



## SOURCES OF SUPPORT AND ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM IN SURREY

Whether or not you are assessed as eligible for Adult Social Care services, you may still be able to get help from any of the following, as appropriate. Some of these are autism specialist, and some are suitable for anyone. Some do need to be paid for:

1. Information on community support for people with autism is frequently updated on Surrey Information Point:  
<http://www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk>

### Finding Work

2. **EmployAbility** run Job Clubs and pre employment courses open to people who are not eligible for a social care service. For people who *are* eligible for a funded service, EmployAbility can also offer more intensive support to find a job and maintain employment, including support and training for employers. Email for more details of what is currently available  
[EmployAbility@surreychoices.com](mailto:EmployAbility@surreychoices.com) or call 01483 806806
3. **Job Centre Plus** provide employment advice, and information on employment-related benefits and Access To Work grants.
4. **Access to Work** grants may help to pay for practical support so that you can start work, stay in work or start your own business.  
<https://www.gov.uk/access-to-work/overview> If you get Access to Work funding, there are autism specialist providers you could use, such as EmployAbility, the National Autistic Society (NAS) Workplace Support Programme, <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/adult-life/work.aspx> or AS Mentoring <http://www.asmentoring.co.uk/>
5. **Employment Skills** – NAS, Godalming. Monday and Thursday afternoons. The sessions aim to provide the knowledge to understand all the steps required in getting a job. These include workplace relationships, interview skills, CV writing, job searching and coping strategies when difficulties arise in the workplace. Places at the sessions can be paid for via Adult Social Care funding if the person is eligible, or can be self-funded. Contact Gemma Fry 01483 521747 Email: [gemma.fry@nas.org.uk](mailto:gemma.fry@nas.org.uk)

## Advocacy, and Self Advocacy Groups

6. **Surrey Disabled People's Partnership (SDPP)** offer advocacy support, including advocacy for job interviews. They also run self-advocacy groups for people with Asperger Syndrome / high functioning autism which meet twice-monthly from 7.00- 9.00 p.m., on Wednesdays in Camberley. Contact Jade Wilson at SDPP on 07734 571250 email: [jade@sdpp.org.uk](mailto:jade@sdpp.org.uk)  
Web: <http://www.sdpp.org.uk/services/advocacy.php>

## Support Groups

7. **Aut-Haslemere** is a support group in Haslemere run by and for Autistic / Asperger adults. They meet monthly on the first Monday of the month. Suggested donation £2.00. Contact for more information:  
Email: [laura@autangel.org.uk](mailto:laura@autangel.org.uk)  
Call or text: 07793 766 494  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/authaslemere/>

The **National Autistic Society** runs a number of services for people on the autism spectrum including:

8. **ASSIST** (Asperger Signposting, Support & Information Services Team), Godalming/Redhill/telephone/online, which offers individual advice, information and support. For more information tel: 07436 261194 or email [assist.surrey@nas.org.uk](mailto:assist.surrey@nas.org.uk)
9. **ASpire** – Godalming. Social group + social skills group. Fortnightly on Thursdays. 6.00 - 7.00; 7.00 – 9.00 p.m.  
For more information tel: 07436 261194 or email [assist.surrey@nas.org.uk](mailto:assist.surrey@nas.org.uk)
10. **Transition group** (18 – 25 year olds) – Guildford. Fortnightly on Wednesdays. 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. Contact: Howard Childs 07899 935518  
Email: [howard.childs@nas.org.uk](mailto:howard.childs@nas.org.uk)

Other social groups for people on the autism spectrum:

11. **Oxted**. Occasional meals, cinema, pub visits organised. (Run by volunteers). Contact Elaine Holloway, tel: 07521 409124, email: [s.holloway541@gmail.com](mailto:s.holloway541@gmail.com)
12. **Horley**. Monthly, Fridays 8.00 – 10.00pm. (Run by volunteers). Contact Angela Adcock tel: 07981 865334 email: [angela.adcock99@gmail.com](mailto:angela.adcock99@gmail.com)

13. The **National Autistic Society Surrey Branch** is a parent-run voluntary support organisation, which can provide information and peer support for families. This is separate from the NAS services described above. – See [www.nassurreybranch.org/](http://www.nassurreybranch.org/) or email [nas@mugsy.org](mailto:nas@mugsy.org) Tel: 07423 435413
14. **Advice and information** on benefits is available from your local Citizens Advice organisation (see <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/> ) or JobCentrePlus, or your local council if it relates to Housing Benefit or Universal Credit. Information for people with disabilities, older people, carers, families and the wider community is available through through the Surrey Hubs: <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/>

#### **The Hub Dorking (Mole Valley)**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/dorking/> for details of the Mobile Hub. Tel: 07805 081204 Text: 07704 288772  
Email: [info@thehubdorking.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdorking.org.uk)

#### **The Hub – Epsom**

131 High Street, Epsom, KT19 8EF  
(next to Marks & Spencer in the Market Place)  
Telephone: 01372 744 479 Text: 07704 288772  
[info@thehubepsom.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubepsom.org.uk)

#### **The Hub Godalming**

94 High Street, Godalming, GU7 1DW  
Tel: 01483 410 390 Text: 07847 752459  
Email: [info@hubgodalming.org.uk](mailto:info@hubgodalming.org.uk)

#### **The Hub Guildford**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/guildford/> for details of the Mobile Hub.

#### **The Hub Redhill**

41 High Street, Redhill, Surrey. RH1 1RX  
Tel: 01737 390200 Text: 07704 288772  
Email: [info@thehubredhill.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubredhill.org.uk)

#### **The Hub Runnymede (Addlestone & Chertsey)**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/Addlestone/> for details of the Mobile Hub

#### **The Hub Staines**

4 Thames Street, Staines upon Thames. TW18 4SD  
Telephone: 01784 458200 Text: 07519 861452  
Email: [info@hubstaines.org.uk](mailto:info@hubstaines.org.uk)

### **The Hub Surrey Heath (Camberley & Bagshot)**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/Camberley/> for details of the Mobile Hub.

### **The Hub Tandridge**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/tandridge/> for details of the Mobile Hub. Text: 07704 288772 Email: [info@thehubtrandridge.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubtrandridge.org.uk)

### **The Hub Walton**

See <http://www.thesurreyhubs.org.uk/walton/> for details of the Mobile Hub. Text: 07704 288772 Email: [info@thehubwalton.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubwalton.org.uk)

### **The Hub Woking**

51 Commercial Way, Woking, Surrey, GU21 6HN  
Telephone: 01483 747400 Text: 07561 392818  
Email: [info@hubwoking.org.uk](mailto:info@hubwoking.org.uk)  
Opening times: Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5pm

15. **Community Connections Services** support people who have mental health difficulties, offering emotional and wellbeing support through local support groups, activities and courses. For more details, see [www.communityconnectionssurrey.com](http://www.communityconnectionssurrey.com). Each local area has a lead provider:

- **Elmbridge – WWAG**

- Phone - 01932 231918
- SMS Text - 07812 101752
- [www.wwag.org.uk](http://www.wwag.org.uk)

- **Epsom, Ewell and Mole Valley – Mary Frances Trust**

- Phone - 01372 375400
- SMS Text – 07929 024625
- [www.maryfrancestrust.org.uk](http://www.maryfrancestrust.org.uk)

- **Guildford – The Welcome Project (Guildford)**

- Phone – 014843 590150
- SMS Text – 07909 631623
- [www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk](http://www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk)

- **Reigate, Banstead and Tandridge – Richmond Fellowship (Redhill)**

- Phone - 01737 771282
- SMS Text - 07770 890245

- [www.richmondfellowship.org.uk](http://www.richmondfellowship.org.uk)
- **Spelthorne and Runnymede – Richmond Fellowship** (Chertsey)
  - Phone - 01932 858258
  - SMS Text - 07786 191199
  - [www.richmondfellowship.org.uk](http://www.richmondfellowship.org.uk)
- **Surrey Heath – The Welcome Project** (Camberley)
  - Phone – 01276 409415
  - SMS Text – 07909 631623
  - [www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk](http://www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk)
- **Waverley – The Welcome Project** (Godalming)
  - Phone – 014843 415950
  - SMS Text – 07909 631623
  - [www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk](http://www.welcomeprojectsurrey.co.uk)
- **Woking – Woking Mental Health Resource Centre**
  - Phone – 01483 757461
  - SMS Text – 07902 426961
  - [www.cornerhousewoking.org.uk](http://www.cornerhousewoking.org.uk)

16. **Housing Related Support** comes in the form of supported housing schemes, or outreach support. The local borough and district housing advice teams can advise and signpost to all the services for all client groups commissioned and funded by Surrey County Council. The Council's Contact Centre can provide details of schemes that are local and suited to each client group. Tel: 03456 009009. Surrey Information Point also provides a list of services <https://www.surreyinformationpoint.org.uk/>, and you can direct enquiries to [housingrelatedsupport@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:housingrelatedsupport@surreycc.gov.uk)

17. If counselling would help, your GP can refer you for this.

18. The Autism Partnership Board works to implement the National Autism Strategy *Think Autism* in Surrey, see <http://www.surreypb.org.uk/modx/welcome-to-the-surrey-autism-partnership-board.html>

19. There are 7 Autism factsheets and information from the Autism Partnership Board available to download at: <http://www.surreypb.org.uk/modx/our-autism-factsheets.html>

1. Introduction to Autism Spectrum Conditions
2. Diagnosis
3. Communication
4. Useful Strategies for Life
5. Social Care and Community Support
6. Health
7. Our Stories

Mainstream adult education and leisure facilities should make reasonable adjustments for people with autism, and may have staff with some specialist training in how to support people with autism.

20. Courses at local Colleges

You can find links to local colleges here <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning/adult-learning-links>

21. Surrey County Council Adult Learning

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning>

22. Leisure services <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation/sports-leisure-and-recreation-areas/leisure-centres-around-surrey>

## **Social Care Funded Services**

The rules for eligibility for funded Adult Social Care services changed in April 2015, and can be found at

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/366048/43738\\_2902999\\_Regs\\_Affirmative\\_Accessible.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/366048/43738_2902999_Regs_Affirmative_Accessible.pdf) - Pages 14 – 15

These criteria are a framework to look at an individual's needs and how they affect the person's wellbeing. The criteria include difficulties with developing and maintaining personal relationships, and access to work, training, education or volunteering.

You can get in touch with Surrey County Council's contact centre to arrange for someone to carry out an eligibility assessment. If you are assessed as eligible, you can receive services funded by Surrey County Council to meet your assessed needs.

**Tel: 0300 200 1005 (8am-6pm weekdays)**

If you let Surrey County Council know that you have autism, you can ask for the staff member carrying out the assessment to have had autism training, and they will try to ensure that this happens. The Care Act Statutory Guidance says they must do this: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance>

– See paragraphs 6.86 to 6.89

Thomas Moore is Surrey County Council Adult Social Care's Commissioning Lead for Autism – email:

[Thomas.Moore@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Thomas.Moore@surreycc.gov.uk)

Produced by the Surrey Autism Partnership Board

V10 Sept 2016