



Bid Invitation

**Learning disability Annual Health Check (AHCs):
Co-producing information, materials and resources
for children and young people to promote the
importance of AHCs and associated processes.**

Before completing this bid application form, please read the supporting information and refer to the timetable. Your application response should not exceed the maximum words stated.

Please return completed bid application forms to england.improvinghealthquality@nhs.net by **5pm on Friday 17th September 2021**. Any applications received after the deadline may not be considered.



1 Introduction

NHS England and NHS Improvement's Learning Disability and Autism Programme is committed to working with and co-producing with the people who use our services. When informed by the people and families directly affected, new deliverables and guidance can better meet their needs, reducing health inequalities and improving life outcomes.

The COVID-19 pandemic, has significantly highlighted the health inequalities for those with a learning disability. Following a report from Public Health England it has been shown that people with a learning disability are 6 times more likely to die¹. Therefore, it is imperative that going through an Annual Health Check (AHC) process from the age of 14, instilling good habits early on and encouraging young people to look after their health, is vital.

We are, therefore, looking for a provider to co-produce information, materials and resources with children and young people from diverse backgrounds to promote the importance of AHCs and associated processes.

In line with our commitment to greater personalisation, the needs of those with less complexity cannot be seen as the same as those with greater complexity in all areas of their lives. We want to ensure that people with learning disability, who need greater levels of support to participate, also inform the development of the Long-Term Plan Implementation Framework and the implementation of our Long-Term Plan deliverables.

2 Background

Every person on GP Learning Disability Registers in England aged 14 and above is eligible to receive an AHC as required as part of the NHS Primary Medical Services (Direct Enhanced Services -DES) Directions 2020. There is, therefore, a contractual obligation for General Practitioners to offer this. However, despite this, uptake remains low. Equally, whilst there is literature and materials to support this process, there is little aimed at children and young people between the ages of 14 and 19.

The NHS Long Term Plan (2019) states;

3.31. Action will be taken to tackle the causes of morbidity and preventable deaths in people with a learning disability and for autistic people. To help do so, we will improve uptake of the existing annual health check in primary care for people aged over 14 years with a learning disability, so that at least 75% of those eligible have a health check each year.

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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/933612/COVID-19_learning_disabilities_mortality_report.pdf



In 2019/20, 52% of people with a learning disability in England had a health check. The national target set out in the NHS Long Term Plan is for 75% of people with a learning disability to receive an AHC by 2023/24.

Information about AHCs has been made available, aimed at NHS Commissioners, service providers, people with a learning disability and their families / carers but it is generally centred around adult services with little specific reference or consideration with respect to children and young people.

3 Aims

The aim of the project is to increase the number of AHCs offered, and taken up by, young people aged 14 – 19 with a learning disability in England.

Objectives;

To explore the views of children and young people aged 14-19 years with a learning disability and support them to co-design communications and materials that will help them better:-

- access and feel more comfortable to attend an AHC face to face or virtually
- understand the AHC process and what happens during an AHC
- understand the benefits and importance in relation to their health and well-being
- increase the likelihood of them attending an AHC when offered
- the importance of any subsequent Health Action Plan and the recommendations and actions it includes
- Raising awareness amongst children and young people with a learning disability, their families and those allied professionals in education, social care and health working alongside them
- Providing explanation of how an annual health check is different to an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

4 Contract Value

The contract value is up to £25,000 (including VAT). The successful provider will be asked to deliver this project in two phases. This will be paid in two parts reflecting the 2 phases of work.

5 Timetable

Below is an outline timetable for this programme:

Bid documents / templates issued for both Phases by	23 rd	July	2021
Closing date for bids	17 th	September	2021 5pm
Evaluation of bids	17 th – 30 th	September	2021
Preferred bidder notified	By	1 st October	2021
Contract commences	4 th	October	2021
Delivery Phase 1 ends	31 st	January	2022
Delivery Phase 2 ends	13 th	May	2022



We welcome applications from organisations who can demonstrate a track record of co-producing with children and young people with learning disabilities with all levels of complexity.

6 Reporting

The successful provider(s) will be expected to feed into a small project group, reporting monthly via a reporting proforma against outcomes specified with a short report provided after Phase 1.

7 Specification (including deliverables) from provider(s)

7.1 Phase One: Fact Finding phase

The aims of this specification seeks provider(s) to:

explore the views of children and young people aged 14 – 19 with a learning disability around: _

- their general interest and level of importance on maintaining good health and well-being
- how much focus is covered on this via PSHE in schools and which issues are they most concerned and interested in e.g. managing anxiety, healthy eating etc?
- their experience of attending a GP surgery for primary care appointments
- what knowledge they have about AHCs? Where have they learnt about this? From their parents/carers? Doctor? School Nurse? Other friends?
- their experience of attending an AHC face to face or virtually
- having an AHC and their understanding of this
- what help and information would encourage them to attend
- how we should raise awareness amongst this specific group

7.2 Phase Two: Co-production, co-design and development

To undertake the co-design and development of communications and materials that will help children and young people aged 14-19 years with a learning disability

- better understand the AHC process, including Health Action Plans
- better understand the benefits
- reduce concerns and increase preparation for AHC appointments
- increase the likelihood of individuals supported by their parent/carers attending an AHC when asked
- following the actions on the Health Action Plan

Major Deliverable	Description
Phase One: Fact Finding phase	
<p>Develop a report regarding the findings of children and young people's experiences of going to their GP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • going to their GP, what works and what doesn't • how to raise awareness amongst young people about Annual Health Checks • how to improve uptake • what support and access needs they may have and want • what would be of use to support and encourage them to attend • did the GP contact them or did they contact the GP and how easy was it • has the AHC made a change to your life • Is there a different experience for children and young people from BAME backgrounds 	<p>Report</p>
<p>Create a video record of the communication with children and young people aged 14-19 with learning disabilities and/or autism involved, of the key messages and themes collated.</p>	<p>Video 2-3 mins. This may or may not be used as a training resource, dependent upon the decision of the NHSE/I team commissioning this project</p>

Phase Two: Co-production, co-design and development phase

<p>Co-designed materials and resources aimed directly at children and young people aged 14- 19 and ways in which to utilise these to most effect, e.g. potentially schools-based resources for PHSE lessons if this is what children and young people recommend and say they want.</p>	<p>The ideas and materials need to be co-designed by children and young people aged 14 - 19. If this includes school-based materials, for example, these should be also co-designed with relevant stakeholders i.e. school staff/primary care staff. These can be anything they feel will help raise awareness and support other children and young people to better understand and engage with the Annual Health Check process.</p>
<p>Resources need to be useful for other services e.g. other allied health professionals.</p>	<p>Considerations need to be made how they can also help allied professionals such as social workers working with children and young people with disabilities, school nurses, specialist youth services, primary care etc.</p>
<p>Resources produced will also be published on the NHSE/I website.</p>	

All applications must demonstrate the following minimum expectation criteria:

- a) A proven track record of working with children and young people with learning disabilities at all levels of complexity, to produce co-designed solutions or outputs/deliverables
- b) Experience of successfully gaining the views of those who have a learning disability, including those with more profound speech and communication difficulties, and reliably and robustly determining that the views evoked are those of the individual and not those around them
- c) Ensuring the views of children and young people with learning disabilities are gathered from a wide and diverse background reflecting the 9 protected characteristics including Looked After Children and care leavers
- d) Experience in developing material in various formats, e.g. video, easy read, graphics etc.
- e) Knowledge and understanding of AHCs
- f) Experience and training in alternative and augmentative communication methods
- g) Demonstrable experience of delivering projects on time and to budget
- h) Experience of working in an adapted way, e.g. are working virtually



8 Governance of the Project

The project will be managed and overseen by the project group.

To be submitted to: england.improvinghealthquality@nhs.net
no later than by 5pm on Friday 17th September 2021

1. Details

Organisation (s) Name:		Lead Contact Name:	
Telephone:		Email:	
Postal Address:			

2. The Proposal

Please explain how you would deliver the work described in the specification. Please include key milestones (1000 words max). Please also attach a timeline or Gantt Chart for the delivery of the work.

Please tell us how you will identify children and young people for this piece of work from a diverse and wide range of backgrounds and ethnic communities and any associated considerations that will need to be taken in to account (500 words max)

Give an example of a project similar to this which you have undertaken (500 words max)

Give us some examples of the types of resources and materials you have developed with young people previously (500 words max)

Please detail your experience and training in alternative and augmentative communication methods, and give specific examples where you have successfully gained the views of those with learning disability (500 words max)

**What is the anticipated total funding required for your proposal?
Please include a breakdown of your proposed costings/budget.**

