



Learning
Disability
Specialist
Community
and Autism
Liaison Service



Information
for professionals

Introduction

The service works with service users, families, social care and health partners to enable adults with a learning disability and/or autism living in Lincolnshire to receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

We provide specialist health support to people with learning disabilities who require assessment and/or treatment for their physical or mental health, including support with behaviours of concern.

The service includes:

- › A single point of access (SPA) for all referrals.
- › Four community hubs - multi-disciplinary teams which provide the whole range of specialist learning disability professions.
- › Autism diagnosis and liaison. Providing a liaison service which supports access to mainstream health services and ensures reasonable adjustments are made .
- › County-wide community home assessment and treatment team.

Things we don't provide:

- › A diagnostic service for assessment of learning disabilities.
- › Support with learning difficulties ie dyspraxia, dyslexia.
- › Specialist health interventions for people with autism or ADHD who do not have a learning disability diagnosis.



Referrals

The service will work with adults over 18 who have a diagnosis of learning disability and associated physical and/or mental health needs who are registered with a Lincolnshire GP.

There are concerns about their mental health and/or psychological wellbeing.

AND

There is a deterioration in mental wellbeing

OR

An increase in behaviours of concern and associated risk to self or others

OR

People need support to access mainstream services for assessment and/or treatment

Please contact your local community learning disability hub team if you wish to discuss a referral. One of the team will be happy to go through the process with you and provide advice and guidance, including signposting to other appropriate services as required.

For routine non-urgent referrals a referral form, with guidance, can be obtained from our website www.lpft.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities or via SPA.

For urgent referrals to the community home assessment and treatment (CHAT) team contact can be made through SPA or directly to the team.

Contact details for the community hubs and CHAT team can be found on page 7.



Response times

The service is committed to achieve the following response times:



Urgent

Community Home Assessment and Treatment Team

- › Phone contact within four hours
- › Face-to-face within 24 hours

Routine

Community Learning Disability Hubs

- › Face-to-face within 12 weeks

Acute Hospital Liaison Nurses

- › Face-to-face within two days

Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnostic

- › Face-to-face within 12 weeks

Community Learning Disability Hubs

The service is provided in four hubs across Lincolnshire:

Beech House, Boston

Beaconfield Centre, Grantham

Unit 2, St George's, Lincoln

Johnson Community Hospital, Spalding

Satellite clinics are offered to enable choice and care close to home, when required.

We have four community hubs around the county which provide an integrated multi-disciplinary approach to supporting people with a learning disability.

Each hub has specialist nurses, psychology, physical and mental health liaison nurses, psychiatry, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and specialist liaison nurses for people with autism.

Through an integrated team approach, and working in partnership with other organisations, we have a single assessment process to reduce how often people have to tell their story.

The hub team will discuss all referrals and allocate the appropriate professional to carry out an initial assessment and plan appropriate interventions.

Liaison with health services

In each hub there are liaison nurses for physical health, mental health and autism.

They will work with service users and carers to ensure equal access to mainstream services, developing reasonable adjustment care plans through liaison, consultation and training for other organisations.



Community Home Assessment and Treatment (CHAT)

Working closely with the community hubs, the team provide home assessment, intervention and treatment anywhere in Lincolnshire to service users in their home environment, whether that be a family home, supported living or a care home.

The CHAT team works to a positive behaviour support model to provide intensive support to people who are experiencing a deterioration in their mental health, or an increase in behaviours of concern and associated risk to self and others. The service will respond quickly and positively to assess the level of risk and put in place a plan of care to address the immediate concerns. Initially this would be for 72 hours, with additional support for a further two weeks.



Once the immediate risks have been addressed and a clear plan is in place, the CHAT team will liaise with the community hubs who will then continue with the ongoing care plan as needed.

Autism spectrum disorder diagnosis and liaison

Service provides a diagnostic pathway for autism spectrum disorder which follows NICE guidance.

This will include feedback to the referrer and service user, with post diagnostic recommendations and signposting.

Referrals for diagnostic assessment should be made via our single point of access (SPA).

Once a referral is received an initial triage document will be sent to the service user. This will then be considered at an ASD triage meeting and a letter sent confirming the outcome. Should a further assessment be appropriate the referral will be allocated to a specific professional who will contact the service user to arrange an appointment within twelve weeks.



Making a referral

Referrals should be sent to our single point of access (SPA) who will direct to the most appropriate community learning disability hub. Referrals can be made in writing or using our referral form via the Single Point of Access (SPA).

This should be addressed to:

**Lincolnshire Learning Disability Specialist
Community and Autism Liaison Service
Single point of access
Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Sycamore Centre
Beacon Lane
Grantham
NG34 9DF**

Email: lincs.spa@nhs.net

Tel: 0303 123 4000

Team locations

Learning Disability Community Hub Team (West)
Unit 2, St George's, Long Leys Road, Lincoln, LN1 1FS
☎ 01522 309 137

Learning Disability Community Hub Team (East)
Beech House, Toot Lane, Fishtoft, Boston PE21 0AX
☎ 01205 446 896

Learning Disability Community Hub Team (South)
Johnson Community Hospital, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, PE11 3DT
☎ 01775 652 102

Learning Disability Community Hub Team (South West)
Beaconfield Resource Centre, Beacon Lane, Grantham, NG31 9DR
☎ 01476 858 254

Community Home Assessment and Treatment (CHAT)
Unit 1, St George's, Long Leys Road, Lincoln, LN1 1FS
☎ 01522 3091 38

