

Working Group 2 Meeting Minutes
20th January 2016
Number 6 One Stop Shop, Edinburgh

APPROVED

Members present: James Fletcher, ARC Scotland (CHAIR); Scott Richardson-Read, ARC Scotland; Lynsay Haglington, East Dunbartonshire Council/Social Work; Ian Hood, Learning Disability Alliance Scotland; Kirsten Hogg, Camphill Scotland; Arlene Johnstone, Social Work Scotland/NHS Highland; John Dalziel, Skills Development Scotland; Zoe Robertson, Perth and Kinross Council; Annette Pyle, Scottish Government Care, Support and Rights

Apologies: Lynsey Stewart, Autism Network Scotland; Anna Cooper, National Autistic Society; Laura Dykes, Parent; John Butcher, Directors of Education; Nicola Thomson, Scottish Government Care, Support and Rights; Leia Fitzgerald, Higher Education/Scottish Government

Minutes by: Annie Watson, Autism Network Scotland

- I. **Previous minutes and action points** - previous minutes were approved. JF noted that Leia Fitzgerald had been in touch to say she would not be continuing her membership of the group but could be contacted for matters concerning Higher Education.

Review of action items

- a. Agreed that most action items to be covered in rest of agenda
 - b. **AI 8 – SR to disseminate Chips report – DONE**
- II. **Using the Census to understand autism transitions** - IH has put together a document summarising how the 2011 Census can be used to understand autism transitions, which was shared with the group. IH noted that this provides a snapshot of information only, and relevant that done in year the Autism Strategy was launched. The next Census will take place the year the 10 year Strategy ends, so will be a useful tool for looking at progress.

The group discussed the data and identified some additional information that could be extracted from the Census. The group was also keen to find out what other sources of data could be accessed to inform its work.

ACTION ITEM: AP to arrange meeting with JF and the Learning Disability Observatory to discuss what additional data can be accessed

ACTION ITEM: IH to share list of questions asked in Census to group

ACTION ITEM: IH to update document to include snapshots of economic activity for each year group from 16 to 25. To be discussed at next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: JD to pass on details of the information that Skills Development Scotland has access to via the Fair Work Directorate data hub. To be discussed at the next meeting.

- III. **Feedback from annual Strategy Conference** – Members of the group that attended the Conference reported that it had been a useful event for networking with good quality discussions in workshops. Working Group 2 had input to two of the workshop sessions. JF shared the feedback from one of these

sessions. The group was interested in hearing the overall feedback from the conference.

ACTION ITEM: LS to circulate the feedback from the Conference evaluation forms.

IV. Review of January 2016 Work plan and next steps

a. **Links with Keys to Life accessible transport initiative** – The group discussed whether it could have any useful input on the issue of lack of accessible transport. It was decided that the group would have little control over this but it may be able to have some influence on whether local areas are addressing the issue.

ACTION ITEM: LS to speak to Donald MacLeod of the National Autism Co-ordination Project about whether transport is being covered in Local Authority Strategies and their discussions with the area lead officers.

b. **Maintaining links with strategy lead officers** – JF noted the importance of staying in touch with the local area lead officers following the group's input to their Collaborative event at the end of 2015. It was decided that it would be useful for LA leads to have access to Working Group 2's Work plan and to be able to comment on it. The group would also like to have representation at a future Collaborative event to ensure transitions remains on their agendas and find out what they have achieved since the last event.

ACTION ITEM: JF to look at the Work plan in context of its usefulness to LA leads and meet with Donald MacLeod and Jean MacLellan to discuss next steps.

c. **Autism supplement to next edition of Principles of Good Transitions** – Autism Network Scotland offered to take on the development of the autism supplement to the Principles of Good Transitions 3 (PoGT3) document and this was accepted by the group. It is hoped that this will be published and launched alongside PoGT3 in the summer.

ACTION ITEM: LS to move PoGT3 autism supplement forwards through discussions with JF and SR.

d. **Making links with new Innovation fund projects** – AP reported that the list of funded projects is not quite ready to share due to final negotiations. AP noted that of over 40 funded projects, at least 20 would be working towards Outcome 4 (Active Citizenship: People with autism are able to participate in all aspects of community and society by successfully transitioning from school into meaningful educational or employment opportunities). Inspiring Scotland will be working with all funded projects on meeting their outcomes, evidencing and evaluating impact, building capacity, supporting understanding of the commissioning landscape and ensuring sustainability.

AP reported that there will be opportunities for Working Group representatives to meet with Inspiring Scotland and the funded projects throughout the year at networking events.

V. **SCLD Autism and Transitions Event** – SCLD are due to host an event on autism and transitions in March. JF has been asked to present at the event, and the group gave consent for him to do so on behalf of the work of Working Group 2.

ACTION ITEM: AP to discuss with Chris Creegan (Chief Executive, SCLD) how better links with the ongoing work of the Autism Strategy can be made.

VI. **Any Other Business**

- a. SR shared a draft version of a document he is developing that seeks to simplify the complex legislative landscape for transitions in Scotland. The final version of this will appear in PoGT3.
- b. SR noted that NHS National Services Scotland is looking at the cost of getting transitions wrong within primary/secondary healthcare services. The report on this will be out by April, and looks at Additional Support Needs broadly rather than being autism specific.

VII. **Date of next meeting** – Dates for all 2016 meetings have been circulated by email.

Work Group 2 had a substantial input to the Scottish Strategy for Autism annual conference in December. We organised two transitions workshops to be delivered by Dundee City Council, City of Edinburgh Council and Highland One Stop Shop. In addition the Chair delivered a keynote presentation on the work of the group. We are reviewing existing data, including that available through the 2011 national census, to get a clearer picture of the numbers of young people with autism who received post-school support

ACTION ITEMS

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