

Summary of action items
Working Group 1 meeting, 28 September 2016

KEY MESSAGES

Workgroup One is looking at the Goal: *Access to integrated service provision across the lifespan to address the multi-dimensional aspects of autism.*

Working Group 1 has found that attendance at the group has begun to dwindle and members feel this may be a reflection of the need to review again the role and membership of the group and reconfirm its function. A number of its Work Plan activities have been achieved, such as the appointment of the National Coordination Team, whilst other priorities are felt to be out with what the group can realistically address, such as the sustainability of the One Stop Shops. Some activities have been overtaken by events or the work of others, such as considering the impact of new diagnostic criteria. Two remaining priorities which the group feel there remains significant work outstanding to bridge the gap between strategy and reality are diagnosis and commissioning.

In addition the group reflected that the overall Goal 'Access to integrated service provision across the lifespan to address the multi-dimensional aspects of autism' is too vague an aspiration to provide a sense of purpose for the group without further guidance.

The conclusion of the group is that clarity should be sought about what the Governance Group requires from the workgroup (that is achievable by the group), and the optimal structure and membership of the group to achieve this and in particular move forward the two priorities described above.

ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

- a. DM to share newly updated distribution list of SDS leads with group via AP.

ACTION POINT – AG to contact DM to request this.

- b. CS to contact ANS to arrange for remaining hard copies of Guidelines for Assessing Adults with Autism for SDS to be delivered to them at the University of Strathclyde.

CS will deliver these to AG when attending the Governance Group on 6th October.

- c. ANS to investigate whether a straightforward method of evaluating the impact of the above document can be arranged.

To be carried over to the following meeting.

- d. Guidelines for Assessing Adults with Autism for SDS document to feature in the upcoming Scottish Strategy for Autism newsletter, inviting recipients to contribute comments on their previous experiences of its implementation ahead of the new edition.

ACTION POINT – ANS to discuss with local authorities whether the hard copies of the Guidelines that were delivered to them are being used in practice.

The Guidelines are currently available online via both the [Autism Network Scotland website](#) and the [Scottish Strategy for Autism website](#). As much has been learned since the original document's publication the group discussed how the Guidelines might now be updated. CS has carried out a review of the Guidelines, the results of which will be discussed in the next meeting.

- e. CS to circulate document on Glasgow audit of SDS implementation.

Carried over.

- f. DM to provide links to further information about SDS practices.

DM presented on SDS practices for autistic people at the meeting of the Autism Lead Officers and Support Providers Collaboratives at the University of Strathclyde on 14th

September. The group discussed the information presented here and suggested that the next edition of the *Guidelines for Assessing Adults with Autism for SDS* could complement both the information DM presented and the practical work carried out by the National Autism Co-ordination Project in viewing service provision around Scotland.

- g. AP to share new SIGN guidelines after publication for discussion at next meeting.

AP has shared the link to the PDF which AG has circulated to the group.

EH informed the group that she understands that the finished Guidelines are to be put to consultation and that Health Improvement Scotland (HIS) are discussing a potential event to publicise the new document. Autism Network Scotland would alternatively consider methods of publicising the Guidelines on HIS behalf. The booklets written for Parents & Carers, Young people, and Adults on the Autism Spectrum will each be updated following the publication of the new Guidelines.

The Fifth Annual National Autism Conference is to take place on 16th January 2017 and might feature an official launch for the new Guidelines.

- h. CS to speak to the Directors of Scottish Autism and the National Autistic Society, with a view to putting together a two page summary about the lessons to be learnt in regard to the commissioning of the One Stop Shops.

Carried over to next meeting.

- i. RI to initiate the writing of the Working Group's response to be shared by AG for others to then contribute.

Done.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

ACTION POINT – AG to contact DM to request updated distribution list of SDS leads for circulation.

ACTION POINT – ANS to discuss with local authorities whether the hard copies of the Guidelines for Assessing Adults with Autism for SDS document that were delivered to them are being used in practice.

ACTION POINT – AP to pass her copy of the working document of Guidelines for Assessing Adults with Autism for SDS to ANS for editing (to be compared with document provided via email by CS.)

ACTION POINT – AG to request document on Glasgow audit of SDS implementation for circulation.

ACTION POINT - AG to add link to SIGN Guidelines PDF to the Key Documents page on the Scottish Strategy for Autism website.

ACTION POINT – AP to contact SIGN to discuss launching the new Guidelines document at the Fifth Annual National Autism Conference.

ACTION POINT – AP to circulate one-page SLDO summary document to the group, via AG.

ACTION POINT – AP to contact autism leads to share Lothian care pathway as an example of good practice.

ACTION POINT – AE to find out how a CPD course would become accredited by NES so that GPs will go on to access it.

ACTION POINT – AP to contact TM regarding the sharing of the finished Microsegmentation report.

ACTION POINT – AG to circulate the date of the 5th Annual National Scottish Strategy for Autism National Conference to all working group members.

[Full minutes can be viewed by clicking here](#)