

## **January 2026 – APPGA Survey Data (Autism Act Committee Report)**

The survey received 71 responses from NAS APPGA Mailing List across 10 days.

### **Knowledge and Outcomes**

- **58%** of participants had previously heard about the report; **39%** had not; **2%** were unsure.
- **52%** of participants agreed with the conclusions and recommendations outlined in the report; **10%** did not agree; **38%** were unsure.
- When asked, “How effective would you say the Autism Act 2009 and successive autism strategies have been at addressing the issues facing autistic people?”, the average rating was **3.85 out of 10**.
- When asked what respondents would like to see prioritised in the next autism strategy:
  - **29%** wanted increased or improved mental health services and community support; **18%** wanted increased or improved access and support in employment; **13%** wanted increased or improved attention paid to health inequalities; **12%** wanted increased societal understanding and acceptance; and **11%** wanted increased or improved access and support in education.

### **Services and Support for Autistic People**

- When asked to choose a single word they believed accurately described the current state of services for autistic people, participants said:
  - **Inadequate (17%), Poor (11%), Dire (6%), and Patchy (6%)**
  - Other prominent terms included “**neglectful**”, “**non-existent**” and “**diabolical**”.
- When asked to rate the accessibility of support and services for autistic people on a scale of 1-5, the average rating was **1.71**.
- When asked to rate the quality of services and support for autistic people on a scale of 1-5, the average rating was **1.96**.

### **Parliamentary Actions**

- When asked, “What question would you like MPs and Peers to ask in Parliament in relation to the next autism strategy?” Major themes included questions on:
  - Improvements to mental health support and improved healthcare outcomes for all autistic people
  - Ensuring accountability and that the Autism Act Committee’s recommendations are implemented sufficiently and effectively
  - Greater access to an autism assessment, as well as greater resources for those without a formal diagnosis
- When asked, “What activities would you like to see the APPGA undertake to amplify the report and influence the next autism strategy?”, Major themes included:
  - Engaging directly with autistic people and supporting co-production
  - Advocating for better access to employment for autistic people
  - Advocating for improvement to the quality and access of mental and physical healthcare services for autistic people