

# MORAY AUTISM PARTNERSHIP

## MINUTES

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 6.00pm

The Gallery, Elgin Library

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>John Campbell (HSC)</b>
<b>Co-Chair:</b>	<b>David Silvester</b>

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Steve O'Leary	Christine Ainley	Ann Maxwell
<u>Key:</u>	Alex Webster	Sheena Arthur	Heidi Sands
HSC = Health & Social	Susan Stronach (ICS)	Jill Sanders	Jennie Gain
Care (Adult Services)	Pat McLennan (ICS)	Jane Mackie (HSC)	Anne Pendery (ICS)
PS = Police Scotland	Madeline McCutcheon	James Maxwell	Aimee Killa (HSC)
ICS = Integrated	(ICS)	Lorna Creswell	Fiona McPherson (HSC)
Children's Service	Alison Sayers (ICS)	Ian Barnes	Rachel Foster (HSC)

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion Point</b>
<b>1. Welcome</b>	John welcomed everyone to the meeting. He advised that Social Media requests had come in asking us to hold a meeting in the evening to enable more people to attend. This will be revisited again at a later date.
<b>2. Minutes of Last Meeting: Matters Arising:</b>	The previous minutes were agreed as accurate.  <u>Contact List</u> – the circulation list was reviewed and should now be up to date.  <u>Co-Chairs</u> – John asked that anyone with an interest in standing as chair or co-chair for this group to get in touch with Aimee or Emma, or by contacting <a href="mailto:autism@moray.gov.uk">autism@moray.gov.uk</a> . An email will also be sent out via the mailing list.  <u>Action Plan to be made available</u> – Aimee advised that the newly revised version of the Action Plan will be made available to all.  <u>Comment Box</u> – John advised there is now a Comment Box available for everyone to give their comments, suggestions or queries.
<b>3. Moray Autism Strategy</b>	The first annual strategy review was held at the last meeting – everyone was asked to share their ideas on what else we could be doing to meet our strategy's 5 main aims, which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working in Partnership</li> <li>• Diagnosis</li> <li>• Knowledge and Support</li> <li>• Community Understanding and Support</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities and Services</li> </ul> <p>Aimee put into context that Moray is one of only a handful of Local Authorities who have launched our strategy and have a working action plan, so we are quite far ahead. The government has recently put together a report of its 2 year progress and Aimee will put the information together to feedback at the next meeting.</p> <p>Following the feedback Aimee collated all the ideas and contacted the leads/ various responsible people to see which ideas can be taken forward. If we look at the first page of <a href="#">this document</a> you will see that a total of 51 ideas were suggested by the partnership, of which 19 have been able to be incorporated into our existing action plan. One of the aims of our Strategy was to give partnership members direct involvement with the changes and developments being made to people with Autism and this highlights such involvement.</p> <p>There were many reasons why some of the suggested ideas could not be taken forward which are shown by the graph. What Aimee then done was split the tasks that were added to the 5 main aims, used the direct comments from the feedback , gave the lead/ responsible person's response and then the statement which has been added to the action plan. If you have any queries you can contact <a href="mailto:autism@moray.gov.uk">autism@moray.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>4. Education Update Elgin Academy:</b>	<p>Alex Webster, Head Teacher of Elgin Academy joined the meeting to talk us through the start of their journey to Autism Accreditation. He gave an overview of the school;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1006 pupils, 13 with a known diagnosis of ASD but approximately 30 with strong traits of ASD</li> <li>• 2 of which Dux of Elgin Academy.</li> <li>• Inclusion – Alex advised that 1 pupil, who was in mainstream classes, has since come out of several classes to have an enriched education. Further to this they also have 1 student who was 1:1 but now accesses 29 out of 31 periods per week.</li> <li>• Staff – there is a good mix of staff at Elgin Academy which Alex feels provides great support.</li> <li>• Training (Autism 1 &amp; 2, PBS) has taken place for Teachers and Auxiliaries</li> <li>• PT ASFL – Alex advised parents have great confidence in her as she has a lot of contact with them.</li> <li>• PT Autism – Steve O'Leary – he has great knowledge of Autism.</li> <li>• Working group in place – which includes very knowledgeable staff</li> <li>• Parent/pupil focus group – aim to establish these focus groups</li> </ul> <p>Question: We have been told of the number of pupils on the spectrum but are there any adults?  Answer: No but the staff are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about Autism.</p>

	<p>Question: How would you tackle staff members who aren't enthusiastic?  Answer: Alex advised that some weren't on board to begin with however they are better about it now. Alex also spoke of going into classes looking at the differentiation throughout.</p> <p>John requested when the Focus Group is established then they link with the Partnership.</p>
<b>Hythehill Primary:</b>	<p>Alison Sayers and Madeline McCutcheon attended the meeting to tell us about their Journey to Accreditation at Hythehill Primary School. The process began in 2010 and in 2013 they became the first school in Moray to gain Autism Accreditation. Alison went on to explain this process.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> What is the reaction from others?  <u>Answer:</u> Alison advised she can only speak for Hythehill where it is well accepted. There is willingness from staff and now much more understanding.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Can open plan classrooms meet the standards?  <u>Answer:</u> Madeline felt yes they could be. Accreditation is about removing barriers but in open plan classrooms as long as there is a quiet room/booth to be used as and when required.</p> <p><u>Question:</u> Are there more Children with Autism coming to Hythehill due to the accreditation?  <u>Answer:</u> Yes, there are actually 3 pupils who are out with the catchment area.</p> <p><b><i>For more information please see attached Presentation (Appendix 1).</i></b></p>
<b>5. GIRFEC</b>	<p>Susan Stronach attended the meeting to tell us about 'Getting It Right For Every Child' aka GIRFEC and the Named Persons Service.</p> <p>Members of the partnership were given the opportunity to ask questions however none were asked at this time. Members were reminded that the Comment Box was available if they did have further queries.</p> <p><b><i>For more information please see attached Presentation (Appendix 2)</i></b></p>
<b>6. Update on the Children's Diagnostic Pathway</b>	<p>Anne McKenzie, the AHP Sector Lead for Moray, advised that though she is not an expert in Autism she supports professionals who are.</p> <p><u>Children's Diagnostic Pathway</u> – the Autism Diagnostic Assessment Pathway Team (ADAPT) is a multi-professional team which includes representation from Speech and Language Therapy, Psychology, the Rowan Centre, Education, etc. The administrator and contact person for this team is Heather Graham (<a href="mailto:heather.graham3@nhs.net">heather.graham3@nhs.net</a>).</p> <p>Anne advised that a few cases were taken on to test the pathway, to enable the team to smooth out the process. There is a final meeting scheduled in the next few week where they will confirm there is a pathway available and can be opened to referrals.</p>

	<p>Confusion was noted between the Rowan Centre and ADAPT – Anne advised that all referrals will go through ADAPT. Following a screening process cases may then be referred to the Rowan Centre.</p> <p><u>Adult Diagnostic Pathway</u> – now that the work on the Children’s pathway has been resolved work can begin on the Adult’s Pathway. Anne posed the question ‘What would a Diagnosis add to a person life?’ to get an insight from Individuals, Family Members and Professionals as to whether it is for personal reasons, access to services, etc. Responses will be collated and will be feedback to the Adult Diagnostic Pathway.</p>
<b>7. Any Other Business</b>	<p><u>Autism Conference</u> – Is being held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The event promises some great speakers and hopefully will bring more links for the Strategy. The conference is open to everyone and will be held in Elgin Town Hall/ The Eight Acres Hotel.</p>
<b>8. Theme for Next Meeting</b>	<p>John advised that discussions will be held to determine an appropriate theme for the next meeting, and also look at how interactive we can make it.</p>
<b>9. Date of Next Meeting</b>	<p>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 at 12.30 – 3pm In the Gallery, Elgin Library</p>