

Summary of Towards “Fulfilling and rewarding lives”
The first year delivery plan for adults with autism in England
(DH, April 2010)

Overview

This document sets out suggestions for services to meet the recommendations of ‘*Fulfilling and rewarding lives*’. *The strategy for adults with autism in England*, published in March by:

- Setting priorities for action and
- having timelines and milestones associated with these priorities

Year 1 would be used to put in place governance arrangements and structures

This first year plan will be followed by statutory guidance for health and social care and a full delivery plan by December 2010.

Specific actions will be required for:

- Improving training for frontline staff in:
 - Criminal Justice Sector
 - Health and Social Care
 - GP receptionists
 - Staff carrying out community care assessments
 - Employers
- Helping adults with autism into work

Recommendations from the strategy

- Development of clear consistent pathway for diagnosis in every area followed by the offer of a personalised needs assessment
- Personalised care based on individual needs, including ‘reasonable adjustments’ to premises to improve the way those delivering services communicate with adults with autism
 - Potential areas
 - Taking account of hypersensitivities by providing quiet or lower lighting areas in healthcare, prisons, police cells
 - Appointments at less busy times and flexibility about communication (i.e. less reliance on telephone based services)
 - Communication – avoiding ambiguous language/questions
 - Awareness of sensitivity to touch
 - Documents/forms in easier to read or other formats (e.g. choice of colours)
 - Planning and preparation (e.g. familiarisation visits)
 - Effective transition planning