Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board

10/07/2026

NN-ICB/26-1660

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 15 June 2026, regarding community autism services for adults. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do hold the information requested.

Please find below our response to your request:

1. Does your ICB commission a dedicated community autism service for autistic adults (aged 18+)?

   Yes.

2. If yes, please provide:

   a) The name of the service

      Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service (NeSS) Service.

   b) The provider organisation(s)

      Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

   c) The service specification

      Please see Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust's website: Neurodevelopmental Specialist Service (NeSS) | Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

   d) The whole-time equivalent (WTE) staffing establishment

      The ICB does not hold detailed information on the service staffing establishment and details of all the professional disciplines represented within the team. You may wish to contact Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust direct, and details of how to make a Freedom of Information Request to them can be found on the following link: Freedom of information | Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

   e) The professional disciplines represented within the team (e.g. nurses, occupational therapists, psychologists, speech and language therapists, social workers, support workers)

      The ICB does not hold this information. Please see response to 2d.

3. Please indicate whether the service provides:

   a) Diagnostic assessment

      The service does provide a diagnostic service.

   b) Post-diagnostic support

      The service provides specialist assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for adults with autism and/or ADHD. For individuals with autism, this involves helping people to understand their diagnosis and access to the Recovery college (described in the response to 3g). The service involves the individual and where appropriate family/carers in developing their care plan. The detail of this is contained within the service specification (see response to 2c).

   c) Care coordination/case management

      The service does not provide care co-ordination or case management. The service does take a multi-disciplinary approach when supporting an individual to ensure they receive the best treatment and care is received by individuals supported by them. The service provides specialist in-reach support, advice and guidance, training, and education to professionals within Primary Care and Community services to enable effective and confident care to individuals. However, this is limited due to demand for the service.

   d) Crisis support

      The service does not provide a crisis service.

   e) Mental health support specifically for autistic people

      The service does not provide mental health support for autistic people.

   f) Occupational therapy

      The service does provide an occupational therapy service.

   g) Support with accessing health services

      The service does provide support in accessing relevant health services. The service works closely with Nottingham/shire Recovery College (details outlined in the service specification at 2c). Services offered by the Recovery College can be found on the following link: Nottingham Recovery College | Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

   h) Support for families and carers

      The service does provide support for families and carers. This is around providing information and advice, tools, and resources. In addition, the service supports families and carers to understand the diagnosis and how it will affect the person they are supporting.

4. If no dedicated community autism service is commissioned, please explain what NHS-funded support is available to autistic adults following diagnosis.

   Not applicable as we commission NeSS as detailed above which sets out what support is provided by the service. Where NeSS does not provide support in areas that the patient may require, they will support individual in accessing the appropriate health service for the individual.

5. Does your ICB commission a multidisciplinary Community Autism Team equivalent to a Community Learning Disability Team? If yes, please provide details.

   Not applicable as we commission NeSS as detailed above which sets out what support is provided by the service. Where NeSS does not provide support in areas that the patient may require, they will support individual in accessing the appropriate health service for the individual.

6. Please provide any current autism strategy relating to autistic adults within your ICB area.

   The ICB's current autism strategy can be found on the following link: icsallageautismstrategy.pdf.

   Please note that a new strategy is in development with an anticipated completion date of June 2027.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Governance and Assurance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via https://ico.org.uk/concerns/.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the Open Government Licence (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.