

Autism Partnership

16 July 2019. 10-am-1pm,

Venue: Bromyard and Sutton Room, Herefordshire Council Offices

Attendees

Debbie Hobbs	Hereford NAS
Jan Hadfield	Landau
Andy Green	Landau
Anne Pierce	DWP
Kirsty Scott	DWP
Aubrey Baillie	Autism Advocate
Valerie Fitch	Parent / someone on Autistic Spectrum
Michelle Baillon	Carer Trust
Julia Hawkes	SENAD
John Burgess	CCG
Alexia Heath	Herefordshire Council
Les Knight	Herefordshire Council
Laura Ferguson	Herefordshire Council
John Gorman	Herefordshire Council
Paul Choppen	Herefordshire Council

Apologies

Gill Gorle	ACSYL
Rob Gorle	ACSYL
Lisa Masters	Occupational Therapist
Clive Thomas	Landau
Julia Walker	Herefordshire Council

Introductions, Apologies Matters Arising

Paul welcomed everyone and asked people to introduce themselves.

John then went through the previous minutes.

Autism Awareness Event November 5- Debbie has booked two pods. One of which is in the Old Market. Debbie is having a meeting on Monday 22nd July with Hereford City Council about funding.

Autism Champion- Laura said that Julie Walker will be the Operations Autism Champion.

Expert by Experience Forms- Debbie said 5 people have signed the forms. Valerie said she had also expressed her interest.

Crucial Crew- Laura said the Police run Crucial Crew for year 6 pupils 2 weeks at the end of the school year. Each workshop lasts 15 minutes and they are run 10 times a day. Mary said that if the Board wanted to take part we may need to partner with another organization. Laura suggested delaying the discussion to the next meeting.

Partnership Board Logo

Debbie showed off some designs the Hereford NAS adults group had come up with in conjunction with DM Labs. Board members expressed various their opinions on some of the designs and asked Debbie to go back to the group with the board's feedback and ask for some updated drafts.

Independent Chair

Laura asked for volunteers to chair board meetings. Valerie said would be happy to chair the board but is unable to do so until January 2020.

Update / Discussion with the Job Centre-Anne Pierce (Partnership Manager) and Kirsty Scott (Autism Ambassador)

Anne explained that the Job Centre wanted to become more Autism Friendly and wanted to become accredited. They are at the early stages and are looking to build links with colleagues and organizations throughout Herefordshire that they can work in partnership with.

Kirsty said the Job Centre was already making changes to make themselves more Autism Friendly such as:

- Setting up a quiet place in their offices
- Autism Awareness Board- organized by Sue Paisley
- New passports – that individuals can list their strengths / weaknesses and how they want to be treated.
- Job Clubs
- Large / Friendly Staff names on Desks

Landau – Andy Green and Jan Hadfield

Andy and Jan explained the different programs that Landau runs

BBO Programme (Building Better Opportunities).

Andy said Landau is leading a partnership of 12 organizations delivering the BBO programme. The programme is open to people 19+ who want to seek voluntary, education or employment opportunities. Landau works with people to get them into paid work through working with both the employer and employee to make sustainable reasonable adjustments. Once in work Andy can support people for up to 6 weeks.

IPS programme (Individual Placement and Support)

Jan explained that Landau works alongside 2gether clinical teams helping people with mental health issues return to work. Once a participant states that they want to return to work Landau and 2gether will put them on the programme and help them prepare for interviews. Landau can support the person through the interview process and into employment.

NEET Programme

Jan also briefly explained the NEET programme is for young people between 16-24 years of old who are not in education, employment or training.

Jan said the programmes funded till 2020 by the EU. The government has committed to funding these programmes until 2023 should the UK leave the European Union.

Action 1- Paul to add Jan and Andy from Landau to Autism Partnership mailing list.

Children's Services- IP objectives-Les Knight

Needs Assessment Gap Analysis- Les said that an overall needs assessment has been completed as part of the Children's Integrated Needs Assessment (CHINA)

The Autism Strategy indicated that Herefordshire had a lower rate of diagnosis than the national average and CHINA demonstrates that fewer children with EHC Plans have autism as a primary need.

The Council's Capital Investment Strategy for SEND has identified a need to carry out more detailed analyses than CHINA provides to determine where the gaps in provision are (if any).

The report on the needs analysis can be seen here;



Template -APB IP-
Needs asses and Ga

Children's Diagnostic Pathway – Les said that after delays the pathway should be completed by September. The delay was due to one of the pediatricians being ill.

Les also explained that the Beacon College Special Academy will be opening in 2021. It will have places for 50 pupils aged from 16 to 19, with severe and complex learning difficulties.

The latest progress report on the pathway can be seen here;



Template -APB
implementation plan

Update on Implementation Plan- John Gorman

John said that Neville Meredith is still working on the Prevent strategy. John had no other updates reported to him.

Discussion - Next Year's Priorities

Autism Diagnostic Pathway- The group all agreed that being able to get an Autism Diagnosis locally was the number 1 priority. Debbie said Bristol had stopped accepting request for an Autism Diagnosis from other counties. Aubrey said the CCG has failed to engage with us.

A conversation ensued about the need for an Autism Diagnostic Pathway. Several key points were stated:

- Valerie said that having a diagnosis enables you to access the right services.
- Mary pointed out that there should also be aftercare help and support for people after having a diagnosis. Mary said we could link with another local authority to get a diagnostic pathway.

John Burgess informed the group that Herefordshire's and Worcester's CCG were in the process of merging and so there was a lot of upheaval. John said it might be useful to ask Worcester's Autism

Action 2- Paul to invite Worcester Autism Partnership board to a future meeting.

Partnership Board to come and talk about their diagnostic pathway. John also stated Simon Trickett will be the Director of the Herefordshire and Worcester CCG.

Action 3- Laura to draft a letter for the Board to send to Simon Trickett about the current lack of an Autism Diagnosis Pathway in Herefordshire.

Aubrey and Valerie both said they were happy to sign the letter as acting psychotherapist and the proposed future Autism Partnership Chair respectfully.

GP coding of Patients with Autism-Aubrey asked for an update from GP Simon Lennane on this.

Action 4- Paul to invite Simon Lennane to a future meeting.

Any other Business

LIAG Valerie has been training 12 new Police recruits on Autism Awareness training. All of them will be working with communities in Worcestershire.

She is also been working with social services, housing and Herefordshire Council helping people who do not identify as Autistic but may still need reasonable adjustments made for them.

Autism Alert Card- Debbie said the police forces were rolling out Autism Alert cards for people on the Autistic Spectrum. It will hold basic information including the individual’s name and contact details for an appropriate adult.

NAS-Debbie reminded the board about some events coming up

October 7-13 Autism Hour

November 9th NAS Charity Ball

November 12th -Purple Tuesday- the event highlights the needs of disabled shoppers. Any organizations taking part has to agree to making at least one long term commitment to improve the experience of disabled shoppers.

Healthwatch- May told the board about some of Healthwatch’s campaigns.

Mental Health- What you can do yourself

Men’s Health –What can we do to help men come forward and talk about their health issues

Name	Actions
Paul	1. Action 1- Paul to add Jan and Andy from Landau to Autism Partnership mailing list
	2. Action 2- Paul to invite Worcester Autism Partnership board to a future meeting.
	3. Action 4- Paul to invite Simon Lennane to a future meeting
Laura	4. Draft a letter to Simon Trickett about the Autism Diagnosis Pathway

Items for Next Agenda:

1. Crucial Crew
2. Autism Diagnostic Pathway
3. GP coding of Patients with Autism
4. Items for next Agenda **and** Implementation Plan 2020
5. Worcestershire Pathway-conversation with Laura Westwood (Worcestershire CCG)