



## Adults with autism – share your ideas for better services

Adults with autism and their carers are invited to a meeting at North Tyneside Carers' Centre, YMCA building, North Shields, on 13 October 2011 at 10.30am to share their ideas for better services in North Tyneside.

Fulfilling and rewarding lives' is the government's strategy for adults with autism. The strategy is beginning to be implemented locally across council and health services. North Tyneside LINK and North Tyneside Carers Centre would like your views on how you think the strategy could best work locally. What works well for adults with autism in North Tyneside; what doesn't? Come along and learn more about and how your voice can go forward to be heard to make things better for adults with autism in North Tyneside.

John Robson, Chair of North Tyneside LINK, said "This is a great opportunity for people with autism to say it like it is. It is really important that they take the chance to get their views heard so that the strategy meets their needs rather than what others think they need."

## North Tyneside LINK Press Release 10 October 2011

LINK is a network of local people and groups who are interested in improving health and social care services across the borough. If you would like to become a member of LINK or are interested in learning more about its work, contact the team on 0191 643 2623, email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk) or visit the website [www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk](http://www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk). It is free to join and anyone with an interest in health and social care services in North Tyneside can become a member.

For more information or to become a member of LINK, visit [www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk](http://www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk), telephone 0191 643 2623 or email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk).

North Tyneside Carers' Centre run a number of additional services that offer carers a range of high-quality services to help them look after their own health and wellbeing, and cope better in their caring role. For more information telephone 0191 643 2298.

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Press contact: for further information or photographs contact Communications Worker Meg Woollam on 0191 643 2623 or email [meg.woollam@voda.org.uk](mailto:meg.woollam@voda.org.uk)

### Editor's notes

1. **Local Involvement Networks (LINKs)** were introduced by the Department of Health in April 2008 and aim to give communities a stronger voice in how their health and social care services are delivered. Run by local individuals and groups and independently supported - the role of LINKs is to find out what people want, monitor local services and to use their powers to hold them

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account. Visit [www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk](http://www.linknorthtyneside.org.uk) for more information.

2. North Tyneside LINK is hosted by North Tyneside VODA (Voluntary Organisation's Development Agency). VODA, the voluntary and community sector infrastructure body in North Tyneside, provides independent specialised support for voluntary and community groups and volunteers in the borough. This includes advice on setting up and developing community and voluntary groups, training, information, developing networks and partnerships, ICT and recruiting, placing and supporting volunteers. For more information visit [www.voda.org.uk](http://www.voda.org.uk).

3. **North Tyneside Carers' Centre** is an independent charity, with a board of trustees and around 22 employees and 25 volunteers. It was established in 1994 and was invited to join the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, a network of 144 carers' centres operating nationwide. The patron of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers is Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne who officially opened the centre in May 1996 at Neptune House in Wallsend. Carers are involved at every level of the organisation including policy and service development and are represented on the board of trustees, our staff team and volunteers. The core services are:

- Carer support team
- Young Carers support team
- Carer Respite project

The Carers' Centre run a number additional services that offer carers a range of high-quality services to help them look after their own health and wellbeing, and cope better in their caring role.