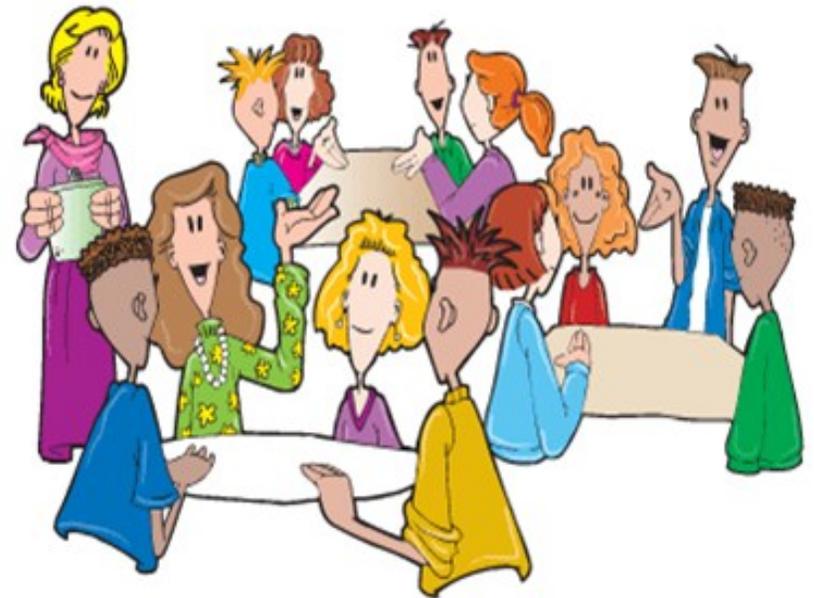


NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

AUTISM OPEN FORUM

The Voice of Autism



Held at: -

OpenDoor
more than just health

Albion Street

Grimsby, DN32 7DL

AUTISM OPEN FORUM

The Voice of Autism

What is the Autism Forum?

The Autism Forum is the place that everyone can use to make their views known about anything to do with autism. The members of the Autism Forum understand the things that are priority for people affected by Autism and tell the Autism Partnership Board what needs to change to make things better for people with autism. The Autism Partnership Board has to tell the Autism Forum what progress it has made.

What is the Autism Partnership Board?

- The Autism Partnership Board is a formal meeting of voluntary members who are all committed to delivering the Autism Strategic Plan to improve the quality of life for people with autism within North East Lincolnshire.
- The Autism Partnership Board has 2 parts, one responsible for adults with Autism and one responsible for children with Autism, although both parts work together to make the Plan work across all age ranges.

Who should attend the Autism Forum?

The Forum is for anyone who has an autistic spectrum condition (ASC), or a parent, carer, partner, family member or friend of someone who has an ASC. It is also for those who may work with people with an ASC and want to help to make a difference to all local people affected by autism.

Why is it important that people with autism (or family and friends of people who have autism) attend the Forum?

- It is for ensuring that everyone with an ASC can access support and get help to make daily living more comfortable and enable them to access their local community with less anxiety. By working together to get the support that is needed for everyone, you are also helping yourself.
- All local Councils and statutory services are required to evidence how they have consulted with service users. Therefore service commissioners and service providers have to consult with you. This gives you the power to say what it is you want and what you believe is needed for everyone with autism in North East Lincolnshire. Please use that power!

One voice may be ignored, but many voices will be heard.

What happens at an Autism Forum?

You will:

- Meet other people with similar issues and experiences to yourself.
- Get some new ideas that may help with any issues or problems you may have.
- Meet professionals who work with people with autism.
- Get information about the progress the Autism Boards are making towards making North East Lincolnshire more autism friendly and ensuring various levels of support is available for those who need it.
- Be able to listen to speakers that will provide useful information and advice.
- Be able to talk to local community leaders like the Police Commissioner, local Members of Parliament or local Councillors. Tell them what it is like to live with or work with autism. Tell them about the changes you may want to see.

You may also be asked:

- To help to identify what local people affected with autism want and need.
- To help to campaign to raise awareness of autism locally or to raise funds for needed support services (only if you wish to do so)

When do the Forums take place?

The Forums are held two monthly and last for 2 hours. **All are held at Open Door**

2016 Calendar

February 1st 9:30am until 11:30 am. *Police Commissioner will be attending to discuss with you issues around autism and policing.*

April 15th 9:30am until 11:30 am. *Local MP Melanie Onn will be attending to discuss the issues and difficulties autism may create in daily living. What message do you want her to take back to local commissioners and Parliament?*

June 20th 9:30am until 11:30 am.

Transition between childhood and adult, Angie Kershaw. NELIncs Transition Team

August 15th 9:30am until 11:30 am.

October 17th 9:30am until 11:30 am.

December 19th 9:30am until 11:30 am.

