

# Do-IT profiler evaluation

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## Background

- Psychiatric disorders are more prevalent among youth offenders.
- Concerns were raised during a review by the OCC regarding young offenders with symptoms suggestive of possible undiagnosed neurodisability.
- This population has a higher prevalence of learning disabilities and language disorders.
- Neurodisability is associated with early onset and persistent antisocial behaviour.
- The use of a two-tiered approach that includes a broad screening tool, followed by a more comprehensive assessment if indicated would be more cost-effective (Chitsabesan and Khan, 2017).

Neurodevelopmental disorder	Reported prevalence rates amongst young people in custody	Reported prevalence rates amongst young people in the general population
Learning disabilities	23 - 32%	2 - 4%
Dyslexia	43 - 57%	10%
Communication disorders	60 - 90%	5 - 7%
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	12%	1.7 - 9%
Autistic spectrum disorder	2.3 - 30%	0.6 - 1.2%
Traumatic brain injury	65.1 - 72.1%	5 - 24%
Epilepsy	0.7 - 0.8%	0.45 - 1%
Foetal alcohol syndrome	10.9 - 11.7%	0.1 - 5%

Prevalence of neurodevelopmental disorders

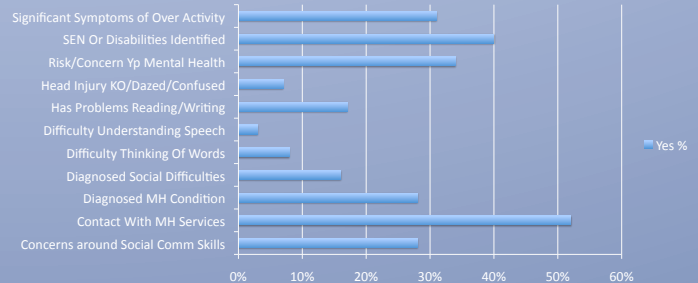
## Do-IT Profiler

- The Do-IT Profiler is an established tool that has been used in many settings for several years to promote a whole person approach for those that are neurodivergent.
- The Do-IT Profiler adopts a whole person approach by using screening and assessment tools to capture background information.
- The Profiler report provides strategies that can be further contextualized to specific environments, which can help to direct and signpost support at a local level.

	Asset Plus	Do-IT Profiler
Can be completed by non-specialist	Yes	Yes
Likert scale	Only 2-3 points	4-5 points in most tools
Consistent scoring mechanisms	No	Yes
Consistent interpretation of results	No	Yes
Choice of ADHD screening tools - short version leading to more in depth if required	No	Yes
In-depth assessment for Dyslexia	Does not include any questions relating to spelling	Includes all aspects of dyslexia
Questions relating to dyscalculia	No	Yes
Questions across all neurodiverse conditions	Over focus on Speech, language and communication challenges	ND screener includes elements across the neurodiverse conditions.
Can be completed by the individual	No	Yes
Accessible in design	No	Yes
Questions relating to TBI	Limited	Conditional questioning i.e. opens up further questions if required if initial positive response.
Guidance generated		

Comparison of Asset Plus and Do-IT Profiler tools

## Summary of the identified needs of the Asset Plus cohort



## Aims and Hypothesis

- The aim of the Do-IT Profiler Study is to assess the feasibility of using the Profiler in community Youth Justice teams in Manchester.

- Multiple studies have stated that delayed or inappropriate assessment is a primary reason for not meeting the mental health needs, including identifying neurodevelopment disorders, of young people in the youth justice system (Chitsabesan and Khan, 2017).

- The study hypothesis is that the Profiler will more effectively identify and support these needs.

## Potential gains from using the Do-IT profiler tool

### Short term

- Better engagement with young people
- Young person signposting to local provision
- Improved identification of neurodiverse conditions

### Medium term

- More targeted referrals
- Better engagement with families
- Data informs service design upstream as well as in YOS

### Long term

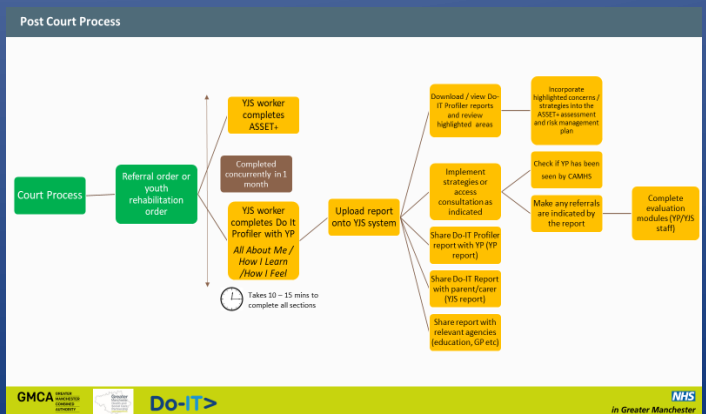
- Reduced reoffending rates
- Improved health outcomes for families and young people at risk of offending
- Better educational engagement and longer-term employment outcomes

## Methods

- Both individual and group data will be collected from the Profiler.
- Evaluations taken from the staff and young people will allow qualitative themes to be identified.
- Focus group discussions will enable additional information to be gathered from staff using the Profiler.

## Impact of coronavirus pandemic

- It has not been possible to facilitate the Do-IT profiler user focus groups due to the effects of the pandemic.
- Focus groups will commence when it is safe to facilitate them.
- The plan moving forwards is to attempt implementation of the Do-IT profiler across more Youth Justice System teams across Manchester.



Flowchart of post-court process cohort after completion of Do-IT profiler

## References

Chitsabesan, P., & Khan, L. (2017). Assessment of Young Offenders. In S. Bailey, P. Tarbuck, & P. Chitsabesan (Eds.), *Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health: Meeting the Needs of Young Offenders* (pp. 41-54). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/9780511777127.006