

**PARTNERSHIP BOARD DELIVERY GROUP  
PEOPLE WITH AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER**

**24<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**11.30 – 1.00**

**Conference Room 1 Calder Vale Road, Wakefield.**

**PRESENT**

Jayne Gilmour	Family Services
Rebecca Squirrell	Family Services
Kate Pearson	WMDC
Karen Bulmer	Solor Care Group
Rachael Margrave	Back in Touch
Gillian Quinn	Cloverleaf Advocacy
Ann Rutter	SWYMHT
Carey-Anne Sykes	SENSS

**APOLOGIES**

Jim Leyland	Family Services
Anne McAreavey	SWYMHT
Caroline Slater	WMDC
Stephanie Gibson	WDPCT
Karen McGuire	Service User Representative
Margaret Short	Carer
Sue Sharp	SENSS
Ann Shepherd	Highfields

1. Jayne circulated a Briefing note on the implications of the Autism Act 2009. The Autism Strategy needs to be produced by 1.4.10. The delivery plan will need to be revisited to make sure it is in accordance with the strategy.

**2. Minutes of meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and matters arising**

**Autism Alert Cards**

- Kate said that the cards were a success at Highfield.
- Kate said that Ann Shepherd has kept a few and would roll them out in school.
- Carey-Anne Sykes said that two people at St Thomas a Beckett carry them.
- Gillian Quinn said that they were already being used by some members of the Adults Group and they were generally positive about them, but training with the wider public is important.
- One person had a negative experience with A&E
- Jayne said that we need to do some work with Mid Yorks NHS Trust
- Karen Bulmer said that she was waiting to hear from West Midlands re the training they had done.

- Carey-Anne said that she would be happy to be involved with training.
- Gillian said that a few people in the Adults group wanted to contribute to training.
- Becky said we can buy and issue the cards and also people can get them for free on an individual basis.
- Do we focus resources on training and signpost people how to get the cards themselves.
- Gillian, Carey-Anne and Karen to get together to plan training and produce an outline proposal.

#### Update on Needs assessment

- Becky and Gillian met with Paradigm who have developed a key contact list of people who they might like to speak to.

### **3. Update on Care Manager Post**

- This post has been established as a one year post, full time and money has been put aside from the Mental Health Grant.
- The group were agreeable to this post being a secondment which will be open to qualified Social Workers or Qualified Nurses across MH teams and LD teams.
- Jayne will bring back formal job role at a later stage.

### **4. Update on Employment**

- Rachael Margrave gave an update for the service which has been running for 6 months.
- 16 people have enrolled
- 4 new referrals
- 3 people in full time paid work
- 2 voluntary
- Looking at promoting to wider audience
- Since Christmas nothing from DEA's
- Jayne suggested sending leaflets to SCD, young people's service, LAC.
- Rachael said they are looking to go to colleges, schools with 6<sup>th</sup> forms to get people at 18 when they leave school.
- There have been 3 jobs outcomes (job carve WMDC, Pizza Hut, Robinia Care).
- Pugneys voluntary worker, looking at becoming permanent paid.
- Rachael to bring case studies back to next meeting.
- Waiting to hear about bid to department of health to get consultant to work with council and other public sector providers. If we get money amount of jobs across public sector will increase.

## **5. Specification for Befriending service**

- Jayne outlined the idea
- The service would mostly be for people living on their own, although exceptions would be considered.
- Volunteers would be matched with someone with autism to do what they needed for several hours a week.
- Becky asked how long the voluntary relationship would last
- Jayne said that at the moment there was no definite view on this
- Gillian said that if it was a two year pilot there would be lots of issues about dependency.
- Jayne said that because it is a new service there is the opportunity to manage specification if it is not working for people and put money aside to extend after pilot period.
- Friendships will come from this also independence.
- Jayne said that in total we have about £70,000, part of that has to be for MH carers, about £40,000 in total for this. We are talking about one worker, recruiting volunteers.
- Jayne said that if the group were okay with this then an invitation to quote would go out in the next couple of weeks.
- Providers would need to register on the Council SCMS system to put a quote in. The Contracts section can provide assistance with registering.

## **6. Funding for 2009/10**

- Jayne informed the group that there is still about £30,000 which needs to be spent by the end of March, and asked for suggestions for using this money.
- Gillian said that the support group for autism had a small library of resources which was in need of updating. Gillian and Laura had trawled through the resources available, priced them and put together a bid of £430 to re-establish the library.
- Gillian also said that a grant would help the group become more sustainable and they would also like to develop a network in South Yorkshire or Leeds.
- Jayne said that the support group would be a good way to spend some of the money.
- The group agreed that £15,000 should go to the Wakefield Support Group for Autism – Adults Group. Becky to sort this out with Gillian.
- The remaining £15,000 is to be used on training in terms of raising awareness and developing skills around working with people with autism.

- There was a discussion regarding sensory equipment and perhaps setting up a loan service for parents to access equipment to try out before they buy.
- Jayne will put on the delivery plan to look at sensory equipment.

**7. Any other business**

Gillian circulated copies of the newsletter "Autism Wakefield" and also cards showing the on line group address.

**8. Date of next meeting**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2010, 12.00 – 1.30, Conference Room 1, Calder Vale Road.