

9th December 2022

Endeavor House
Russell Road
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

Ref: GJ

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update re NDD pathway relating to East and West Suffolk Integrated Care Board, Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust, Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Foundation Trust Integrated Community Paediatric Services update.

Following the launch of this pathway in April 2022, a significant amount of work has gone into developing a needs-led approach towards supporting children and young people, whether they have a diagnosis or not, and access to support for families where a diagnosis has already been received.

This single point of access for referrals has initially focussed on Autism and ADHD.

Suffolk Parent Carer Forum has rightly challenged the system around the narrowness of its focus on Autism and ADHD, highlighting that the breadth of the pathway needs to be greater. As a system we agree there are more conditions needing to be covered.

We are working together to better understand the details of demand and capacity to best deal with widening the reach so we can support more children, young people and their families.

We recognise that covering all neurodevelopmental conditions is ultimately where we all want this pathway to be but recognise it will take time and investment.

In the interim if any referrals are made for conditions not currently covered then they will be passed on to the correct pathway without the need to be re-referred.

We will continue to work with Suffolk Parent Carer Forum, and very much value their input, to coproduce all future developments and we will aim to address the concerns raised by forum members and will regularly share any news on service developments.

Finally, a reminder to any parent who has a child going through the pathway - the coordination function delivered by Barnardo's is there to help you through this journey. The support services are also there to help while you go through this journey but please remember they are not involved in the clinical pathway.

Yours faithfully



Garry Joyce

Deputy Director of Transformation – Children and Young People