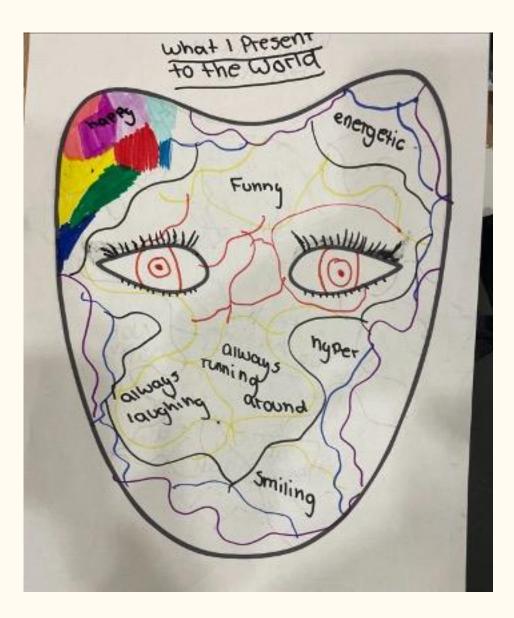
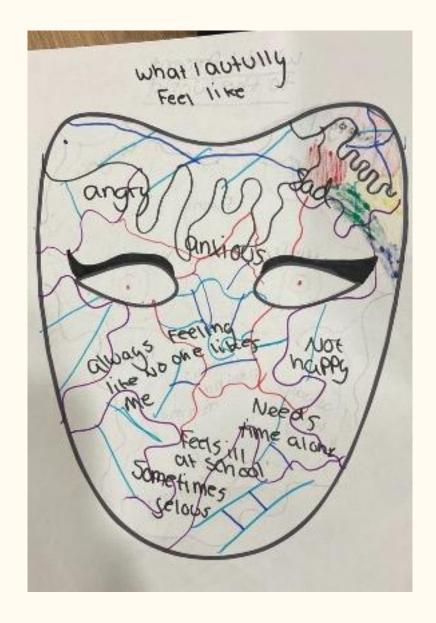


## Neurodiversity Waiting Times Programme Update 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Kate Gleave



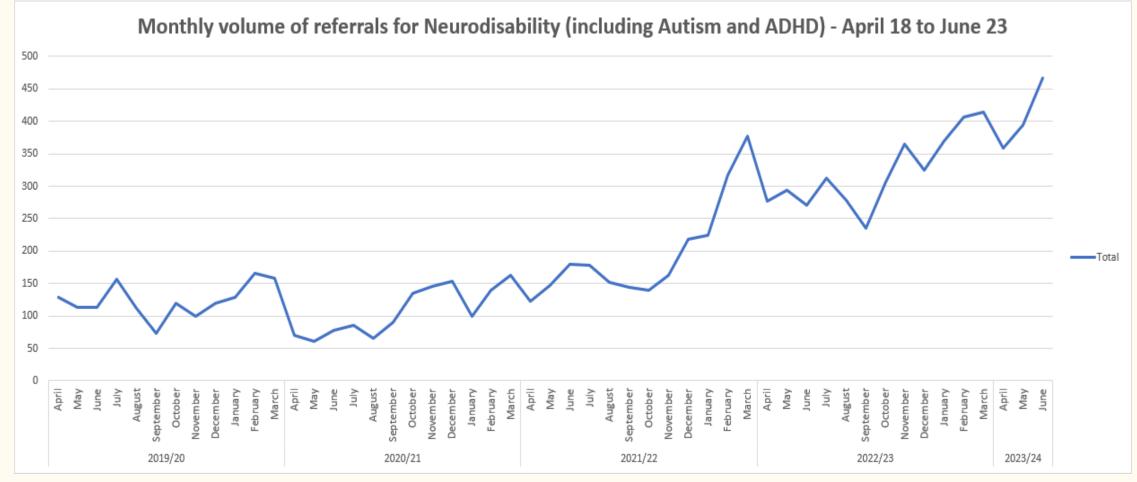




### Background

- Improving all age neurodiversity waiting times is a key priority for Sheffield Health and Care Partnership for 2023/24.
- A programme brief was approved at the HCP Board meeting in August 2023 describing the programme's aims, milestones and risks.
- The HCP agreed that whilst the programme is all age, there needed to be a specific focus on children because of the potential impact on their life chances
- HCP has requested an update on all age with a specific focus on the CYP waiting times programme for its meeting in December.

### **Current Position**



The number of referrals in the 2019/20 fiscal year was **<u>1486</u>**. In the past 12 months (up to the end of June) it has been **<u>4216</u>**, equating to a **<u>284% increase</u>**.

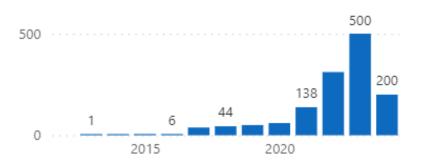
### Autism and Social Communication Service, SCC

Currently 1357 pupils currently open to targeted, focused pupil work, up by around 400 since 2020

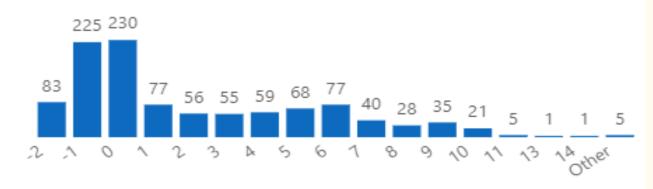
For **new** cases:

- opened 84 in 2020,
- opened **500** in 2023.
- opened **200** already this academic year 2023/2024.

No. of involvements by academic year opened





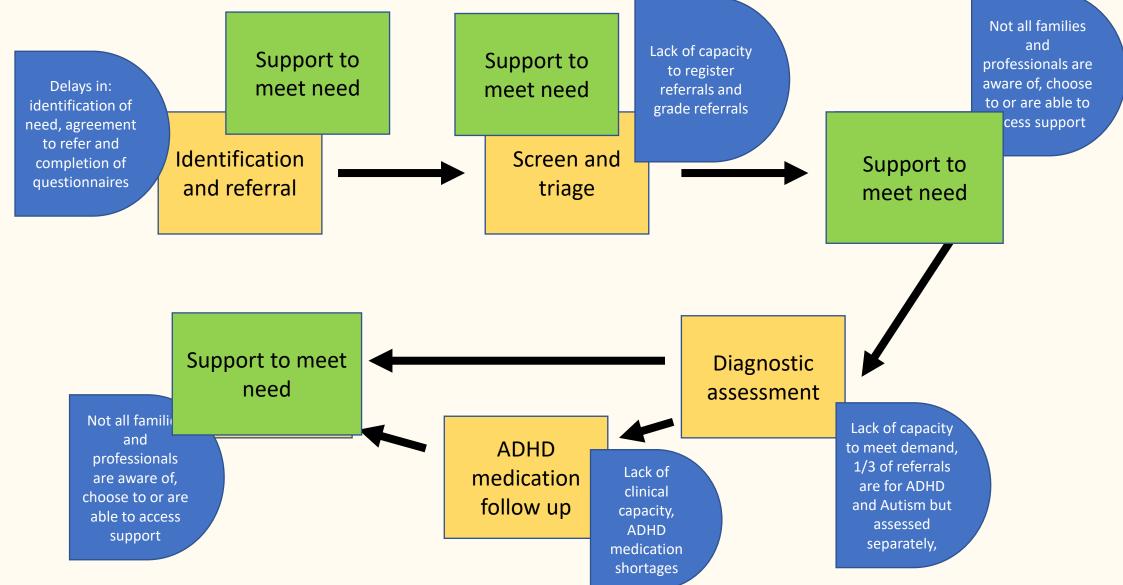


NCY is National Curriculum Year (-2 and -1 are pre-school, 0 is reception)

### Scale of the challenge – Autism and ADHD assessments

- Trust received 4216 referrals in 12 months to Jun 23
- Trust capacity to undertake approx. 1140 assessments p.a.
- Trust currently forecasting that by March 24 there will be approximately 1,100 patients waiting over 18 months for an Autism assessment and 400 patients for ADHD assessments
- We are unlikely to be able to secure or provide these levels of assessment – we therefore have to maximise the number of providers who can complete assessments and expand our support offer prior to assessment.

## Current Autism and ADHD approach with some of the constraints



### Our Sheffield Partnership aim

- To design an approach in Sheffield which:
  - supports and meets the needs of neurodivergent children, young people, adults and their families, first time in a more holistic way,
  - moves away from a medical centric service (where appropriate) to one which supports and empowers people in their communities.
  - alleviates pressure on the current specialist model of care for Autism and ADHD.
  - improves current routes for assessment and follow up, reducing waiting times.
- This presentation focuses on CYP.

The future Sheffield offer - delivering 'Support Based on Need Approach' for CYP and their families?

#### **IT'S EVERYBOY'S BUSINESS**

All establishments, education, health, care and support staff know how to signpost to what is available and know what is available based on need through training and communications. Supportive and enabling environments in educational

and other settings

#### **IMPROVED PATHWAY**

SENCOs refer in addition to current referrers.

Pre-assessment support pathway established.

Additional external assessment capacity.

Clinical staff in all Locality panels to offer advice and guidance.

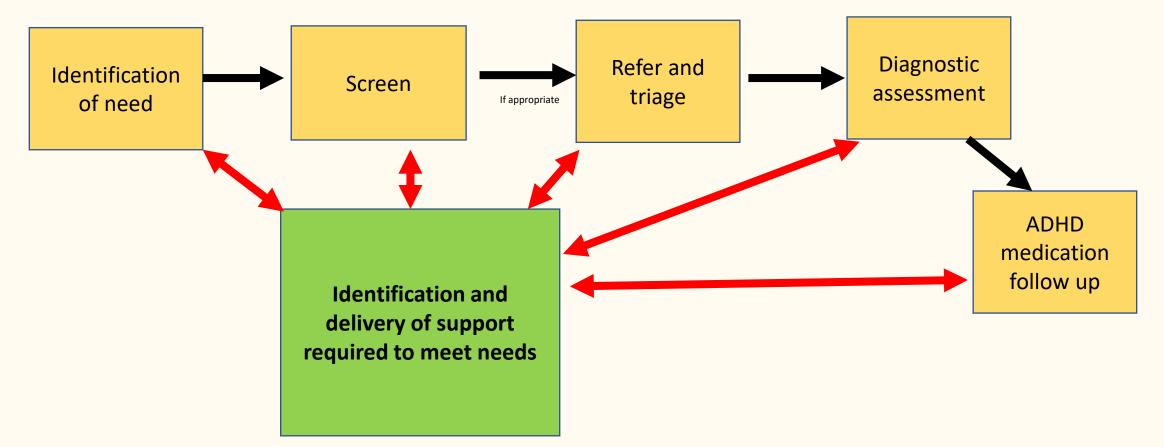
#### **EASIER ACCESS TO SUPPORT**

One central hub/first point of contact for all parents carers and young people to access for all support in the city.

#### MORE SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Parent carer groups and CYP groups in more secondary schools to involve and engage with their school Peer Support working with Ryegate service. Support groups accessed in all communities.

### **Proposed Autism and ADHD approach**



Support to meet need provided at all points for families and professionals

# Support offers now in place for families and professionals

	1:1 support	Group support	Information and Training	Signposting and navigating
New offers introduced within the last 2 years				
Peer Support Service (for parents)	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
Autism in Schools offer (now in 15 secondary schools) (for CYP, parents and school staff)		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	
Senior Navigators (for CYP)	$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$
HEE training on identification of need (for professionals)				
Expanded offers within the last 2 years				
Social and Communication Service (for families and school staff)			$\checkmark$	
Family Action ADHD support (for parents)		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
SCFT website resources (for all)			$\checkmark$	

These are in addition to the specific local and national charities supporting Autistic people and their families, parenting support available through the Parenting Hub and Family Hubs, 0-5 SEND Service, SENDIAS

### **Recent evidence of impact**

"It's fabulous. I met with other parents... all going through the same nightmare... Parent Carer

The group has been fabulous to introduce you to these people, you know you've got support." Parent Carer

### Peer Support Service April-June 2023

49 group sessions or individual contacts have taken place with 148 attendees.

Includes 1-1 sessions, support groups in Localities A, B, C, F and G plus drop in sessions to raise awareness of the service and a men's group.

**108 different parent carers have accessed the service.** 

Parents appreciating opportunities to come together to gain knowledge, share experiences and to offer peer support to each other.

Parents appreciated having someone to talk to when they are looking for advice and guidance and are feeling overwhelmed by their current situation. Autism in Schools Jan 22 – Jul 23 16 schools

189 parent carer meetings held, 966 attendances

153 sessions for young people, reached 199 young people

326 people accessed online training

Communication improved between school and families

Parent/Carers giving feedback on forms/documents/policies

School Attendance improved following adjustments for a CYP

Safe places better understood and used appropriately

Improved sensory environments

Reasonable adjustments being made for individual young people Increased staff knowledge on autism

Changed school policies.

ADHD pre diagnosis support Jul – Sept 2023

5 drop in café sessions run by Family Action with a range of partners

All the sessions were well attended with parents valuing the chance to seek practical help, talk to professionals and meet other parents with similar worries

Please keep these sessions going. it is a wonderful resource for parents like me who are often at the end of their tether... Bringing together peers and professionals is a very helpful way for parents to feel supported and potentially avoid a crisis by having a forum to share and go home with some reassurance and practical advice. "I have felt a lot happier." Young Person

> "The groups help me feel less lonely." Young Person

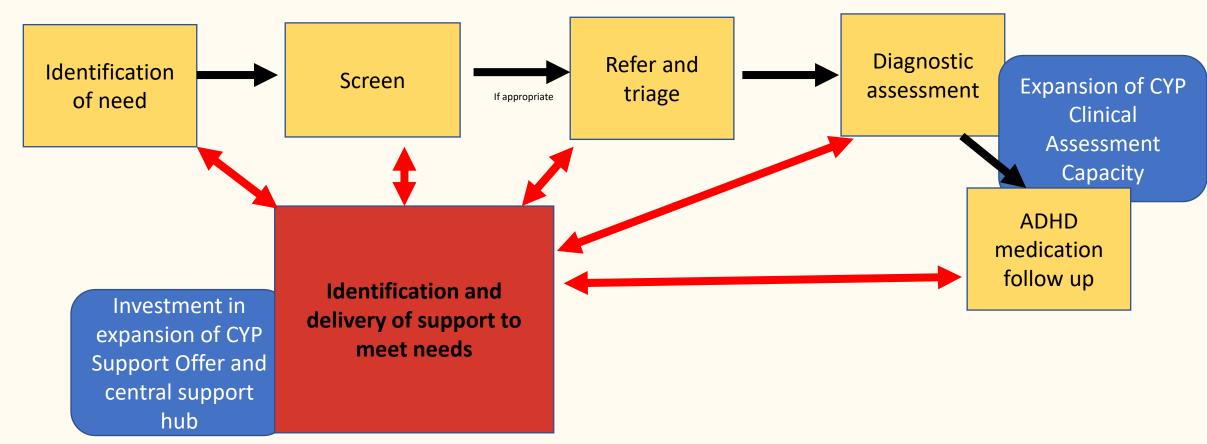
You know they (parent carer group) contributed to a future training package....that's brilliant...if we can do stuff like that, that's what the forum's about. School staff

### **Key CYP priorities for November – March 24**

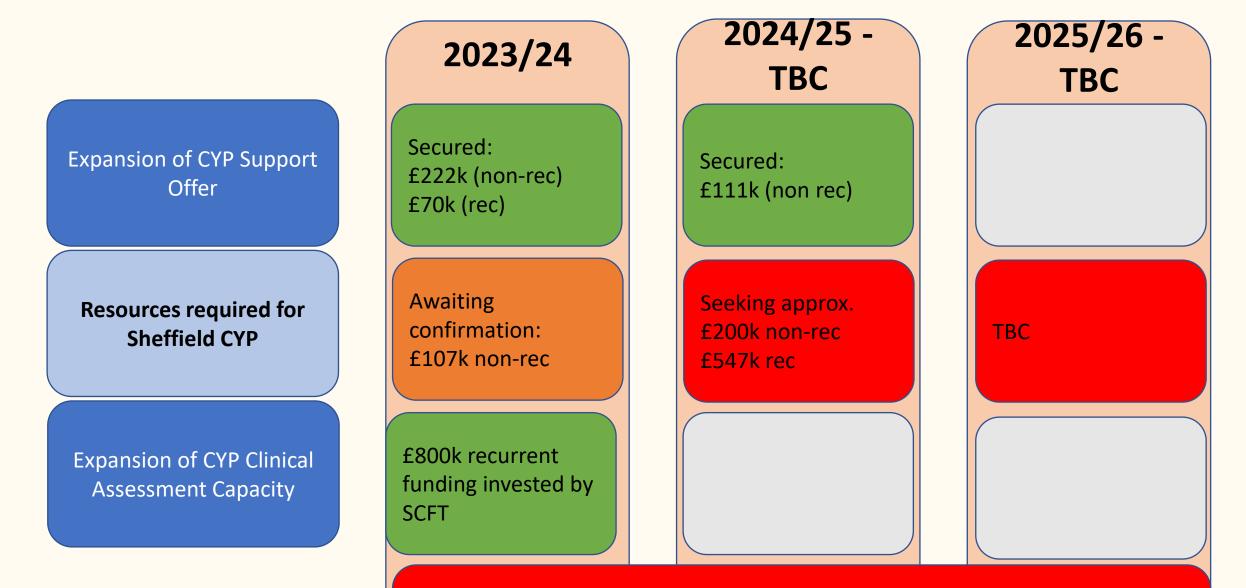
January 24			
Current list of support (pre and	April 24 New Support offer	April 24	
post diagnosis) completed and advertised	designed	Alternative additional assessment capacity	
Support offer: 1:1 peer support Group peer support Information and training Signposting and navigation	Design of expanded support offer and central support hub	secured	

Due to significant and unsustainable demand, the CYP Neurodevelopment Task and Finish Group agreed to prioritise the above.

### Proposed Autism and ADHD approach



Support to meet need provided at all points for families and professionals



Requires multi million pound investment for capacity to meet current demand. To see patients to reduce the backlog to under 52 weeks would require a further multi million pound non-recurrent investment

Milestones and         Benefits Timeline         Increased support in communities via VCS         Increased support to mainstream schools         Single point of access in place at SCFT	<ul> <li>Secure recurrent and non recurrent funding to deliver improved, sustainable model of support</li> <li>Increase number of assessments via private sector</li> <li>Introduce SENCO referrals</li> <li>Introduce central hub to screen referrals and identify and deliver support to meet needs.</li> <li>Increase further support into communities</li> <li>Increase number of localities with clinicians providing advice and guidance via Locality Panels</li> <li>Communications campaign to make people aware of support available</li> <li>Training rolled out to front line staff</li> <li>Implement Shared Care Protocol RAG rated case management model for ADHD medication</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Maintain increased private sector assessments</li> <li>Evaluate SENCO referral process</li> <li>Evaluate Central Hub</li> <li>Identify any gaps in family support and increase offer where appropriate</li> <li>Ensure all school training resources are accessed by mainstream schools</li> <li>Complete clinical representation in Locality Panels</li> <li>Continue training to frontline staff</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pending evaluation outcomes:</li> <li>Central hub fully established and well functioning.</li> <li>SENCOs referral fully established and integrated.</li> <li>Review all support in city to ensure needs are still being met.</li> <li>Continue with training and support to mainstream schools, staff, students and their families.</li> <li>Clinical input fully integrated into all Locality panels</li> </ul>
• Parents feel more	2024 e • Numbers of assessments increased via	2025	2026 <ul> <li>Further reduced waiting times</li> </ul>
Benefits Benefits Professionals feel more confident identifyin nee Increased attendance	<ul> <li>Private sector</li> <li>Maintain waiting times</li> <li>Better quality of referrals</li> <li>Families access more support quicker, first</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased assessments via private and service</li> <li>Reduced waiting times</li> <li>Parents feel more supported and feel more empowered to support their child in the medium term.</li> <li>Rate of demand continuing to slow down</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Further reduced waiting times</li> <li>Cultural approach to neurodivergence shifted within the city</li> <li>Previous benefits maintained</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Better informed workforce</li> <li>Better levels of attendance in learning settings</li> <li>Clinical staff feel increased wellbeing.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Workforce quicker and more able to signpost and advice.</li> <li>Increased attendance in learning settings.</li> <li>Schools feel more supported</li> </ul>	