

# Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Autism Partnership Board

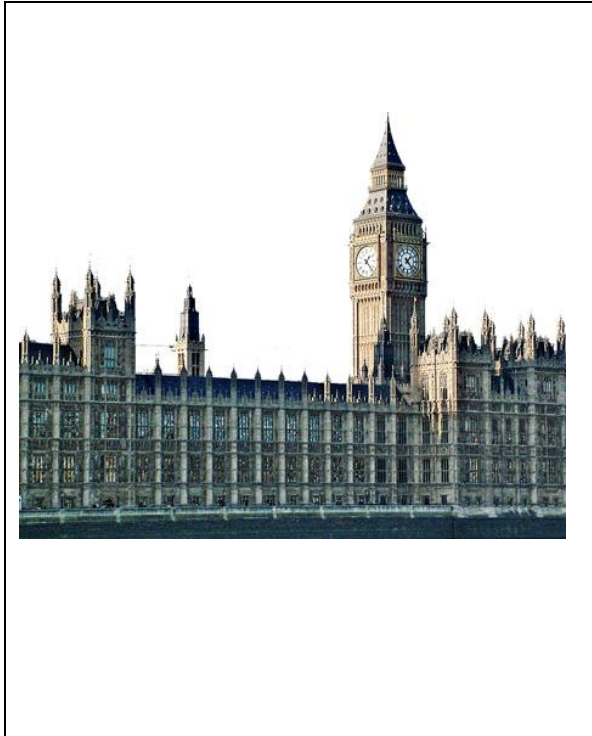
HM Government

'Fulfilling and rewarding lives'



The strategy for adults with autism in England (2010)

## Adult Autism Strategy (2012 to 2014) Easy Read Summary



In October 2011 Paul Burstow the Secretary of State for Care Services said

For too long people with autism have been failed by a system that doesn't treat them as an individual and excludes them because they do not fit in with the way services are structured locally. The Autism Act 2009 aims to put an end to this.



The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever law in England that is about one type of disability.

The Act said that the government had to write a plan for autism and had to say how the strategy should be put into action by local councils and health services.

## The Adult Autism Strategy

HM Government

'Fulfilling and rewarding lives'



The strategy for adults with autism in England (2010)

The government's adult autism strategy came out in March 2010. The adult autism strategy is a big plan to make sure that people with autism get the help they need.

The government produced the statutory guidance in December 2010. Statutory guidance tells councils and health services what they have to do in law.

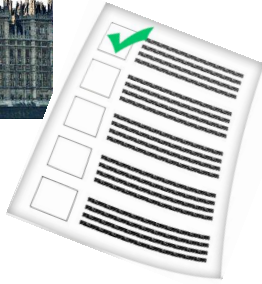
## What the Adult Autism Strategy says



The strategy says what the Government will do to make sure adults with autism get the help that they need.



The strategy also says what local councils and health services need to do to improve local services and support to help people with autism.



The Government strategy says that there are 5 big things that need to be done to make life better for people with autism.

1. Making sure that more people understand and know about autism.

2. Making it easier for adults to find out if they have autism if they want to.

3. Making sure those adults with autism have support and services to have choices and live independently in the community.



4. Helping adults with autism to get jobs.



5. Helping local councils and health services to write plans so that the adults with autism who live in their area get the help that they need.



Local councils and health services must:

- Provide autism awareness training for all staff  
Provide specialist autism training for key staff e.g. GPs and community care assessors



Autism

- Appoint a member of staff who will lead the work on the autism strategy in their area



- Make it easier for people to find out if they have autism. Make it easier for people with autism to have an assessment to find out about their needs
- Make good plans for when children with autism move into adulthood
- Make sure that they buy enough of the right services and support for the people with autism in their area

## How will we know if the strategy is working?



The government says we will know if things are working if

- Adults with autism will have better health



- More adults with autism will have a job and will be included in their community

- Adults with autism are living in places that meet their needs

- Adults with autism will be able to choose to have a personal budget. This will give them more choice and control.

- Adults with autism are supported in the right way if they are in contact with the police courts or prisons.

- Adults with autism and their families and carers will be happy with local services



- Adults with autism are involved in planning services



- Local councils and partners know how many adults with autism live in the area



Autism



- There is a clear way for people to find out if they have autism in the local area.



- Health and social care staff do things to make sure that they get things right for adults with autism.



## Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Partnership Board and Strategy for Autism



Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin have come together and formed an Adult Autism Partnership Board

Since December 2010 the Adult Autism Partnership Board and local groups have been writing plans. The plans say what needs to be done to make sure that the lives of people with autism and their carers get better.

The Partnership Board will check that the local plans for adults with autism are working. They will check:

- what services for people with autism there are in the area
- what services and support are missing
- the plans for buying new autism services in the area
- that there is good information about people with autism in the local area.





There will be an Adult Autism Plan for each local area in March 2012. People will be able to say what they think about these plans.



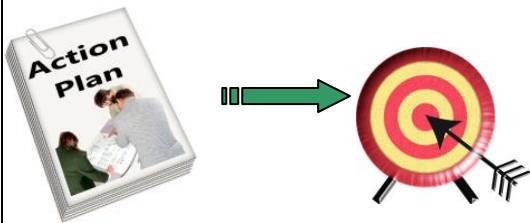
There will be an action plan to say what will be done, who will do it and when they will do it. The action plan will be checked to make sure things are getting done.



The local plan for autism says that:

- People with autism must have more choice and control
- Support and services for people with autism must get better. This is specialist support for people with autism. It is also services like housing, leisure and education





The Action plan will include 4 sections:

- Training for staff who work with people with autism.
- Developing a clear way for people to find out if they have autism if they want to. This should be followed by help to find out about what support and services the person needs and help to get the right support and services.
- Planning for when people move from children's services to adulthood.
- The people who will make sure the autism plan is put in to action and is working.