

NOTICE OF MOTION

COUNCIL MEETING – 16 JANUARY 2025

Moved by: Councillor Halsall

Seconded by: Councillor TBC

IN-DEPTH NEURODIVERSITY TRAINING FOR STAFF AND CONTRACTORS WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN CARE

This Council recognises the critical importance of understanding and supporting neurodiverse children in our care. We believe that a thorough foundation in neurodiversity awareness will enable our staff and contracted service providers to better meet the unique needs of each child, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment.

To this end, the Council commits to ensuring that all directly employed staff and contracted individuals who work with or interact with children in our care undertake in-depth neurodiversity training. This training must be delivered in person by qualified professionals with expertise in neurodiversity, ensuring a comprehensive, interactive learning experience. We further commit to involving neurodiverse individuals who have left care, as well as parents of neurodiverse children, in guiding and shaping the training content to ensure it reflects real-life experiences and needs.

Sefton Council will:

- Ensure that all directly employed staff and contracted personnel who work with children in care complete neurodiversity training.
- Require that the training is delivered in person by qualified neurodiversity professionals, ensuring an in-depth and interactive experience.
- Involve neurodiverse individuals who have left care and parents of neurodiverse children in the development of training content to reflect lived experiences and practical insights.
- Include practical strategies and skills in the training for understanding and supporting neurodiverse children in care.
- Conduct an annual review and update of training programs to reflect current best practices, research, and feedback from neurodiverse individuals and families.