

CONSULTATION ON SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITIONS: 2009

The government is currently conducting a consultation on how best to support adults with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC). To help them understand how services can be delivered in the best possible way, they are also interested in what you can tell them about what has worked or not worked for the person you know who has an ASC.

There is a full consultation document available online at www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_098587. It is detailed and comprehensive and we would welcome your responses to this. However, we have compiled this more brief version which you may prefer to complete.

In order to provide accurate feedback to the government, we would like to gain as full a picture as possible, and as such feel that your input is vital. This form is anonymous, but if you wish to discuss your thoughts further, please do add your details.

YOUR VIEWS

The government's research so far suggests that these are the areas where there's the greatest need for improvement for people with ASC (There are definitions at the end of this document):

- Health
- Social Inclusion
- Employment
- Choice and Control
- Training (of staff)

1. Do you agree that these areas should be the government's priority for people with ASC?

Please feel free to add other areas which you feel should be prioritised in the table below.

Area	Agree that it's a priority?	If you wish, please explain your choice here.
Health	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Social Inclusion	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Employment	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Choice and Control	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Training (of staff)	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other:		
Other:		
Other:		

Discrimination:

2. Do you think any of the following affects access to, or experience of services for adults with ASC? (Tick all which apply. You may also explain your choice if you wish in the next column)

Area	Affects access/ Experience?	Explanation (optional)
Ethnicity		
Gender		
Disability		
Age		
Sexual orientation		
Religion/ beliefs		

3. Of the areas identified by the government, we are interested to know how these affect the lives of adults with ASC. The government is seeking your thoughts about the problems people face, your suggestions as to how to improve things, and your experience of good practice which you feel enhances the lives of adults with ASC.

The next five tables address each of the 'key areas' in turn.

HEALTH	
Challenges faced by adults with ASC in this area	
Ideas for how this could change for the better	
Examples of good practice you know of.	

SOCIAL INCLUSION	
Challenges faced by adults with ASC in this area	
Ideas for how this could change for the better	
Examples of good practice you know of.	

EMPLOYMENT	
Challenges faced by adults with ASC in this area	
Ideas for how this could change for the better	
Examples of good practice you know of.	

CHOICE AND CONTROL	
Challenges faced by adults with ASC in this area	
Ideas for how this could change for the better	
Examples of good practice you know of.	

TRAINING	
Challenges faced by adults with ASC in this area	
Ideas for how this could change for the better	
Examples of good practice you know of.	

Do you have any thoughts you'd like to share with us about the consultation or services for adults with ASC?

About you...

Relationship to person with an ASC:

- Parent
- Sibling
- Spouse or partner
- Other relative
- Friend

What services does the person you care for receive?

- Care from family and/ or friends
- Educational Support
- Employment Support
- Supported living
(supported housing, boarding, care home etc)
- Psychological Support
- Medical/ Nursing Support
- Speech & Language Therapy

Finally and most importantly... THANK YOU! We know you are busy, and we really do appreciate you taking the time to help us represent the views of people who care for adults with ASC.

DEFINITIONS OF 'KEY AREAS' (These are taken directly from the full consultation document).

HEALTH: Ensuring that the NHS provides full and equal access to good quality healthcare, including diagnosis, post-diagnostic, mental health and general health.

SOCIAL INCLUSION: Ensuring that services are fully inclusive, such as independent living and housing, citizenship, meaningful activity, social support and outreach e.g. befriending, social skills training and other ASC specific services.

EMPLOYMENT: Ensuring that Adults with ASC have meaningful engagements with employment, including employment support and financial security.

CHOICE AND CONTROL; Ensuring that people have real choice and control over their lives and services.

TRAINING: Ensuring people working with adults with ASC have appropriate training.