

Development of an Autism Strategy for Northumberland

The National Strategy for Autistic Children, Young People, and Adults 2021-2026 outlined 6 main areas which would help make life better for autistic people:

- Improve understanding and acceptance of autism in society
- Improve autistic children, young people's access to education, and supporting positive transition to adulthood
- Supporting more autistic people into employment
- Tackling health & care inequalities
- Building the right support in the community and supporting people in inpatient care
- Improving support within the criminal justice and youth justice system

A localised Northumberland Autism Strategy is to be written. The Northumberland Autism Partnership Board has started to think about this. They used a set of questions at a recent meeting to start gathering ideas, understanding, experience etc. to guide what goes into the strategy.

Inclusion North are helping to gather the voice of autistic people and their families to feed into the strategy using similar questions via a range of engagement routes:

- There is an **online survey** at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NNX92WK>

This is open until **5pm on 31st August**

- There are **Zoom drop-in sessions** on:
Monday 5th September 10-11.30am
Tuesday 6th September 3-4.30pm
Thursday 8th September 7-8.30pm

These can be accessed via:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85349116328?pwd=a2RTVlpBRmhOR25ZUWN6ZUZVdjIDdz09>

Meeting ID: **853 4911 6328**

Passcode: **827366**

- There are **face to face drop-in** sessions:

22nd August: Adapt North East, Burn Lane, Hexham, NE46 3HN. **10am-12noon**

22nd August: The Hub at Cramlington, Forum Way, Cramlington, NE23 6YB. **2pm-4pm**

12th September: Berwick Trust, The William Elder Building, 56-58 Castlegate, Berwick, TD15 1JT. **10am-12noon**

- We are also arranging to meet with key groups and link via social media. People are invited to contact us directly should any of the other routes not prove suitable.

We can be contacted on:

Kellie.woodley@inclusionnorth.org

07876 145390

Kirsty.morgan@inclusionnorth.org

07539 063467