

Scottish Strategy for Autism

Work Group 4

Actions and Plans: June 2015 - May 2016

The group has met twice over this period.

Meeting of 9th May was cancelled and re-scheduled for 23rd June 2016.

The group considered the availability of information regarding capacity for diagnostic assessments across, what is now HSCPs. They looked towards Autism Achieve Alliance and the detail required was not available within this research.

Local autism co-ordination scoping report also did not give this detail. Now - Local strategies and action plans should capture a significant amount of this data.

Plan – Report on diagnostic capacity and training needs as highlighted in local autism strategies and action plans.

The group is in agreement that a priority area for targeted capacity building is the education sector.

The group discussed the development of a training framework for education, however the starting point must be identifying what exists and of that, what has the greatest impact on changing practice.

A report is available regarding outcomes of funded modules at Strathclyde University and how this knowledge is being used by attendees in promoting practice change within their organisations.

A report is available on the impact in changing practice resulting from funded DISCO course.

Awaiting report from Open University

Plan –Request outcome data,(has this training made a difference to your practice) from previously funded training initiatives.

Request information on inclusion of Autism in training syllabus of teacher training establishments. (Scot Government)

Collate information on availability of training and teaching opportunities including initiatives funded by development funds. (ANS)

Request report on outcomes of 'Train the trainers' award developed by Scottish Autism.

Consider impact on changing practice across different models of training/teaching.

The group feel strongly that autistic people should be significant drivers in capacity building, whether developing, delivering, contributing to or advising, and that the rights of autistic people to be equal and valued citizens, must be upheld and emphasised within all training. This necessitates a conscious shift from an ablest ethos to an ethos of true equality.

Plan – Consider the relevance of the National Involvement Network charter in the supporting of future training initiatives.

Several care organisations have reported to the group, the development of innovative approaches to sharing good practice and capacity building within their services.

Plan – Consider how can we harvest information regarding models of capacity building, within existing resources that impact on service delivery.

The group has had several discussions with regard to the various Autism alert card schemes available across Scotland.

A smaller core group have met to consider a way forward with respect to this aspect of our work plan.

The smaller group considered the issue and advised that there should continue to be a range of options available to autistic people across Scotland, including self produced cards and self prompt cards.

ANS is developing an information resource page that will identify cards available, explain differences, give details of how to access cards and develop guidance on creating individual cards.