plan of 3251
2. Reduced overall waiting times from 5 years down to less than a year
3. Removed 4400 from the backlog of the waiting list
4. Contacting people currently waiting 48 weeks to make an appointment to be assessed
5. Mobilised 9 different external providers to deliver the above, all with different access criteria
6. Delivered 3 system-wide workshops on the Autism Strategy
7. Reviewed the Green Light Toolkit with Community Paediatrics and RISE
8. Co-developed with Experts by Experience (EBEs) a DNA & Closure policy
9. Completed the Differential Diagnosis England Project
10. Developed the 4 P's and Reasonable Adjustment Toolkit

# The 4 P's Reasonable Adjustments Model

To ensure equitable access and achieve positive outcomes for autistic people, we all have a duty to make reasonable adjustments.  
To understand what adjustments are required, the 4 P's model can provide a helpful starting point.



# ADHD

- Increase in autism assessments has increased demand for ADHD assessments- no additional investment currently
- ADHD pathway has been reviewed and business case being prepared with commissioner involvement
- Plan to co produce ADHD FAQs to help guide families regarding private assessments
- Locally plan to merge Autism and ADHD pathways if/when funded to ensure assessment for both.

# Contact Us...

- You can email the School age children's Neurodevelopmental teams (Coventry & Warwickshire) at [Neurodevelopmental.Team@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:Neurodevelopmental.Team@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)
- You can email the Pre School children's Autism team (Warwickshire only) at [WarwickshirePreschool.AutismService@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:WarwickshirePreschool.AutismService@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)
- You can call the team on 02476 961226
- <https://www.covwarkpt.nhs.uk/service-detail/health-service/neurodevelopmental-team-childrens-22/>

# Community Autism Support Service

*Maria Dainter –*

Service Manager

Coventry and Warwickshire Mind

# Community Autism Support Service

- The new Community Autism Support Service launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April as a **collaborative partnership between Autism West Midlands, Act for Autism and Coventry and Warwickshire Mind**
- Residents in Coventry and Warwickshire who may self-identify as autistic, those awaiting an autism assessment and those with an autism diagnosis will have more choice in the **emotional and practical support** they are able to access.
- The service will also be **easier to access using a single ‘front door’ approach**. This will mean that access to this **all-age service** will be through a single phone number and dedicated website.



024 7601 2333 Mon – Fri, 8am to 8pm



[navigation@casspartnership.org.uk](mailto:navigation@casspartnership.org.uk)



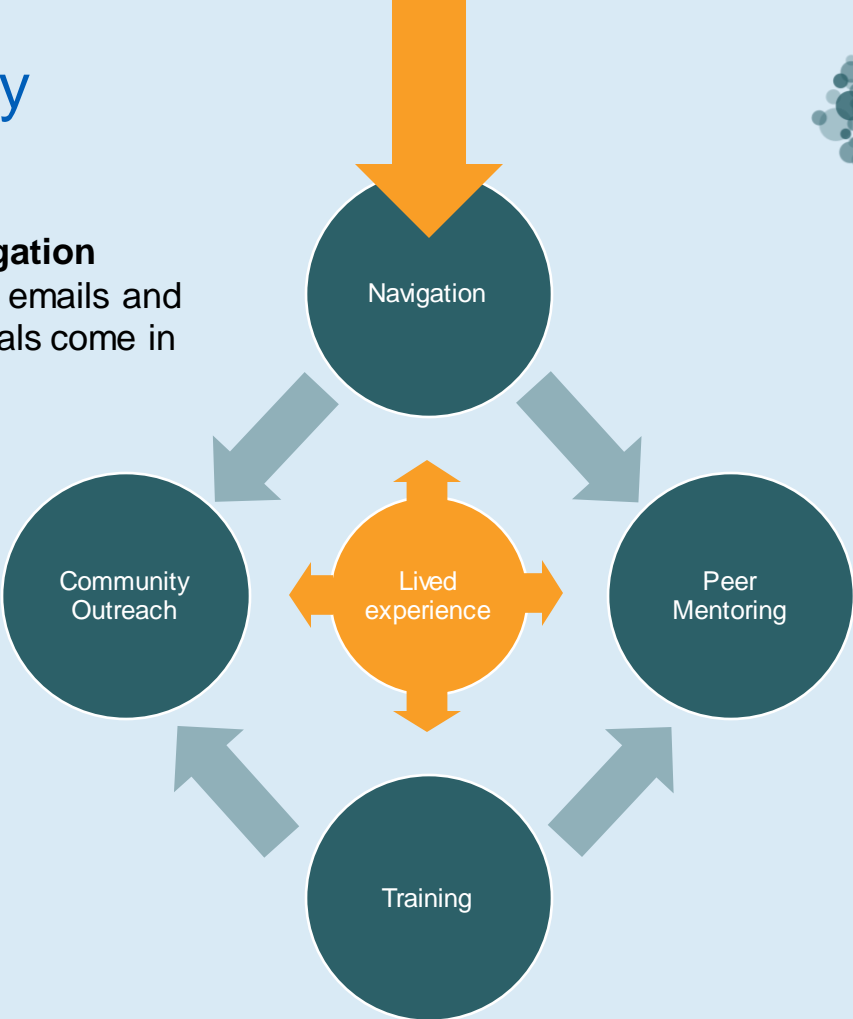
[casspartnership.org.uk](http://casspartnership.org.uk)



# Referral pathway



**Navigation**  
Calls, emails and referrals come in



# Aims of the service

- Improve the communities **understanding of autism** and help those who are autistic to understand themselves and to be able to celebrate their differences.
- **Support** people to manage and thrive at home, in education, in employment and in the community.
- Help individuals understand their own **communication** and interaction styles and their **sensory preferences**.
- Help improve people's **self-esteem and confidence, manage relationships** and enjoy day-to-day life.
- Support autistic individuals with **managing symptoms of low to moderate emotional wellbeing** and mental health difficulties.
- Provide an environment where **all aspects of autism are recognised, accepted and respected**.
- Offer **parent, family and carer support** through peer activities.
- Provide **resources and signpost** to other community-based support, as appropriate.
- Give particular **transition support** for young people, age 18–25 years.

# Service offer

1. **Navigation / front door all age**
2. **Community Outreach service** all age – an experienced Coventry and Warwickshire-based team, working with individuals to identify goals and provide group, one-to-one and themed support for children, young people and adults.
3. **Peer mentoring service** all age – available in the coming months, this new element of CASS aims to connect autistic people with trained peer mentors, with their own lived-experience, helping to support with daily routines, confidence building, and wellbeing support, exploring opportunities to engage in local activities and community groups.
4. **Training and education** – Workshops, toolbox sessions and recorded materials help build confidence and improve understanding of autism. Drawing on lived-experience, all sessions and courses provide effective and practical support for day-to-day living, in the community, in school, and in the workplace.
  - Day-long courses for professionals
  - 4x 3hr course for parents and carers
  - 2.5hr workshops for parents, carers and professionals
  - 1hr toolbox sessions for parents and carers
  - Webinars and professional toolbox sessions coming soon
  - Understanding your autism groups – children and adult

# Thank-you for listening

Local offer webpages: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/send)

Email: [Sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:Sendchange@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Feedback on SEND Services:  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendfamilyfeedback](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendfamilyfeedback)

