

Autism Partnership Minutes
23 April 2019 10am-1pm, Bromyard and Sutton Room

Attendees

Gill Gorle	ACSYL
Rob Gorle	ACSYL
Lauren Keen	Carer Link
Debbie Hobbs	Hereford NAS
John Gorman	Herefordshire Council
Laura Ferguson	Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Herefordshire Council

Apologies

Cllr Rone	Herefordshire Council
Cllr Swinglehurst	Herefordshire Council
Les Knight	Herefordshire Council
Lisa Masters	Occupational Therapist
Aubrey Baillie	Autism Advocate
Jade Brooks	CCG
Valerie Fitch	Parent / someone on Autistic Spectrum
John Burgess	CCG
Amanda Bell	Priory Care
Ruth Nolan	SENAD
Mary Simpson	HealthWatch
Carolyn Whippman	Herefordshire Council

Introductions - John and Laura welcomed everyone. John asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Previous Minutes- Laura went through the action points from the last meeting. It was agreed that the action points were too brief and that a condensed minutes including the discussion, decision and actions would be produced for future meetings.

Matters Arising

TOR -Laura went through some changes she would like made to the board's Terms of Reference.

Action 1. - Paul to make suggested changes to the TOR and re-circulate.

Top Tips-John and Paul did not receive any Autism Awareness top tips from board members following January's meeting.

Chair- no board members put themselves forward to be the chair of the Autism Partnership board since January's meeting. The board agreed it needs to recruit an independent chair.

Social Worker representation- currently there are no social workers on the board. They are currently looking to identify champions and who will be invited to future meetings.

April 6th Autism Awareness Event- Autism reality experience bus

John thanked all those who gave up their time on the day to help staff the stand.

Debbie said that 132 people had gone through the experience including 2 education psychologists and 10 teachers. Debbie said the experience had opened some parent's eyes to the difficulties their child faces.

Debbie also said that Hereford NAS did a sponsored walk from Cathedral Close on Sunday 7 of April to raise funds for Autism Awareness week. In total Hereford NAS had managed to raise £2000. The board agreed that it would be a good idea to investigate booking the Autism Reality Experience Bus again in November. It was also suggested that one of the Old Market pods should be booked to give people on the autistic spectrum the opportunity to talk about any concerns.

Action 2- Debbie to try and secure funding for the Bus and Pods via Hoople and Hereford City Council.

Debbie mentioned the Old Market have recruited a community officer for learning disability.

Expert by Experience form - Debbie said they had received 8 returns of interest. 7 from professionals and 1 from a person on the autistic spectrum. Debbie said would publicise the form through Hereford NAS channels including the National NAS. Any relevant local returns of interest would then be forwarded to Paul.

Action 3 – Paul to send electronic version of experts by experience form to Debbie to share through her networks. Debbie to send HEREFORDSHIRE returns to Paul (form amended to reflect if Herefordshire resident).

Making Every Contact Count (MECC) - Laura and Paul met Public Health about creating a MECC+ Autism Awareness / Top Tips training tool and put forward the following proposal detailed into a report which is attached.



Report - proposal
for Autism partners

Laura has developed 8 (Autism) reasonable adjustments top tips. The Autism Partnership is asked to consider the tips and suggest any others they feel would be helpful. It is hoped that the Top Tips will also be used by other groups such as Dementia Partnership Board, LDPB and Mental Health Partnership Board.

Debbie said she would share the NAS's **Understanding Autism** module with the board. The module could be used to generate top tips.

Action 4 -Debbie to circulate NAS's Understanding Autism module to Laura.

Action 5. - Laura to redraft top tips to incorporate action 4.

Action 6. - Paul to circulate Autism Awareness top tips to the board for feedback.

Autism Awareness Videos. The Board had a look at an example of a short campaign video clip on the Council website. The video was set of slides and was no more 30 seconds long. The board agreed that videos would need to include voice based and text material depending on where the video would be shown.

Debbie suggested running the Top Tips by Ruth Nolan from SENAD and Rhiannon Mainwaring from Wye Valley NHS trust for comment and for examples of reasonable adjustments the hospital has made to use in a short video.

Action 7. - Paul to follow up with Ruth Nolan and Rhiannon Mainwaring.

Action 8. – Task and finish working group to come together between meetings to progress a video for Facebook/wider circulation.

Interested parties please volunteer to Paul by 14/ 05/19

Action 9. - The board to discuss MECC training at the next meeting.

It was agreed that MECC training and the raising of autism awareness would be brought forward to the next board meeting

Awareness campaigns

The board agreed to do the following campaigns:

- Recruit Autism experts by experience
- Produce Healthy Living Network leaflet
- Produce Autism Awareness Top Tips short campaign videos for Facebook
- Include Autism awareness campaign for Carers Week (6-10 June)
- Ask Hereford NAS to run Autism Awareness training workshop for councillors.
- Add links to Autism Awareness Top tips leaflet/ training /Facebook campaigns to Autism Partnership webpage.
- Produce an Autism Board logo.

Action 10. – All board members to bring suggested logos to the next meeting.

Crucial Crew- Lauren suggested trying to get Autism Awareness added to the list of topics year 6 primary school pupils learn about autism on Crucial Crew day. Debbie told the group about NAS's **Being me**. This is a CD-ROM / DVD with a series of first-hand accounts of what it is like to be a person on the Autistic spectrum.

Action 11- Laura to ask Les Knight about whether an Autism Awareness workshop could be incorporated into Crucial Crew program.

Paul noted that the Autism Partnership webpage is currently quite visually bland. Over the next few months the page will need to be updated frequently with links to new content. It was suggested that board members look at the webpage and email Paul about changes.

Action 12. - Paul to circulate LDPB web page link to the Autism Partnership board. Members are asked to consider the current content and suggest changes.

Strategy Implementation Plan – update

John went through the plan and noted that several actions were now complete. Others were in the process of being completed. There were a number where no updates had been received.

Action 13. - It was agreed that when reports are issued at future board meeting items complete will be green and items not yet complete / behind schedule will be in amber or red. John to update.

Action 14. -It was agreed that the board should seek to escalate the issue of actions not being updated to the Joint Commissioning Board. Laura to follow up.

Action 15. – John to circulate latest implementation plan update.

It was also agreed that the board needed an independent chair to raise issues such as non-completion of actions as it was inappropriate for council officers to be seen to be raising these issues.

Action 16. – All members to consider nominations for future chair of the board.

Items for next agenda

- MECC plus – Tip tips
- Videos and Logo designs
- Implementation plan update
- Independent chair
- CCG Update
- Feature on Children – Crucial Crew, Capital Investment fund

Action 17. – Paul to ask Les/ Alexia to join the next meeting to focus on children.