

Action Notes

Highland Autism Strategy Meeting

1-3pm on Thursday 27th April 2017

Board Room, John Dewar Building, Inverness



Chair	Arlene Johnstone - Complex Case Planning Manager
Present	<p>Donald MacLeod, Autism Network Scotland Jean MacLellan, Autism Network Scotland Craig Lowther, Inverness College Gill MacLennan, Autism Initiatives Highland One Stop Shop Neil MacNamara, Consultant Psychiatrist, NHS Highland Faith Wilson, Autism Diagnostician, NHS Highland Kabie Brook ARGH & Joshua Hennessy Support Worker Amy Smyth, Secretary, Friends of Autism Highland Neil MacLeod, Shirlie Project Cathie McGibbon, Police Scotland Isobel Greegan, Highlands & Islands Autism Society Alan Tubb, Highland & Islands Autism Society</p>
In attendance	Christine Sutherland – PA/Admin Support to Arlene Johnstone

Item	AGREED ACTION	Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies</u></p> <p><u>Apologies:</u></p> <p>Debbie Mackinnon, Key Community Supports Liz Syred, Connecting Carers Gordon Davidson, Thera Scotland David Main, Social Worker, NHS Highland Stephen Cameron, Jean Pierre Sieczkarek, NHS Highland</p>	
2.	<p><u>Previous Action Notes</u></p> <p>All agreed as a true and accurate reflection from last meeting. Kabie advised positive feedback from ARGH members regarding the You Tube video summary.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Matters arising/actions from Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>Police Scotland: - Cathie to continue work to progress good practice information regarding police officers engagement with autistic people. The group agreed to add Criminal Justice to the next Agenda to allow more time to discuss in detail.</p>	

	<p>Request for Speakers: – The group discussed potential future speakers for meetings: John Beaton from Inclusion Scotland was suggested. The group agreed that all members of the group should be offered the opportunity to explain their role in more detail in this 15 minute slot. Arlene agreed to create a timetable of speakers and include this with the minute and future agendas.</p> <p>Highland One Stop Shop: – Gill updated the group re the HOSS and the current funding situation. A variety of fundraising activities have taken place and the deficit is currently £39,000. The building is still up for sale and Autism Initiatives continue to actively look for alternative premises.</p>	AJ
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>National Update</u></p> <p>Professor Jean Maclellan, Autism Network Scotland explained the national status of the Scottish Autism Strategy. The Strategy is currently in year 6 of a 10 year strategy and is due to be refreshed. Consultation will begin in the next few months.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Sub Groups – Updates</u></p> <p>Healthy Lives Group 1:- Dr Neil McNamara gave a brief discussion on the Group. Priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Efficiency of diagnostic tools ➤ Exploring possibility Rapid Process Improvement Week (RPIW) to enable redesign of services <p>Choice, Control Autonomy and Independence Group 2:- Group are focussing on creating a work plan to be shared for comment in the forthcoming weeks. Isobel highlighted concerns from carers regarding SDS guidance and requested additional support from the Strategy Group to ensure concerns are highlighted to the relevant people within NHS Highland. The group noted that they are keen to ensure social work representation on this group.</p> <p>Active Citizenship Group 3:- Neil Macleod highlighted the positive opportunities being created by a variety of organisations for young people in transition. He updated the group on the proposal for a new transition team as a collaboration between Highland Council & NHS Highland. This team will focus on young people with additional support needs between the ages of 14 and 25 years. Claire Watt is the Project Manager. Neil also discussed the Hi-Hope website http://hi-hope.org/ and the useful information available to anyone supporting young people through transition from school to adult life.</p>	

	<p>Kabie requested information re DYW & Hi-hope website to be added to the Forum. Christine to distribute the Forum Link by email to group.</p> <p>Alan raised the NESH "Equality Outcome Report" and requested the Strategy Group consider its contents. Arlene advised this would need to be addressed/discussed at a future meeting and agreed to consider it as a future agenda item. The group did not discuss the report.</p>	<p>NM CJS</p>
6.	<p><u>Event Planning</u></p> <p>The group discussed the potential for a future event, the purpose of such an event and the format that it might take.</p> <p>It was recognised that there are a variety of options and it would be of benefit to summarise the options for discussion at the next meeting. Arlene requested group members email Arlene.johnstone@nhs.net with suggestions and these will be gathered together for discussion at the next meeting.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
7.	<p><u>15 Minute Speaker</u></p> <p>Kabie Brook presented on the role, remit, current work and recent successes of ARGH. Presentation attached.</p>	
8.	<p><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>Professor Jean Maclellan & Donald Macleod gave a brief summary of their thoughts from their visit to all Sub Groups, the Strategy Group and the focus group session over the last two days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recognition of the differences between the sub groups – both in mood and content. ➤ They highlighted a perceived lack of progress / focus in recent times and emphasised the responsibility of all group members to progress actions and plans ➤ They identified a great deal of honesty from all group members but cautioned that they had observed this as at times being presented in a rude and aggressive manner. They reminded group members that all interactions should be respectful ➤ They praised the work of Sub Group 2 and the positive link to Human Rights. It is believed that this is a helpful way forward. <p>Future Meetings</p> <p>Arlene explained the reason for the change in time for today's meeting and highlighted the significant challenges to come regarding room venues (NESH is closing two office bases and this will impact on availability of rooms) The group agreed 12.30pm – 2.30pm was the preferred time however if this proved difficult to identify a suitable venue 1pm -3pm would be acceptable. Craig</p>	<p>CS</p>

	Lowther advised that the meetings could be held at UHI. Arlene suggested that group members look around the rooms to ensure they are suitable and to advise the group/Christine accordingly for future meetings.	CL
9.	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> 28 th July 12.30 – 2.30 (Venue & Time tbc)	