

## Autism Partnership Board

17 October 2017

10am-1pm, Leominster Room, Plough Lane, Hereford

Attendees	Role/ Organisation
Valerie Fitch (Chair)	Parent
Debbie Hobbs	NAS Herefordshire
Abi North	NAS Herefordshire
Michelle Baillon	Parent
Paula Daniels Simmonds	Parent
Colin Howarth	Orbis / Summergil House
Aubrey Baillie	Autism Consultant
Nikki Pitt	Parent / Autistic Person
Colin Boughen	Herefordshire Disability United
Sara Siloko	Herefordshire Disability United
Mandy Shrimpton	Rainbow Autism
John Burgess	Herefordshire Council
Stephen Vickers	Herefordshire Council
John Gorman	Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Herefordshire Council

Apologies	Role/ Organisation
Carly Day	
Laura Tyler	Herefordshire Council
Simon Lanane	GP
Sarah Davey	Parent
Leanne Green	

### Introductions, Apologies, Previous Minutes

Valerie welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

John read out the apologies and recapped the previous minutes. These were proposed by Aubrey and seconded by Nikki.

### Accessing Social Care services- the New Blueprint - Stephen Vickers

Stephen explained that a new method to access social services has been implemented in Herefordshire. The new system will ensure that people get the right level of care at the right time. It will also help address the problems of some people 'falling through the gap' when trying to access services. It will be driven by assessing the social care needs of a person rather than relying on them having a diagnosis

The new system will concentrate on;

- Primary prevention – keeping people well
- Targeted prevention – specific help to keep people independent and well (such as telecare)
- Short term support and care – intensive short term help
- Long term support and care – for those who need long term high quality care

People will be assessed by looking at their strengths (what they and their families / communities can do) as opposed to simply looking at what they need.

Services will be more community based

A redesigned 'front door' for the council will now ensure that people are directed to the right places for the services they need

A new Home First service has been developed which includes a rapid response and reablement service.

A copy of Stephen's presentation will follow when it is available.

### **Transforming Care - John Burgess**

John Burgess gave an overview of Transforming Care Programme.

The Transforming Care Programme aims to improve the services for people with learning disabilities and/or autism who exhibit challenging behaviour or mental health problems. Transforming Care is led by NHS England

Since the Winterbourne scandal a Serious Case Review had identified organisational and commissioning failings including poor training, high staff turnover and a lack of oversight.

In 2014 a report; '*Winterbourne View - Time for Change*' by Sir Stephen Bubb recommended that:

- People should be held to account
- Build more capacity within the community
- People should have the right to challenge admission or continued placement in hospital.

John explained that people were being left in hospital for over a year with no review of their carer needs. Improvements as part of the Transforming Care plan include:

- The CQC had been given enforcement to powers to shut down under performing hospitals
- Better person centred care and support
- Better training for Staff in the local authority and health
- Extended bed services, crisis support
- Improved Positive behavioural Support.

The full presentation will be sent out as an attachment with the minutes.

### **Carers Strategy**

Danielle Mussell has been working on the new Carers Strategy. She said there were around 20,000 carers in Herefordshire and that by 2031 30% of Herefordshire's population will be over 65 compared with 23% nationally.

She explained that previous Carers Strategy ended in 2015 and the new strategy was initially delayed to coincide with the National Carers Strategy that was announced in July 2015 (but is still not ready).

Since 2016 160 carers have been engaged with regarding the Carers Strategy. 17 of those were young carers. Most of their main challenges originated from universal services.

The new Carers Strategy 2017-2-21 was approved by Cabinet in July and is currently with our publishing team.

The current carers services contacts with Herefordshire Carers Support and Crossroads are due to end in March 2018. Carers Services are currently out for tender with a deadline for bids at the end of November.

A Carers Strategy Action group has been set up and will commence on the 30th of October. The group will work like a task and finish group to implement the priorities identified in the Carers strategy.

## **Other issues**

### **LIAG Police Officer Training update**

Valerie updated the group on her work

She is booked to do 2 more sessions with Police cadets on November. All new detectives in Herefordshire and Worcestershire had now been trained. Valerie has also held awareness sessions with Victim Support.

Debbie Hobbs said that the Ambulance Service and the Fire Service had approached her to see if awareness training could be arranged for them.

### **NAS update**

Debbie said that (had the IT been working at the meeting) she would have shown a short film on the autism garden at Saxon Hall. This had starred the Autistic Gardner from Channel 5 (as well as some members of the Board)

The film is going to be shown at the National NAS AGM later this year. A link to the film can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvMP-X-Hpq0&t=2s>

Debbie also reported that Autism Hour had been a great success in Hereford with 52 companies and shops signing up for it. On the first day of the week they had been in Old Market Hereford and had visited nearly all the stores taking part. They were so pleased with the results that they carried it on for the whole week, thanks to the work done by the centre manager Sam Williams. The Co-Op Forum in Hereford, through their region's Area Council member got the whole of the UK Stores involved in Autism Hour.

Debbie also reported that she has been nominated for the Sunshine Pride Awards and has made it to the final. There is an awards evening at the Left Bank in Hereford on November 2. Good luck Debbie!

### **Summerville House**

Colin Howarth from ORBIS came back to the meeting (he last addressed us one year ago) to describe the work that he and colleagues had been doing at the Summerville House school near Presteigne. The school had opened in March and was doing very well. Several autistic youngsters were either living there or attending on a day school basis.

Pupils are offered a range of different activities that are tailored to their own needs and interest. Nikki Pitt said that her son attended the school (he was the first to attend) and he really is benefitting. Colin said that people can visit if they wish to see more – read more at <http://www.orbis-group.co.uk/summerville-house-presteigne/>

### **Autism Strategy – engagement on priority areas**

John described an engagement exercise that the Board had carried out during the summer. It was in the form of a survey which was intended to test to see whether we had identified the right priorities in the draft strategy. The survey had been drawn up by a small working group of board members. It was run during June and July 2017 and had been available as a hard copy or on line through the NAS Hereford website.

In total 60 responses were received. 49 were through the website, 11 were hard copy responses. 23 responders identified themselves as being autistic (a quarter of these were female)

The order of importance given to each of the priority areas in the draft action plan was;

- Education (a lot of parents responded and this might have skewed the results)
- Support for Unpaid Carers and Families
- Housing, Employment & Transport
- Being Safe
- Keeping healthy

A breakdown of the results are attached to the electronic version of these minutes

John then described current progress on agreeing the strategy. We are beginning the engagement process with CCG (a key partner) and this engagement will form part of a larger project that will also address the concerning Learning Disabilities strategy.

There will be a workshop for CCG and Council soon and John will report back on this at the next meeting.

A decision paper on the Learning Disabilities Strategy and Autism Strategy will go to February's meeting of the Cabinet for agreement.

Aubrey expressed his disappointment that further progress in the production of an adult diagnostic pathway had not been made. He thought that there should be more engagement by policy makers and the Partnership Board. The meeting agreed with this and felt that it should be noted in the minutes that producing a strategy is not the same thing as producing a diagnostic pathway – concrete proposals such as a pathway are needed. The meeting agreed that the Board should seek to make their feelings on the issue known to the CCG.

The meeting ended at 1pm

**Dates of the next meetings** (All meetings start at 10am and will be held in the Hereford and Leominster Room at the Herefordshire Council Offices, Plough Lane, Hereford)

- 30th January 2018,
- 17th April 2018
- 10th July 2018
- 16th of October 2018

#### **Attachments**

Transforming Care Presentation October - John Burgess

Carers Strategy Presentation - Danielle Mussell

Autism Strategy – Engagement on priority areas- John Gorman

NAS update

To follow; Accessing Social Care services-the New Blueprint - Stephen Vickers