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| Minutes |

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### Autism Way Forward

### Main Group

**Wednesday 29 March 2017**

Crompton Suite

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| **Present:** | Cllr Jenny Harrison (Chair) | Lead Member for Social Care and Safeguarding |
|  | Claire Hill | Planning and Commissioning Manager, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health, Oldham Council |
|  | Hayley Boxup | PA |
|  | Gareth Welford | Self-Advocate |
|  | Kim Doolan | NWT DT |
|  | Shanaz Ashraf | Total Communication CIC |
|  | David Lloyd | Team Manager, LD and Autism Team |
|  | Angela Lees | Health Practitioner, LANC UK |
|  | Lindsey Wood | New Developmental Nurse Lead, Healthy Young Minds |
|  | Janet Wray | Nurse Consultant, Pennine Care |
|  | Maria Barber | Advisory Teacher, QEST |
|  | Debbie Burton | Educational Psychologist, Educational and Child Psychology Service |
|  | Susannah Meakin | Head of Service MH, LD and Autism, Oldham Council |
|  | Saira Khan | Business Support Officer |
|  | Louise Herniman | Commissioning Project Manager, Oldham CCG |
|  | Cathy Williams | Parent |
|  | Nazia Kauser | Parent |
|  | Derek Rhoden | Senior Probation Officer – NPS |
|  | Debbie Gainsborough | Parent and Post Diagnosis Workshop Coordinator, POINT |
|  | Alison Riley (minutes) | Business Support Officer |
| **Apologies:** |  |  |
|  | Mari Saeki | GMAC, NAS |
|  | Anne Wood | Adult and Children Sector Development, Oldham Council |
|  | Anna Stevenson |  |
|  | Emma Williams | MioCare Group Oldham Care and Support |
|  | Heather Netherwood | SaLT |
|  | John King | Clinical Team Manager, Pennine Care LD Team |
|  | Mark Warren | Directory Health and Wellbeing, Adult Social Care |
|  | Sally Twist | Clinical Psychologist, Pennine Care |
|  | Shirley Murray | Parent |
|  | Janat Czaikowskyj | Senior Library Officer |

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| **1** | **Welcome, introductions and apologies**  *Cllr Harrison, Lead Member for Safeguarding and Social Care* |
|  | Cllr Harrison opened the meeting and welcomed the new and existing group members. She congratulated all the group members on the publication of the Strategy and mentioned the event in the Spindles next week during Autism Awareness Week. |
| **2** | **Minutes from the last meeting**  *Cllr Harrison, Lead Member for Safeguarding and Social Care* |
|  | The accuracy of the minutes was agreed.  The group discussed the action points and the following updates were given:  Pg4, item 4 – Claire H has spoken to Maria S who will be attending the meeting in May 2017.  Pg4, item 5 – Claire H said that the membership discussion is in hand; the frequency of meetings also needs discussing due to the high number of apologies. Cllr Harrison suggested to trial the meetings quarterly. A group discussion continued and the following points were made:   * The sub groups could be quarterly * Concerns about the sub groups being cancelled * Are so many groups needed? * The main group keeps everything going * Continue bi-monthly * Look at sub group membership and how often to meet * One quarterly and others bi-monthly |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Look at the frequency and membership at the sub group meetings – Claire H** |
| **3** | **Greater Manchester Autism Consortium - update**  *Paper* |
|  | A handout provided by Maria S was discussed at this meeting and the following points were highlighted/discussed:   * Funding – are there any other interested parties in the tendering process? This is not known but NAS want to continue * The Mayoral Candidate meeting dates were highlighted and group members were encouraged to attend * Kim D said that there are other hustings for self-advocates; she will send them to Claire H to circulate. * Transition workshops – Maria B said the information has not been circulated yet * GMAC Training; the group would like to know what is available to access * Autism Friendly Greater Manchester event in July/September was highlighted * The link for the new version of the website which was launched in February 2017 is included on the handout * The event dates be added to the Local Offer so that people are aware of them * Barbara W, NAS, sends out the notifications; she is due to retire and an alternative notification process has not been identified. Claire H will speak to Mari S * Events are held in other authorities and are difficult to access * Possibly using POINT as a venue for Oldham * Joined up working – NAS resource working across 10 Local Authorities – some areas co-delivered with other LA’s * Possibly use volunteers to deliver with Mari S * Important to have in localities * POINT to be on the mailing list for NAS |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Send information regarding self-advocates husting to Claire H to circulate – Kim D** * **Speak to Mari S about the notification process following Barbara’s retirement – Claire H** * **Check if POINT are on the mailing list for NAS – Debbie G** |
| **4** | **Where next with the Autism Strategy?**  *Claire Hill, Planning and Commissioning Manager OMBC, Louise Herniman, Commissioning Project Manager CCG* |
|  | Claire H thanked Cllr Harrison for the introduction regarding the Strategy and said that the work is still ongoing. The group need to look at what they want to achieve over the next 3 years and to work to get approval from senior managers on issues e.g. implementing autism awareness training across health and social care settings.  The group discussed some of the progress that is being seen e.g. the Odeon who are hosting an Autism showing of Beauty and the Beast in April. Cllr Harrison proposed using the Autism Awareness week to get the message to employers.  Claire H suggested that the focus for 2017 is training and following a discussion in one of the sub groups, there is a proposal to take to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval. Meetings have already taken place regarding the training needs across the council and social care. |
|  | **ACTIONs:**   * **Take the training proposal to the Health and Wellbeing Board – Claire H** |
| **5** | **Autism Awareness Week – Oldham’s event**  *Claire Hill, Louise Herniman* |
|  | Louise H informed the group of the plans for the stall in the Spindles on Friday this week. Claire H has managed to arrange to use the upper floor, near to the Next store, for the whole day, for free. Some AWF members have had a planning meeting and have produced a small card containing some information about the Strategy, which they can give out on the day. There will be a free tombola with prizes such as free tickets for the Odeon Cinema and for the trampoline centre. These have been donated by local business ‘Extreme Air’, who have autism friendly sessions.  Louise explained that the original idea was to hold an event at Gallery Oldham, however, it was felt that the Spindles would potentially contact a wider pool of people.  Kim D showed the group a leaflet that Gareth W has created assisted by Kim and Shanaz. The leaflet is designed using simple language and Gareth intends to take them to organisations e.g. Tesco, where he can circulate the leaflet and talk to people about Autism. The leaflet has been funded by Oldham Council and has been written from the point of view of a person with Autism. The leaflet is free for anyone to use and has been designed using the Boardmaker software purchased with the LA grant last year.  Cllr Harrison congratulated and thanked Gareth for producing an engaging leaflet.  Group members shared some other events that have/are taking place for Autism Awareness Week:  Derek gave an update on the Probation Service event for Autism Week which took place yesterday. It was a very successful day and 50-60 people attended. They had also invited people to attend the drop in on Friday at the Spindles.  Cllr Harrison said that her daughter-in-law was walking the Cornish Way to raise funds for Autism; so far she has raised over £200.  Maria B told the group about one school where children with Autism had taken an assembly and told their story. After the assembly, some of the other children in school had reflected that they might have been unkind in the past to some of the children, not realising that they had Autism.  Claire H said that there was a final meeting on Thursday to finalise details and asked for volunteers, she mentioned that there were still times on Friday that needed some support. |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Derek invited Gareth W to speak at their team meeting – Gareth W** |
| **6** | **Autism Charter**  *Discussion* |
|  | See handout.  The group discussed the information from the Autism Alliance; some of the points raised were:   * Take the information to the sub groups for further discussion * How can the groups become part of this * Look at the Principles and adopt them * Part of the Autism Friendly Borough – get people to sign up * Important to access training and how much does it cost * If businesses meet the requirements, have a certificate for the window but how is this policed * Vetting process to see that businesses are meeting the requirements * Meet the standards and then given the reward * How to make sure it continues * Champion role in organisations. If a person leaves the organisations, a commitment is needed to replace that person and always have a person in the role * Champions from different shops/organisations meet up regularly as part of the Autism Friendly Town * Good to get people involved but might be a time when they are not able to continue * Have to sign up to the Alliance programme to get their support * Can Oldham be part of the Alliance programme rather than having our own scheme? This could be discussed and followed up at a sub group * For anyone – shops, churches, sports centres, restaurants, businesses, companies etc * If someone wants to get on board, how do they do this? |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **take the information to the Better Information and Awareness Sub Group future meeting – Claire H** |
| **7** | **Diagnosis Mapping**  *Louise Herniman* |
|  | See handout.  Louise gave an overview of the pathway produced by the Diagnosis and Post Diagnosis Support sub group. She told the group how the size of the task had been underestimated and thanked members of the group for their support.  The group looked through the document and discussed any missing elements and how some of the issues are already being addressed.  Some of the issues discussed were:   * Mike Bridges, Public Health, has completed a health needs assessment and some recommendations have come from that piece of work * Healthy Young Minds and Paediatric Team need to have an agreement about need. Janet W is setting up a meeting to discuss and agree a way forward, e.g. a triage process * Under 16 yrs Educational Psychology involvement. The multi-disciplinary team should include an EP. Finance would be involved and it would need to go to the Joined Up Commissioning group * The Adult referral procedure; a procedure is needed for sharing information * It would be good to get the Parent and service user view of the referral procedure;   their feelings about the procedure   * The new POINT worker, Megan will be working with the parents of newly diagnosed children. It would be good for Megan to join the Diagnosis and Post Diagnosis sub group. * How to publish the Pathway. Needs to be accessible/easy. Suggestions made include a word document, flow chart, electronic format – ask a question, click on a reply etc * The web team could develop the Pathway once finished * The Getting the Right Support at the Right Time sub group already have a Pathway * Next steps – condense the information and take to the Joined Up Commissioning sub group; the Getting the Right Support at the Right Time sub group to work on their Pathway |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Meet to discuss the referral procedure and information sharing – Louise H and Angela L** * **Take the recommendations around EP involvement in Mulit-disciplinary team to the Joined Up Commissioning sub group – Claire H** * **Invite Megan, POINT, to become a member of the Diagnosis and Post Diagnosis sub group – Louise H** * **Take the pathway to the Joined Up Commissioning sub group – Louise H** |
| **8** | **SEND Joint Strategic Needs Analysis –** Powerpoint Presentation  *Claire Hill* |
|  | Claire H gave the presentation on behalf of Mike Bridges. She talked through slides which gave statistical information about SEND and trends in Oldham.  The presentation prompted a discussion in the group about the collection of data and how Autism needs to be separately recorded and not a sub level of Learning Disability. Janet W explained the NHS system for coding, they use Primary and Secondary coding. If someone is known to the NHS for another reason but is also Autistic, then Autism will be a secondary record and will not show up on any of the statistics.  Some of the comments and questions raised were:   * Do the figures include Autism in an Autism section; and the LD figures are too low? * Is the information taken from the schools census data? * ADHD is not included on the school census, it is not on the drop down menu. It comes down to Primary/Secondary need again * This is interesting but not the full picture * Attended and Education and Early Years conference this week about ‘Improving School Readiness’ and the information did not pick out LD, therefore the data looks skewed * According to CCG, Boxley South have the highest levels of SEND nationally. What do they use as a baseline? |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Feedback comments and questions to Mike Bridges – Claire H** |
| **9** | **Transitions update**  *Susannah Meakin* |
|  | Susannah informed the group about a development day on Thursday 27 April 2017 which is being facilitated by Helen Sanderson and Cath Millington. It is entitled Pathway to Adulthood and includes transitions.  It will be an information and ideas gathering day and there will a work stream action plan following on from the day.  Further information and registration details will be available later in the week, it is open to Education Health and Social Care, POINT and parents/carers and the lived experience voice. It is important to register and is needed for catering purposes. |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Feedback information about the event to a future meeting – Susannah M** * **Send the Diagnosis and Post Diagnosis pathway to Susannah M – Louise H** |
| **10** | **Any other business**  *All* |
|  | Oldham Friendly Town  Louise H informed the group about a conference that she had attended which was about Liverpool One becoming and Autism Friendly shopping centre. It was a massive achievement and was started by a mother and the ‘Working Together’ group in Liverpool. Louise spoke to the mother at the end of the conference and she gave Louise her contact details to arrange a meeting to share some information. The meeting will be on 20 April 2017. If you have any questions for this meeting please let Louise H or Claire H know. |
|  | **ACTION:**   * **Let Louise H and Claire H have any questions for the meeting in Liverpool - All** |
| **11** | **Next Meeting**  Meeting has been cancelled due to room availability: Wednesday 24 May 2017,  10am – 12pm  Crompton Suite, Civic Centre  The next meeting scheduled is:  Wednesday 12th July, 10am – 12pm, Crompton Suite |