

AGENDA ITEM 20

Draft note of Amaze information to the Autism Scrutiny Panel
15 October 2010

Amaze has one part-time transition worker – who is working on developing person-centred planning across the city. Amaze works with both mainstream and special schools and young people and parents of any young person aged 14 and over, not only those who have a statement of special educational needs.

There are some 1500 children and young people on the 'Compass' SEN database, (thought to include only around half of those with special needs) of which those on the autistic spectrum form the second largest group.

Asked about grant funding cuts related to Connexions, Amaze is concerned at the potential loss of this service. Young people at the more severe end of the autistic spectrum can be supported by transition social workers. However transition to college and adulthood is difficult for all, whether or not autism may be a factor.

Parents of young people with less severe autism have contacted Amaze to ask what help is available to deal with concerns about transition if there is no Connexions worker available; for instance what reasonable adjustments may be made.

Amaze is concerned about the quality of transition plans. It is important that the autistic young person is at the centre of planning for college and adulthood.

This cannot be done cheaply and resources needed for support in acquiring skills needed as an adult should not be underestimated and should be safeguarded.

