

SUBMISSION FROM LAURA LIVINGSTON

1. I am a parent of two children on the autistic spectrum.
2. Autism is an invisible disability to the general public and because of the wide ranging severity and complex symptoms of the condition it is difficult to understand. The Bill will endorse the need for specific measures to be put in place for the autistic population.
3. After diagnosis we need a methodology that involves collaboration from different agencies so that the individual and family are able to receive the right level of support and provision. And that the agencies that provide these services are given training and funding to do so.
4. To provide the individuals the services they need in this life long condition, assessment and planning is vital, allowing a smooth transition from child to adult services.
5. My experience is that service provision is erratic and delayed and this impacts on the whole family. Families waiting years for social work assistance, children put in unsuitable education places and families left with no support network is unacceptable but not unusual. I hope that this legislation in Scotland will provide the proper framework to receive quality services from trained and understanding people.

Laura Livingston
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