

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/242

Subject: Right to Choose

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>Timeframe: 1 April 2021 to the present.</p> <p>1) Guidance shared with primary care</p> <p>Please provide any documents shared with GP practices/PCNs or held internally that explain how “Right to Choose” (RTC) works, including: GP/referrer guidance, FAQs, decision trees, slide decks, SOPs, bulletins, intranet pages, or e-mails.</p> <p>Any template wording you advise GPs to use when explaining RTC to patients.</p>	<p>Referring GPs in BNSSG follow Remedy guidance which includes details on RTC here: Right to Choose (ADHD/ASD Patient Choice) (Remedy BNSSG ICB) This provides information on what services are offered, on the referring process and format etc.</p> <p>Contracting team representatives have presented the enclosed document at GP Locality Forum meetings, for most Localities, over the course of 2025 to support understanding and awareness of RTC.</p> <p>The ICB does not hold any other local/internal documents shared with GP Practices regarding Right to Choose, and expect them to comply with the National NHS Choice Framework: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nhs-choice-framework/the-nhs-choice-framework-what-choices-are-available-to-me-in-the-nhs</p>
<p>2) Patient-facing materials</p> <p>Any ICB-prepared patient materials (letters, SMS/ e-mail templates, leaflets/webpages) that explain different routes of accessing an ADHD/ASD referral and/or the patient's Right to Choose in this context.</p>	<p>https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/accessing-autism-and-adhd-assessments-via-right-to-choose/</p> <p>The ICB has been providing information and advice to local Parent Carer Forums in the development of parent/carer leaflets for RTC. These leaflets are under development and will be published by the local Parent Carer Forums shortly.</p>

<p>3) Reviews of RTC use/costs</p> <p>Any reports, board/committee papers, dashboards or briefings reviewing RTC use and/or costs in your area (including ADHD/ASD and other specialties).</p>	<p>ICB finance reporting including Right to Choose is included in the papers published for the ICB Board. Most recent report: Finance, Estates and Digital Committee - ICB Board October 2025</p> <p>Previous papers are available on the ICB Board pages of the BNSSG ICB website: Events - BNSSG Healthier Together</p>																																																		
<p>4) Data on RTC utilisation & cost</p> <p>If no materials exist for (2) or in any case, please provide annual data (CSV preferred) for 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Number of RTC referrals (or patients) sorted by ADHD/ASD- Associated expenditure attributable to RTC, ideally by provider and ADHD (including medication tritration) and ASD (or your nearest available breakdown)- Associated expenditure attributable to ADHD and ASD services with regularly contracted services (Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust and Clinical Partners)	<p>BNSSG ICB does not hold information on numbers of referrals or patients referred for RTC ADHD and/or Autism services. The requestor is advised to contact providers directly for this information.</p> <p>Please see data for RTC expenditure below. This covers all parts of the pathway, so for ADHD will include assessment, follow up, medication and ongoing prescribing where required.</p> <p>Adults ADHD:</p> <table><tr><th>Provider</th><th>21/22</th><th>22/23</th><th>23/24</th><th>24/25</th></tr><tr><td>ADHD 360 LTD</td><td>£3,640</td><td>£95,710</td><td>£822,205</td><td>£1,776,918</td></tr><tr><td>AXIA ASD LTD</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£2,000</td></tr><tr><td>CENTRE FOR ADHD RESEARCH AND EXCELLENCE (THE)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£4,706</td></tr><tr><td>CLINICAL PARTNERS LTD</td><td>£18,163</td><td>£73,041</td><td>£197,290</td><td>£221,286</td></tr><tr><td>EXCELSIOR HEALTH LTD</td><td></td><td>£264</td><td></td><td>£115</td></tr><tr><td>H & AK FLETCHER LTD</td><td></td><td>£8,628</td><td>£200,385</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>HARROW HEALTH CIC</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£12,000</td></tr><tr><td>HOLISTIC ADHD SOLUTIONS LTD</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£750</td></tr><tr><td>JAJAWI & ASKER LTD</td><td></td><td></td><td>£4,999</td><td>£409,522</td></tr></table>	Provider	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	ADHD 360 LTD	£3,640	£95,710	£822,205	£1,776,918	AXIA ASD LTD				£2,000	CENTRE FOR ADHD RESEARCH AND EXCELLENCE (THE)				£4,706	CLINICAL PARTNERS LTD	£18,163	£73,041	£197,290	£221,286	EXCELSIOR HEALTH LTD		£264		£115	H & AK FLETCHER LTD		£8,628	£200,385		HARROW HEALTH CIC				£12,000	HOLISTIC ADHD SOLUTIONS LTD				£750	JAJAWI & ASKER LTD			£4,999	£409,522
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MIND PROFESSIONALS LTD			£1,150	
PRIVATE PHARMACY GROUP (THE)				£2,565
PSICON LTD		£995		
PSYCHIATRY UK LLP	£732,605	£1,204,174		£165,347
PSYCH-UK LTD		£390,048	£2,220,078	£2,465,654
RTN MEDICAL LTD				£7,600
SOLUTIONS 4 HEALTH LTD				£995
TELEDOCTOR LTD				£261,862
NAVIGO	£1,378			
LIVEWELL SOUTHWEST	£551			
ROYAL DEVON AND EXETER NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	£1,575			
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HEALTH AND CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	£858			
BRUNO PSYCHIATRY LTD	£192			
FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD	£3,492			

Adults ASD:

Provider	22/23	23/24	24/25
ADHD 360 LTD			£1,780
AXIA ASD LTD	£1,500		£18,000

JAJAWI & ASKER LTD			£39,800
MIND PROFESSIONALS LTD		£2,760	
PROVIDE WELLBEING LTD		£5,325	
PSYCH-UK LTD			£45,900
SKYLIGHT PSYCHIATRY LTD			£6,250
TELEDOCTOR LTD			£79,900

CYP ADHD/ASD:

CYP ADHD/ASD	Supplier	22/23	23/24	24/25
ADHD	ADHD 360 LTD			17,157
	CLINICAL PARTNERS LTD			25,530
	EVOLVE PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES LTD		2,800	11,600
	PSICON LTD			5,750
ASD	ADHD 360 LTD			2,000
	AUTISM SERVICE	2,307		
	CLINICAL PARTNERS LTD			146,063
	EVOLVE PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES LTD		2,800	16,000
	KIRSOP TAYLOR HEALTHCARE LTD			
	PROVIDE ENTERPRISES LTD			
	PROVIDE WELLBEING LTD			10,650
	PSICON LTD			350
	RTN MENTAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS LTD			
	YOUR PATIENT CHOICE LTD			
Both	EVOLVE PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES LTD	2,800		25,590
	PSICON LTD			29,350

	DNA	EVOLVE PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES LTD			250
	Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership (AWP) NHS Trust: this is part of a block contract for wider adult mental health services across the area. There is no specific contract value attached to the ADHD element of the service as this is part of the block.				
	Provider	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
	Clinical Partners				£57,151
Please note that expenditure for Clinical Partners covers the period from the commencement of the contract with BNSSG ICB, which was 1 st December 2024. Expenditure prior to this date will be included in the RTC table above.					

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 24 November 2025 and has been approved for release by David Jarrett, Chief Delivery Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.

Right To Choose and Accreditation – GP Locality Forum April 2025



Right To Choose

What is Right To Choose?

▪ NHS Constitution

“You have the right to make choices about the services commissioned by NHS bodies and to information to support these choices.”

NHS Choice Framework

If you are referred for consultant-led treatment, or to a mental health professional, you can:

- *decide which provider you would like to receive care from as an outpatient*
- *choose the clinical team who will be in charge of your care within that provider organisation*

These choices apply to both physical and mental health, but only apply at the point of referral (from your GP, dentist or optometrist) to providers that have an NHS contract to provide the service you need.

- These are patient legal rights

What is the scope of Right To Choose?

- 1st outpatient appointment (organisation and clinical team)
- for a new (rather than onward),
- non urgent elective referral by GP/Dentist/Optometrist
- for a non detained/armed forces patient
- at a clinically appropriate service
- including any subsequent treatment that is required

Right to Choose in ADHD & Autism

- A significant number of patients are exercising their right to choose and opting to go to providers not contracted by BNSSG.
- A provider is eligible to operate under right to choose where they have a valid NHS standard contract for the service with either another ICB in England or NHS England.
- They must deliver the service in line with their host commissioner contract, including service specification and local prices.
- There are an increasing number of independent sector providers who are able to offer ADHD and Autism assessment under right to choose.
- A list of known providers is available on Remedy and maintained by the ICB Mental Health Contracts team.
- There is no nationally held list of providers who are eligible to operate under right to choose, so if a provider is not on the list, it doesn't mean they aren't eligible.
- In these cases, where a patient is requesting referral to a provider not included on the Remedy list, please refer to the ICB Mental Health Contracts Team, who will be able to contact the provider directly and check on their eligibility for right to choose.
- Providers will operate under their host commissioner contract, which may not always align with BNSSG pathways. As a result, it is important to check that the provider can deliver the full care pathway required, particularly for ADHD referrals where the patient requires medication if diagnosed.

Provider Accreditation

What is the ICB's responsibility?

- ICBs have a duty to ensure patients can exercise their legal rights to choice of healthcare provider
- NHSE letter to ICBs May 2023 regarding Patient Choice which outlines a range of requests for providers and ICBs including that ICBs should ensure that there is a robust provider accreditation process in place for services in scope of patient choice to enable new providers to enter the NHS market or existing providers to deliver additional services.
- NHS Standing Rules state the Commissioners obligation to offer qualification for providers to secure NHS Standard Contracts – any provider can apply for accreditation for patient choice applicable services under Provider Selection Regime.
- ICBs must reimburse the cost of care provided by accredited providers

What does the accreditation process need to include?

1. Provider expresses an interest
 2. Commissioner shares all local schedules that will go into the contract NB this includes service specification
 3. Provider requests to be assessed
 4. Within 6 weeks commissioner assesses and if passes offers a contract including the local schedules provided at step 2
- Assessment criteria include CQC, Provider licensed, meet NHS Standard Contract (incl local schedules) and indemnity
 - The Commissioner may choose to accredit from a framework, but is not required to
 - The NHS Standard Contract can be terminated if the provider is insolvent (GC 17.10.3)
 - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/2996/regulation/42C>

What is the ICB's local accreditation process?

1. ICB receives an enquiry/request for accreditation
2. ICB arranges a meeting with the interested provider to discuss the service requirements and local accreditation process
3. ICB adds provider to 'waiting list' to go through accreditation
4. SCW CSU take the provider through the accreditation process – Provider's are taken through accreditation one at a time to manage workload across CSU and ICB.
5. If provider passes accreditation, provider is issued an NHS Standard Contract post contract mobilisation.
6. ICB produce direct award notice as per PSR requirements.

How does the ICB work with system partners in preparing to accredit providers?

- If review of service specifications for existing services is required, local providers may be asked to contribute to reviews to ensure parity of services
- Consult with system partners where there may be risks and on proposed mitigations
- Updates through system governance routes

Is there a limit on the number of providers ICB's can accredit?

- At present there is no limit on the number of providers who may request and/or hold accreditation with an ICB

Can ICB's control the level of supply through accredited providers?

- At present there is no limit on the level of supply which can be delivered by accredited providers, this creates financial pressure for the System with funding needing to be diverted from other areas and/or reduction in new investments to offset. This is no additional funding provided nationally,

What happens if ICB's don't accredit providers within 6 weeks?

- Providers can raise complaints to NHSE
- Choice Provider Qualification Complaints Panel

What services has the ICB accredited providers to deliver?

- Cataracts
 - Tier 3 Weight Loss
 - ADHD – Adults and Children & Young People
 - Autism Assessment – Adults and Children & Young People
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- Once a provider has been accredited and awarded an NHS standard contract by an ICB, they are then eligible to operate as right to choose under the terms of that contract throughout the rest of England.

How does the ICB communicate known providers to health professionals and the public?

- Directory of known providers held and updated regularly on REMEDY
- Updates on locally accredited providers in GP Bulletin