



Autism Act 2009

2009 CHAPTER 15

1 Autism strategy

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare and publish a document setting out a strategy for meeting the needs of adults in England with autistic spectrum conditions by improving the provision of relevant services to such adults by local authorities, NHS bodies and NHS foundation trusts.
- (2) That document is referred to in this Act as “the autism strategy”.
- (3) The autism strategy must be published no later than 1 April 2010.
- (4) The Secretary of State—
 - (a) must keep the autism strategy under review, and
 - (b) may revise it.
- (5) If the Secretary of State revises the autism strategy the Secretary of State must publish it as revised.
- (6) The Secretary of State must consult and seek the participation of such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate—
 - (a) in preparing the autism strategy, or
 - (b) in revising it in a way which would, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, result in a substantial change to the strategy.
- (7) A document prepared and published by the Secretary of State before this section comes into force is as effective for the purposes of this section as a document prepared and published after that time.
- (8) Consultation and steps to seek participation undertaken by the Secretary of State before this section comes into force are as effective for the purposes of this section as consultation and steps to seek participation undertaken after that time.