

Autism Plan

Diana Bernhardt
Lead Commissioner for Learning Disabilities

December 2011



Why is Autism important

In the past Autism has not always been identified :

- Lack of understanding and information of peoples needs
- Lack of adjustments in services
- Lack of a clear pathway into the right services



What does the plan cover?

- Adults with autism and young people coming through transitions
- Joint plan for social care and health
- 3 year plan from 2012-2015



4 Key Areas of the Plan

- Training
- Diagnosis
- Planning and transitions
- Leadership



Training

- Raising awareness of the needs of people with autism
- Specialist training for people working with people with autism
- Training to lead to adjustments in services

Diagnosis and Access to services

- Streamline how people are diagnosed
- Develop pathway through diagnosis to social care services



Planning and transitions

Review transitions pathway

Improve information on need and access to services

- eg housing, employment



Local Planning and leadership

- Lead Commissioner appointed
- Specialist services for those with the most complex needs
- Reasonable adjustments in mainstream services for those with lower needs



Next Steps

- Consultation December to February
- Final strategy presented in Spring 2012