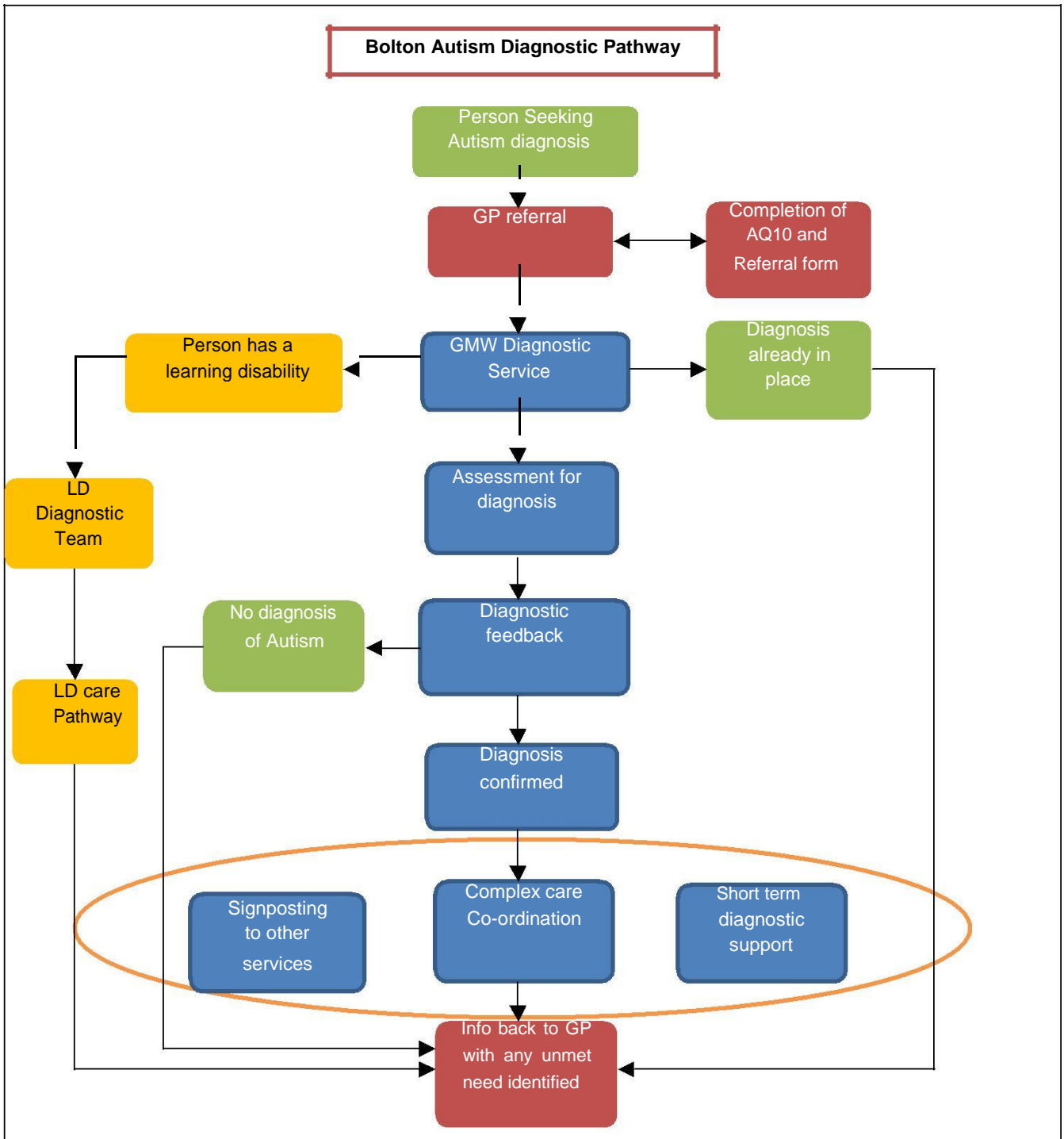


**Bolton ASC - Service Care Pathway Updated August 14**



**Please contact us on 01204 544640**

**Initial opening hours will be 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday. Anticipated**

**timescales:-**

**Referral received by GMW to assessment with 12 weeks.**

**Assessment to diagnosis within 3 months dependent on presentation and individual need Average 8 weeks**

**from diagnosis to post diagnostic support.**

## Bolton ASC Service – Care Pathway Notes

**GP Referrals** – the service will accept referrals from GP's where the patient is registered **and** resident in Bolton, appropriate screening information has been completed. Those with an existing diagnosis will be returned back to the GP and may be further considered by the CSU as to future service.

**Initial screening information** – to be completed by referrer. A completed AQ 10 and locally agreed pro forma to collect background information will be required.

**GMW Diagnostic service** –All referrals will be discussed and processed as appropriate within **5** working days once received. Adults with profound learning disability will be directed to the LD diagnostic pathway led by the Bolton Local Authority.

**Assessment** - the assessment will be completed by any qualified practitioner of the ASC service with input from psychology and medically trained staff as appropriate. The assessment will start within 12 wks from receipt of referral by the service. This is compliant with NICE guidance. A full assessment will normally consist of **5** appointments and may take **3 months** to complete dependent on clinical need and presentation of the service user This may include use of evidence based tools in the following areas:-

- Initial interview service user for general history and risk assessment.
- Autism Diagnostic interview with relative or carer
- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule ( ADOS)
- Autism Quotient (AQ) and Social Communication Questionnaire (SCQ)
- Specialist Assessments as appropriate e.g. speech and language

The GMW Diagnostic service will be provided by TES within GMW.

**Diagnosis Feedback and agree care plan**– 2 x 2 hour appointments with the user and carer to discuss the outcome of the assessment covering the diagnosis report, understanding the diagnosis, impact on the individual, recommendations and jointly agreeing the future plan e.g. signposting, post diagnostic support, complex care co-ordination. Wherever possible this will also include representatives from Bolton post diagnostic service to encourage engagement and promote continuity of care.

The future care plan could include:-

- Post diagnostic support - individual or group work – to be developed in Bolton
- Referral for community care assessment e.g. social work support
- Carer support based on carer assessment.
- Further physical health investigations and / or referral on / health promotion advice
- Care co-ordinator support for those with complex needs.
- Advice and support in setting up access to Advocacy for example
- Signposting links with the range of voluntary agencies, carers support, etc.
- Information sharing and practical advice

**Short term Post Diagnostic support** – This will consist of offer of individual 1-1 support alongside a 10 session post diagnostic support group and 9 session coping skills group in weekly sessions to understand the diagnosis, learn more about the condition, develop social skills and coping mechanisms, give brief family / carer support.

These groups will be delivered in Bolton.

**Complex care co-ordination** – This will consist of support from a community mental health professional and support workers for a small number of individuals assessed as meeting the criteria for complex care co-ordination due to complex, enduring, severe and high risk support needs. This will be recovery focused and provided from Bolton community mental health teams within the framework of the Care Programme Approach. Qualitative outcome measures will be used.

**Discharge** – All discharges back to the referrer will include detailed information on the outcome of the assessment and post diagnostic support offered and unmet needs.