

2025-2026 APTCOO (A place to call our own)

Bassetlaw Neurodevelopment Support

SCHEDULE 2 – THE SERVICES

A. Service Specifications

1. National and Local Context

APTCOO offers SEND family support, networking and connection with other community organisations, people, partners and resources needed to make the biggest difference to our local SEND community. Social connections, supportive relationships and having a voice in local decisions are all factors that underpin good health; however, inequalities persist and too many SEND parents experience the effects of social exclusion, depression and in some cases suicidal thoughts.

Demand for neurodevelopmental assessments has significantly increased both locally and nationally, attributed both to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic and increase in public awareness of autism and ADHD.

The [NHS Long Term Plan \(LTP\)](#) committed to reducing autism assessment waiting times and delivering packages of post-assessment support for children. In 2021, the [National strategy for autistic children, young people and adults](#) expanded upon the NHS LTP ambition, by committing to timely access to diagnosis and demonstrably improved autism assessment pathways for people of all ages by 2026.

Data from e-Healthscope shows of our children and young people population across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire aged up to 19 years, 2.45% have an autism diagnosis and 1.99% have an ADHD diagnosis. In Bassetlaw, the current prevalence rate is 2.62% for autism (715 CYP) and 1.65% for ADHD (450 CYP).

This compares to the national autism prevalence estimated to be approximately 1-1.7% of the population ([NHSE National Autism All Age Framework](#)) and the global prevalence of ADHD estimated to be 5% of children and young people ([NICE ADHD: How Common is it?](#))

The development of community-based services to enable people to be supported in or near their own communities remains an area for future development via the Transforming Care Partnership. It is important to note it is not necessarily about the creation of more services, but the development of different ones with enhanced skills and training (*Nottinghamshire Insight*).

Demand for essential support and advice is greater than ever as major changes to the benefits, education, health and care systems begin to unfold together with the cost of living, post-Covid crisis. The ambitious Green Paper 2022 is the result of the SEND Review, commissioned to improve an inconsistent, process-heavy and increasingly adversarial system that too often leaves parents facing difficulties and delays accessing the right support for their child.

Work is taking place with system partners to close the gap; evidence and experience confirms the benefits of the SEND specialist service fitting into and contributing to local and national priorities and initiatives.

2. Outcomes

Parents/carers feel more confident and able to cope with difficult and challenging situation, reducing reliance on statutory services.

3. Service Description

The APTCOO in Bassetlaw Family Support Team shall:

- Respond efficiently and effectively to requests for the service, offering a key working response to enquiries and liaise with the relevant team members to ensure effective communications avoiding bottle necks and reduction in waiting times.
- Support neurodevelopmental assessment clinical teams in cases where a formal Autism/ADHD assessment need is identified by facilitating the collection and sharing of relevant family-provided information (with consent from the family). This ensures a thorough contribution to the assessment process, promoting more informed and timely outcomes.
- Provide a comprehensive range of services to support the emotional, psychological and mental health needs of parents, children and young people with SEND, including access to resources and personalised training programmes families (including Anna Freud Centre and reflective parenting programme) that support their resilience, educational development and emotional health and wellbeing.
- Host complementary providers and agencies enabling families to benefit from joined up services and coordinated care within a place of their choice.
- Support parents and carers to communicate their needs, wants and choices, and equipping them to understand and manage the challenges of everyday.
- *Family Learning Programme*
Provide early support and evidence-based interventions to families of children and young people displaying behaviour that causes concern or challenges, where there is no formal diagnosis of ASD and/or ADHD, but where behaviours may be indicative or characteristic of these conditions. Pre-diagnosis, during and post-diagnosis support is also provided.
- *Social Prescribing*
Provide social emotional support, sharing information with families and pathways to services through a tiered approach to learning and development. Provide holistic support to parent carers with the development of their child/young person, including specialist teaching on sensory, communication, language skills and behaviour that is challenging; early intervention and crisis prevention through a personalised learning and development offer.
- *Autism Sensory Therapies*
Deliver ASD Sensory Therapies as part of the wider holistic offer including:
 - Raising parent carers' awareness and a greater understanding of sensory processing and "what this means to my child"
 - To help children and young people with SEND reach their potential through specialist therapy programmes and sensory resources.

4. Interdependencies

The service shall work in partnership with North Notts Place (Bassetlaw Place Based Partnership) and other partners to ensure co-ordination of services, ensuring the

parent/carer and young person's voice is central to decision making. The service shall develop and maintain good working relationships with system wide partners across education, health and care, and third sector organisations to including:

- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB Commissioners
- North Notts Place (including Bassetlaw Place Based Partnership)
- Nottinghamshire County Council Services including (and not limited to) 0-25 Nottinghamshire Keyworking Service, Early Support and Family Support Services, and Social Care Services.
- Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals Community Paediatrics

SCHEDULE 3 – PAYMENT

C. Local Prices

This one year contract has a value of £119,960.87 (inclusive of 2025/26 2.15% national uplift).
Invoices to be made on a quarterly basis.

Invoices are payable to:
NHS Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB
QT1 PAYABLES N065
PO Box 312
LEEDS
LS11 1HP
Sbs.apinvoicing@nhs.net
Using reference XXIMH