

# ASD Reference Group Template – Database of Skills and Experience

Health and Social Care Integration Directorate  
Adult Care and Support Division



We would like to develop a repository of skills / experience which ASD Reference Group members have, in order to ensure that these are adequately covered within the Group to finalise and take forward the Recommendations of the Autism Strategy. Please could you complete and return the short template below:

## **Carolyn Brown**

### **1. Academic background / Training**

Carolyn Brown is an Area Depute Principal Psychologist with Fife Council Psychological Service and has been a manager in that Service for twenty years. She is also a trained secondary and additional support needs teacher as well being a trained educational psychologist (HPC registered). Degrees include: BA joint Hons, M.Ed & M.App.Sci.

### **2. Work Experience**

Carolyn worked she worked for a number of years as a teacher in secondary, primary and special education. Following that she has worked in Fife as an educational psychologist for over twenty-three years. She has contributed to a number of national groups involved with autism including the HMIE Autism Spectrum Report and the Scottish Government's Education Autism Working Group which commissioned the Autism Toolbox.

### **3. Strengths**

Currently Carolyn represents the profession of educational psychology via the Association of Scottish Principal Educational Psychologists on a number of national groups including the Autism National Reference Group.

Carolyn has had a long-term interest in children and young people on the autism spectrum based on her contact with pupils, schools and families as well as her involvement in policy development and strategic planning within Fife Council. She was instrumental in establishing Fife Education Service's ASD Strategy Group and continues to be a member of that group and act on its behalf. Carolyn is also a member of a number of other strategic groups in Fife which operate to further the interests of children and young people on the autism spectrum. This includes multi-agency planning groups.

### **4. Skills**

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Carolyn was instrumental in the development of the WASP project (West Fife Autism Spectrum Pilot Project) and ASCA developments (Autism Spectrum Community Assessment). These are multi-agency care pathways which gather assessment information to identify and diagnose children and yp on the autism spectrum and are located and co-ordinated by schools. This development has met with success, is an embedded process operating across all of Fife and has reduced waiting lists for diagnosis by over 50%