

## **WLGA PRESS RELEASE**

**Monday 1 April 2019**

### **More support for parents and carers of newly diagnosed autistic children**

A new film is being launched today by the National Autism Team which aims to support parents and carers of newly-diagnosed autistic children.

Feedback from autistic people and other stakeholders has indicated that there is a gap in support and guidance in the period immediately after diagnosis. Clinicians and professionals will be able to signpost parents and carers to the film upon their diagnosis, and it is also easily accessible as a reference point online.

The film was commissioned by the National Autism Team – formerly National ASD Development Team – which is funded by Welsh Government and hosted by WLGA, in close partnership with Public Health Wales.

Councillor Huw David (Bridgend), WLGA Spokesperson for Health and Social Care said:

“For parents and carers, their child being diagnosed with autism can often be a bewildering experience due to a general lack of understanding of autism as a condition.

“The film was commissioned by the National Autism Team in direct response from autistic people that there isn’t enough support and guidance immediately after receiving a diagnosis. I hope this film will help to offer reassurance to parents and carers, and to show that there is information available that can really help them understand what the diagnosis means and practical advice about day to day living.”

“In addition to the film, the National Autism Team have an array of useful materials available on [www.asdinfo.wales.co.uk](http://www.asdinfo.wales.co.uk) to support autistic individuals and those around them.”

-ENDS-

#### **Notes to Editors**

The film can be seen online on: <https://www.asdinfo.wales.co.uk/tv>

This week marks World Autism Awareness Week, running from 1-7 April It aims to raise awareness and improve understanding of the condition.

If you have any queries, please contact:

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