

ESPA goes to Downing Street

Early in December 2009 I was thrilled to receive this invitation to Downing Street to a breakfast reception with Sarah Brown.



It was a great event and a fantastic opportunity to share our thoughts and suggestions on what we all believed could make a difference in the lives of so many people.

Lesley Lane
Chief Executive
ESPA

Photographs taken at the breakfast reception held at 10 Downing Street.

The reception brought together a small group of Charities who support people with Autism Spectrum Disorders to celebrate our work and to discuss how we can all work together to improve the lives of people on the autism spectrum.



Sarah Brown hosted the event and talked about her experiences of charitable work and the important role Charities play in advocating for social change.

She was joined by Phil Hope - Minister of Health, Angela Smith - Minister of the Third Sector, Liz Blackman MP - Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism and Greg Beales - Senior Advisor for Health and Social Care issues to the Prime Minister.



After a wonderful breakfast reception Liz Blackman led a break-out session where we all discussed what changes we hope to see over the next five years and how we as Charities can help move forward this vision.

Sarah Brown, Phil Hope and Angela Smith all joined in with the discussions and showed great interest in all of our views and ideas.

Phil Hope talked about the Autism Act 2009 and the government strategy being developed to improve outcomes for adults with autism which will be published within the next few months.

