Summary of key messages and action items
Working Group 3 meeting, June 24, 2015

KEY MESSAGES

Group Three is looking at the Goal: *Consistent adoption of good practice guidance in key areas of education, health and social care across all local authority areas*

Working Group 3 heard an update from a member of the Scottish Autism Research Group. SARG has recently been revitalized, holding an event in February 2015 and planning another for February 2016. They are also involved with Autistica-funded projects to build cohorts of children and adults with autism and their families for participation in autism research.

The Group remains keen to see the outcomes from the Autism Development Fund projects; however, the evaluation of these projects is reliant on final reports and evaluations being completed by the project organisations and for these to be analysed to identify good practice. Timing is tight for this to be completed before the 4th Annual Conference on the Scottish Strategy for Autism, tentatively scheduled for November 2015. The group has offered to support the evaluation by creating a framework, and awaits word from the Scottish Government on whether they should undertake this work.
Post meeting note (AP): Following SG discussions, an evaluation framework will not be developed but funded projects which have had good outcomes will be highlighted and showcased at the annual event.

The Group will be creating an online knowledge network, in the form of a forum hosted on the Autism Network Scotland website. It will be called the "Sharing Practice Network" and development work is continuing. The Group intends to formally launch the network at the November Conference.

The Action on Autism Research Series Report is due to be completed at the end of summer and presented at the next Governance Group meeting.

ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

1. **ACTION ITEM:** JNM to follow up with AWD to get more details about proposed event (June 2015) – Action on Autism Research (AAR) Series event was held on June 23, TW and JP from Autism Network Scotland attended, as did AP from Scottish Government. The event gave an

overview of the themes from each event in the series was presented. The AAR group will meet once more to make final recommendations as a result of the series.

2. **ACTION ITEM:** KA and AWD to liaise on JADD edition – it was noted that this is more likely to be a book, not a journal

3. **ACTION ITEM:** JP to send examples of forum descriptions ("blurbs") to full group for consideration. – DONE (for consideration today)

4. **ACTION ITEM:** Group to send ideas on blurb, code of conduct, privacy settings and moderation to TW for collation and dissemination before next meeting. – for discussion today

5. **ACTION ITEM:** JP to invite someone from SARG to attend a Working Group 3 meeting to tell the group about their start up and processes. – David Simmons in attendance today

6. **ACTION ITEM:** JP to send RP contact information for dentist in Highland with autism resources -DONE

7. **ACTION ITEM**: JNM to call Annette Pyle to ask about status and offer for a small group to help to guide the assessor on what to look for. - DONE

NEW ACTION ITEMS

1. **ACTION ITEM:** AP to discuss with Jess McPherson, Scottish Government, how ADF projects will be evaluated and timescales.

2. **ACTION ITEM**: JP will draft a blurb for the new Knowledge Network based on group feedback and circulate it by email. She will also circulate the Network's Participation Principles for discussion.

3. **ACTION ITEM:** TW to check on technological requirements of open forum, if the forum has capacity to be accessed/registered for by 100+ at once

4. **ACTION ITEM**: LS to provide TW with contact information for someone who works with the NAS forums, to discuss obstacles, etc