

Scottish Strategy for Autism

Work Group 4

Actions and Plans: June 2016 - Sept 2016

The group has met once over this period.

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

The most significant piece of work from work group 4 has been the development of an 'autism alert card' information page on the Autism Network Scotland website. Both Kabie Brook and Jayne Porter dedicated a significant amount of time to complete this work.

There are still a few final stages to be finalised before the page will go live.

A clear understanding of diagnostic capacity, especially in Adult services, across services has been difficult to secure. Work is underway to scope what service responses and pathways are currently available across Scotland.

To inform the raising of capacity within children's services, both education and social work, several potential options have been discussed. The next meeting of the working group will invite both Paul McWatt, Education Scotland, to discuss adding the use of the autism toolbox to the school inspection criteria and a representative from AET (Autism Education Trust) to discuss how Scotland could learn and benefit from the service they provide in England and Wales.

Next meeting to be arranged in mid November.

Workgroup 4

- (i) Complete and implement NHS Education for Scotland (NES) training framework and roll out to NHS Scotland (the group will meet to advise when required)
- (ii) Support the Open University and the University of Strathclyde to provide free autism awareness training (no further finance will be committed to this)
- (iii) Further consideration to rolling out the Autism Alert Card and links to other alert cards (work complete)
- (iv) Consider rolling out Framework to other services e.g. Social Work

(Next meeting to consider how to impact on training in children services.)

Given the current position with regard to group 4 priorities it may be beneficial to consider meeting when required, for consultancy around specific issues, rather than scheduling quarterly meetings. In this way, members could opt in or out depending on specific purpose of the meeting.