

Autism Champions

Purpose

- To build knowledge, understanding and skills in teams about working effectively with people with autism
- To contribute to the development of good autism practice in the city
- To promote ASD awareness, influence and interest throughout statutory agencies including H&SC, NHS, Job Centre, Police, Services for Communities and Housing Associations.

Ask of a champion

- Keep abreast of developments in autism services in the city
- Share learning and commit to building knowledge & skills in their respective teams
- Have an interest in working with people with autism
- Develop a good understanding of autism and how to communicate effectively with people with autism
- Highlight areas of good practice and areas that need development
- Advise / sign post other team members about, effective communication, the care pathway and appropriate services/advice and information as required.
- Attend initial day session for autism champions
- Attend autism champion briefing meetings on a quarterly basis
- To know how to access relevant autism training and information about autism services

Selection

- Staff to volunteer to do this with agreement of manager. They would need to make a commitment.

What is the manager committing to?

- Initial autism awareness training – 1 day
- To attend quarterly 2 hour information sharing sessions on autism

Implementation

- **First stage** - To develop awareness in H&SC assessment teams and in Council and Housing Association housing services. (Possibly NHS Community Health Teams too.)
- **Second Stage** - To develop awareness in Other Council Departments and wider range of statutory agencies.