

MORAY AUTISM PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES

Wednesday 6th August 2014 at 12.30pm

The Gallery, Elgin Library

Chair:	David Silvester
Co-Chair:	None at present

In Attendance:	Andrew O'Brien	Elliot Russell	Edward Fittell
	Tracie Wills (HSC)	Heidi Sands	Robert Maxwell
<u>Key:</u>	Gordon Thow	James Maxwell	Ann Maxwell
HSC = Health & Social Care	Jennie Williams (HSC)	Louise McKenzie	William McLean
CF = Children and Families	Colin Mowat (PS)	Alison Thow (PS)	Anne Pendery (CF)
PS = Police Scotland	Emma Sharpe (HSC)	Fiona McPherson (HSC)	Addie Maxwell
	Minute taker – Rachel Foster (HSC)		

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	ACTION POINT	ACTION REQUIRED
1. Welcome from the Chairs	David welcomed everyone to the meeting. Unfortunately no co-chair was present as Xacquelina Bello has stood down from the role and John Campbell, who will serve as acting co-chair, was on annual leave.	
2. Strategy Update	<p>Anne Pendery introduced the 10 year Moray Autism Strategy, for all ages and all abilities. It was launched in January 2014 following its adoption by Moray Council, NHS Grampian and the Moray Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>There are 5 main themes of the strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All autism services and developments are planning by the Local Authority, National Health Services in Moray and our partners working together. 2. There is a clear process for people to find out if they have autism. 3. People with autism and their families understand the condition and feel supported. 4. The wider community supports those with autism because they know about and understand the condition. 5. Everyone with autism is supported to make the full use of the opportunities and services available to meet their needs. <p>Workshops then took place on areas 1, 3 and 4, with board members breaking into groups to consider what actions need to take place.</p>	

4. Training Update	<p>Emma Sharpe, Training Facilitator, gave a brief update on the Autism Awareness training.</p> <p>More than 500 people have received basic awareness training from the autism training team. There are now seven associated trainers who are keen to deliver more sessions either at the Moray Council annexe or to travel out to organisations to provide flexible, individually tailored training.</p> <p>TEACCH (Treatment and education of autistic and related communication handicapped children) training was held where 17 professionals attended. This went well and a second 2-day training will take place in late November 2014. The training is open to all those working with children and adults with Autism.</p>	
5. One Stop Shop	<p>Emma gave an update on the One Stop Shop project. Moray Council hopes to be in a position shortly to appoint an Autism Development Co-ordinator for one year, who will get service up and running.</p> <p>As part of the strategy development people have already said what they want from a Moray One Stop Shop.</p> <p>The official launch of the Aberdeen One Stop Shop takes place on XX and board members are welcome to attend.</p>	John Campbell to update on appointment
6. Feedback on Group Discussions	<p>Workshop facilitators Tracie Wills, Emma Sharpe and Fiona McPherson fed back on the discussion. Here are some of the main points that were raised:</p> <p><u>Workshop 1</u> – All autism services and developments are planning by the Local Authority, National Health Services in Moray and our partners working together.</p> <p><u>Development of the board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of meetings per year were discussed, it was felt 3 months between each board is a long time. It was agreed that in between boards meetings will take place between the 3 leads: John Campbell, Anne McKenzie, Pat McLennan, to plan and ensure the right people/ information is taken to the board. • Promotion is key for attendance. Use social media, etc to get word out. Queried how do we get the right professionals here? • It was agreed that there isn't one time that suits all, so perhaps have a mixture of day/ evening meetings. It was also commented that winter meetings be avoided. • Co-chair required. • Need clarity on the board (role and remit) and its audience if we want to encourage more people to attend. I.e. what are the Governance/ Reporting arrangements? • Should be able to hold Health & Social Care to account, via an Action Plan. Need to have the 3 leads in attendance. • Would be good to have an Autism Champion on the Council to highlight the work of the board. 	

- Need to tell people what the topic is for the next board meeting so if it's something of interest they can plan to attend.
- Minutes to be taken and put on the webpage for all to see.
- To ensure attendance it was suggested that officially appointed board members should be in place; i.e. one from each association. However it was felt this may not work, organisation should just send a nominated representative to attend in their place.
- Queried if the board should be less formal, thought "board" may put people off.
- Attendance was discussed and felt that representation is required from the Rowan Centre, GPs, etc.

Workshop 2: The wider community supports those with autism because they know about and understand the condition.

Training and awareness

- Linking with Education Services (Guidance Teachers) and colleges to gain student awareness.
- Keen to follow the Dementia Campaign and have an Autism Champion. Emma advised that this has been looked into.
- Promotion – Spread the word via social media, newspapers, etc. Use personal experiences, not just facts and figures.
- Felt that instead of just receiving training it would be good to have a way to show organisations are Autism friendly, an accreditation scheme. Suggestion was using mystery shoppers.
- Need a communications/ awareness-raising plan.
- Develop an identity/brand for the board which could be used in promotions to make it more local to people such as information on the back of car park tickets.
- Different levels – awareness raising for the general public and more intensive training for services which may have contact with people with autism in difficult situations such as the police.
- Mentoring scheme – for newly diagnosed people it can be disheartening to be told what they can't achieve, have adults with autism link with young people/families to allow them to see what the future can hold.
- Link with other organisations, i.e. NAS re the training they provide.

Workshop 3 – People with autism and their families understand the condition and feel supported.

One Stop Shop:

- Make use of premises which are already available for rent such as Elgin Youth Café one day a week to start with. Look for opportunities to hold monthly outreach sessions around Moray. Good to combine them in community

	<p>facilities which people would be more confident going to.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One stop shop would need to have support from education as it's a vital link. • Need to be aware of the realistic parameters. What is achievable in the first year etc? • For future development would need to have a constituted group to look at sourcing funding. Would this be a social enterprise? • People could look at which are good leaflets to have or recommended reading. Would need to address issue of storage of materials if using premises such as the youth café. • Link with other One Stop Shops, i.e. Aberdeen, Inverness. • Team of volunteers to work with the Autism Development Coordinator to develop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Elliot Russell volunteered to be part of this process. • Being mobile – could hire the information bus? <p>The initiative was taken by one group which approached Elgin Library staff for support. There is a desk with a computer that is free to be booked. It was agreed that this could be a starting point for the Autism Development Coordinator to have a presence and get a service up and running.</p> <p>The comments made in the workshops will be fed back to the 3 lead officers for the strategy to help inform the action plan. The leads are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Campbell for Adult Services • Pat McLennan for Children Services • Anne McKenzie for Health Services <p><u>Action Plan</u> – Tracie Wills put it to the board that the action plan to support delivery of the strategy needs to be presented to members for scrutiny and ongoing monitoring. The board wishes to consider a draft plan at the next meeting.</p>	
Strategy action plan		Rachel to arrange a meeting between the 3 lead officers
7. Any Other Business	<p><u>National Questionnaire</u> – Anne Pendery advised this questionnaire has gone out to all board members and will be placed on the Moray Council autism webpage. It is from Professor Tommy McKay who is trying to gather information from people with autism and parents and carers.</p> <p><u>Theme for the Next Meeting</u> – It was agreed diagnosis pathway would be the theme of the next meeting. Ali Walker, NHS Grampian, to be asked to lead the discussion or nominate a substitute.</p> <p>Feedback will be provided from the Children's Services Pilot.</p>	<p>Ali Walker to be contacted.</p> <p>Jennie Williams</p>
8. Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 5 th November 2014 at 12.30pm in the Gallery, Elgin Library.	