

Press Release

Tuesday 9th June 2009, London, UK



Urgent Update: Gordon Brown now meeting Autism Mother, Polly Tommey at 3pm on Thursday 11th June

Polly Tommey, a mother from London with a son with autism has achieved her objective of arranging a face-to-face meeting with Gordon Brown. The meeting has just been brought forward and will now be held in **Downing Street at 3pm on Thursday 11th June 2009.**

The meeting is taking place after a series of meetings with senior Downing Street advisers and Phil Hope, Minister for Care Services. ***Autism is now on the political agenda ...***



Her campaign through **The Autism Trust charity** was undertaken on behalf of the thousands of mothers of children with autism in the UK. To gain Mr Brown's attention, Polly arranged to have her name and telephone number plastered across poster sites as part of an intriguing series of messages throughout the country and appeared on television and radio programmes in response to the huge public interest generated. Mothers worldwide have now joined the campaign ...

For further information and to arrange interviews:

Oliver Jones

Chairman, The Autism Trust

07802 985053

Polly Tommey

Founder, The Autism Trust

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Notes for Editors

The Autism Trust (registered charity Nr 1117657)

www.theautismtrust.org.uk

The Autism Trust's focus is on building inspiring, sustainable and real futures for the many children with autism in the world today: ***A Safe Haven for People with Autism***

Polly Tommey

Polly Tommey is a mother dealing with autism. She is also the founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Autism File. Polly has been producing what is now the leading retail magazine on autism in the UK, USA & Canada (with a current issue circulation of over 40,000 copies) from her family's house in Hampton, West London since 1999.

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Autism in the UK:

Autism affects over half a million people and is the cause of often overwhelming stress for families of those with autism. This is not a passing matter; **autism numbers have increased dramatically in the last twenty years from 5 in 10,000 in 1989 to more than 1 in a 100 (100 in 10,000) today.**

Polly Tommey says: “Unless the problems of autism are understood; unless services become more available; and unless support is more widespread, we will see many more disaffected and desperate autism households emerge.”

The UK government is now responding to the challenge ...