

Reshaping universal services in a more responsive marketplace

Kevin Oakhill, Director of Service Development, and Emily Bawtree, Training and Consultancy Manager, Ambitious about Autism

What are we here to talk about?

- More effective commissioning of services generally, through the context of education for young people with autism
- The Autism Education Trust, and its role in achieving this
- Next steps for the development of services across London

The commissioning context

- A huge rise across London in young people diagnosed with autism
- SEN changes nationally, including 0-25 system, introduction of EHC plans, and LA commissioning – new for everyone!
- Terrible employment figures for young people with autism and / or learning disabilities
- General need for more efficiencies

Commissioning of services

- We have generally broken down commissioning into three categories
 - Universal
 - Targeted
 - Specialist
- As commissioners, on which of the above do we spend most of our time and most of our money? And which are the most used?

Commissioning of services 2

- Users of specialist and targeted services also use universal ones!
- Get your universal services right and your targeted and specialist spend can be used more efficiently for those who need it
- Early intervention at all levels across organisations – sounds great but what do you actually change?

What is the Autism Education Trust?

- Launched in 2007
- Funded by the Department for Education (DfE)
- Only umbrella organisation working specifically on autism education across the voluntary, public and private sectors
- Provides tailored advice and resources for professionals, parents, carers and children and young people with autism



AET training from Ambitious about Autism

- Tier 1 – Making Sense of Autism
- Tier 2 – Developing Good Autism Practice
- Tier 3 – Taking a lead in Autism

AET training from Ambitious about Autism

- Open Access courses run at TreeHouse School
 - External sessions delivered at the customer
 - Bulk discount options
 - Subcontracting 'train the trainer' opportunity
-
- Ambitious about Autism - Bespoke consultancy

Next steps – improving services across London

- Every local authority I have spoken to says they are experiencing a significant rise in young people with autism
- Every local authority also says they don't want to develop services in isolation, and need to collaborate
- How do we improve services across London in this context?
- How do we facilitate meaningful collaboration around service development and improvement?

Next steps and questions

- What do we want to feed back to the wider group?
- What would we like more time to talk about in the future?

Kevin Oakhill koakhill@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Emily Bawtree ebawtree@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk