

Autism Partnership Board Meeting

11:00 am -12:30 pm 8th June 2021

Venue: Zoom

Attendees	Organisation / Role
Valerie Fitch	Chair / Person on the Autistic Spectrum
Debbie Hobbs	NAS Herefordshire
Mary Simpson	Healthwatch Herefordshire
John Gorman	Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Herefordshire Council
Laura Ferguson	Herefordshire Council
Jas Kakkar	Herefordshire Council
James Baker	Person on the Autistic Spectrum / Hereford Make
Les Knight	Herefordshire Council
Sue Clark	Landau
Richard Keble	Hereford and Worcester CCG
Apologies	
Helen George	Herefordshire Council
Anna Wainwright	HVOSS
Rebecca Ashton	Person on the Autistic Spectrum
Wendy Flores	Walsingham
Rob Gorle	ACSYL
Gill Gorle	ACSYL

Introductions and Apologies

Valerie welcomed everyone and Paul listed the apologies.

Previous Minutes

John went through the previous minutes.

Matters Arising:-

Video Conferencing Platform - It was agreed to keep using Zoom after Valerie, Debbie and Paul test Microsoft Teams. Debbie and Paul both discovered that it was hard to admit people from outside of their respective organisations to a meeting.

Pooled Budgets for One assessment - Valerie to follow up with Jenny on how data can be shared between the council and the CCG so that people only need One Assessment.

Action 1 – Valerie to follow up with Jenny.

Social Convention – James, Josh and Valerie met to discuss coping mechanisms concerning autism with others in social contexts which James will share with others.

Diversity Awareness Sessions - James has liaised with his support worker on a list of people interested in attending the workshop. James said the session will likely be in September and will get back to those interested when a date is confirmed.

Healthwatch - Planning the Future Needs survey - James asked Mary to send him the correct survey as he wasn't sure which to fill in.

Action 2 – Mary to send James the correct survey.

Children's and Mental Health Pathway - Les informed the Board that as requested the Children's Autism Pathway would be steered through the SEND Strategy Group. The detailed working on this will be through a co-production model using a sub-group of interested and experienced people. They will report back into the SEND Strategy Group.

Board members had previously raised it as an issue that autism was being seen as a mental health condition rather than a disability.

Reasonable Adjustment Infographics - Mary said the Infographics are now on Healthwatch's website along with more detailed information about various disabilities. Public Health are now looking to add an introductory MECC Plus training module onto the Talk Communities Directory website - (formally WISH Herefordshire).

Autism Training for Staff - Laura will chase Ruth who has submitted the business case, to find out the updated situation.

Action 3 – Laura to chase Ruth.

LIAG - Valerie said that there had been no further autism related hate crimes in the past month. Most of the incidents in March and April were race incidents.

Sustainability and Transformation Partnership

NAS involvement - Valerie said she was surprised that the NAS had not been invited to the new STP LD&A Board meetings.

Action 4 - Laura said she would raise the issue with Paul Smith who chairs this group (interim Director of Adult and Communities).

Learning Disability and Autism 3 year Plan

Action 5 - Paul could send this out again as Debbie had had trouble opening the document.



LDA Plan
Presentation not anim

Richard talked the Board through his presentation. See attached. Richard added that the LDA plan is currently complex and needs to be simplified before it is shared.

During the presentation points were raised about the issue of people still struggling to get on the diagnostic pathway and improvements were needed in the crisis response in Herefordshire as we do not have one. Members were glad to hear that the autism service for young people transitioning into adulthood would start in May 2022.

On the personalisation clinics Laura suggested Richard liaise with Mary regarding the work Healthwatch has done around reasonable adjustments for different disabilities.

Action 6 – Richard and Mary to liaise concerning the Reasonable Adjustments work Healthwatch had done.

Valerie raised a point as to why there is a drop in the increase of additional funding in year 2 compared with year 3 (£389,000/£206,000/£513,000).

Action 7 - Richard said he would find out the disparity in funding between the second and third year.

Regarding next steps, he would like to be added to the invite list of future Board meetings and recommended Board members participate in any taskforce groups they are invited to in due course.

Action 8 - Paul to make sure Richard is added to the mailing list for future Board meetings.

A.O.B

- a) NAS - Debbie said the NAS Policy team had invited the Board to contribute to their work. Debbie doesn't know the mechanism yet but will find out.
- b) Landau-We See You Campaign – Sue discussed the campaign to have more disability confident employers. See attached for more information.
- c) Mary raised concerns about potential savings earmarked in a document named Appendix B Savings around learning disability and complex care services.



Landau We See You campaign details.pdf

Action 9 – Debbie to clarify the mechanism.

Action 10 - Laura said she would liaise with Landau regarding getting sign up.

Action 11 - Laura asked Mary to send her the link so she can look into it.

Next Meeting - No date was set. If anyone has any subject they wish to be included on future agendas please e-Mail Valerie. valerie.fitch@btinternet.com

Action 12 - Valerie, John, Laura and Paul will have a conversation about the content and frequency of future meetings and get back to the Board. They will also appraise progress to-date and report on this.

Actions		
Laura	Action 3	To chase Ruth regarding the training of staff
	Action 4	To raise NAS involvement with the STP LD&A Board with Paul Smith who chairs this group (interim Director of Adult and Communities)
	Action 10	To liaise with Landau regarding getting sign up to the We See You Campaign
	Action 11	Laura asked Mary to send her the link to the Appendix B Savings document so she can look into it

Paul	Action 5	To re-send the LDA Plan out again as she had had trouble opening the document
	Action 8	Add Richard to the mailing list so he is aware of future meetings
Richard	Action 6	Richard and Mary to liaise concerning the Reasonable Adjustments work Healthwatch had done
	Action 7	Richard said he would find out the disparity in funding between the second and third year regarding the LDA plan
Mary	Action 2	To send James the correct Planning the Future Needs survey
	Action 11	To send Laura the link to the Appendix B Savings document so she can look into it
Valerie, John, Paul	Action 12	To have a conversation about the content and frequency of future meetings and get back to the Board; as well as appraising the progress of the APB to-date and report back
Valerie	Action 1	To liaise with Jenny (CCG) about the pooled budgets for one assessment
Debbie	Action 9	To clarify the mechanism needed for involvement with the NAS head office