Summary

Since 2011, NHS Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has commissioned an Autistic Spectrum Disorder Assessment and Diagnostic Service from the Autism Diagnostic Research Centre (ADRC) for children and young people under the age of 19 years.

In July this year, ADRC notified the CCG that due to ongoing viability issues, ADRC as an organisation will cease receiving referrals from October 2017 onwards.

Short Term Interim Plan from 1 November 2017 to March 2019

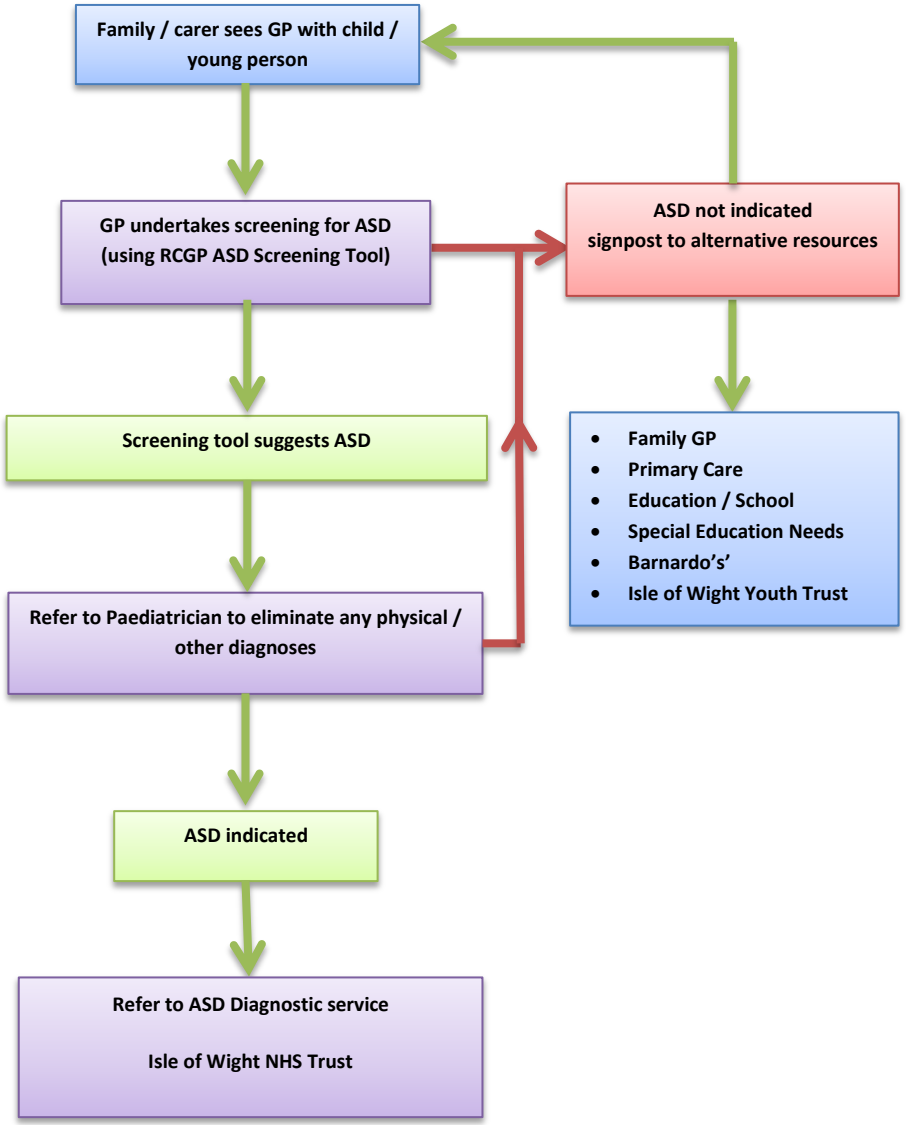
The CCG's plan is that the IoW NHS Trust will provide the service until 31 March 2019 during which time the CCG will be exploring and securing a permanent solution to be in place from 1 April 2019 onwards.

The pathway to diagnosis is initially through a screening tool used by the GP and family.

http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/toolkits/asd-toolkit.aspx

https://www.autismresearchcentre.com/arc_tests

If the score indicates possible ASD then the GP will refer the child to a paediatrician to exclude any other physical causes.

If the Paediatrician on assessment, has eliminated any physical or other causes and feels that ASD may be indicated they will then refer the child or young person for a formal diagnostic review and possible assessment with the autism assessment and diagnostic service. The RCGP autism screening tool is already in place currently so families should notice no change to this.

This pathway will be for new presentations only. All existing referrals made to ADRC will be reviewed by the Trust.