

Foreword

Our thanks to Welsh Government for the core funding to support the successful implementation of the National ASD Refreshed Strategic Action Plan and associated Delivery Plan, which includes the production of the Annual Report.

Our report provides an opportunity for the Team to reflect, with partners and stakeholders, on the work undertaken across Wales to improve the lives of autistic people.

I am particularly pleased to see the breadth of case studies included in the Annual Report, which provide some real and practical insight into the work of the ASD Leads across Local Authorities and the impact of Integrated Autism Services, as they become established.

I had the pleasure of being involved in the National Autism Wales Conference “Promoting Autistic Wellbeing” in Swansea, in April 2019 and it is good to read some of the positive outcomes and feedback from this co-produced event.

Cllr Huw David

*Spokesperson for Health and Social Care,
Welsh Local Government Association*

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The National Autism Team's Annual Report 2018/19 marks a considerable amount of partnership working across public services and a strong emphasis on engagement with autistic people and their parents/carers.

The team continues to work in partnership to produce high quality resources in digital and more traditional formats, as well as producing valuable training materials which are further highlighted. Use of the www.ASDinfoWales.co.uk web-site increased significantly in the past year and a steady growth in autism awareness is a further positive step towards increased understanding.

I am delighted to highlight the commitment made between the team's two host organisations – Public Health Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association in the form of a formal Memorandum of Understanding to underline our joint intention to work more effectively together for the benefit of autistic people and their parents/ carers.

Dr Tracey Cooper

Chief Executive, Public Health Wales