

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE
Meeting date: 15 January 2020
From: Christine Bowditch –Champion for Autism

AUTISM CHAMPION UPDATE

Ongoing Issues:

The Library is still waiting for their approval from the National Autistic Society for the development of their sensory room. It is hoped one of those will be in place before the Local Committee meeting. I am intending to visit them again in the New Year to ascertain if there is any further support I can offer and to assist with the development of an Autism friendly session.

I also intend to revisit The Lanes management suite with an adult with autism so they can give their own views on what support would be beneficial to them.

I am still hopeful that the County Council will add an autism awareness slogan to their website and am following this up.

I also intend to follow up on how the excellent work on supporting autistic employees of the County Council is progressing.

New Ventures:

Asda are intending to develop an Autism Friendly session in their Kingstown store. I am meeting with them in January to further discuss this and offer support.

The main Sainsbury's store in Carlisle have introduced a support system which invites people who may need support to ask for a special lanyard which alerts staff to the possible need for help. I am intending to check on how this is working/being used.

I am meeting with Triple A, an Autism awareness group, to see if there is any support I can give them.

I have supported individuals who require help and assistance.

I continue to attend Autism Champion meetings and the Learning Disability Partnership Board as far as Chair of County Council commitments allow. These are both hardworking and powerful advocacy groups and I look forward to being able to take a full and active part.

Autism week is 30th March to 5th April 2020 and I hope you will give your support.

County Councillor Christine Bowditch
Autism Champion

January 2020