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| Autism Partnership Board  Tuesday 27th February 2024  Time: 2:00pm – 3:30pm Via Teams | | | | |
| **Present** | * Alexis Chappell (AC) – Director of Adult Services – Sheffield City Council (SCC) * Christine Anderson (CA) - Strategic Commissioning Manager, (LD, Autism, Transitions), Sheffield City Council (SCC) * Helena Lath (HL) – Team Manager, Sheffield City Council (SCC) * Charlotte Worthington (CW) – Sheffield Advocacy Service * Mary Vere (MV) - Parent Carer, LD Board Member, Healthwatch, Sheffield Carers Voice, Flash * Chloe Wilks - Sheffield Safe Places * Anna Guest – Co-Chair for Autism Partnership Board, Autistic Adult * Anita Z Goldschmied - Registered Learning Disability Nurse and Social Worker, Senior Lecturer and Early Career Research Fellow at Sheffield Hallam University * Kaarina Hollo – APB Co-Chair, autistic individual (late-diagnosed) and parent of autistic young adult. With particular interest in and experience of autistic experience of health and education services * Rebecca Powell-Wood - Learning Disability and Autism Professional Lead at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals * Siobhan Salter – Personal Assistant to Alexis Chappell * Rachel Hardy – Late Diagnosed Autistic Adult * Sandra Capewell – Commissioning Officer working under Christine Anderson * Joe Hamshere - voluntary, community and faith sector, family members autistic, manager in a day service * IM (Initials Only) – Late Diagnosed Autistic Adult * Kelly Scargill – Autistic Adult and Project Co-Ordinator for Sheffield Voices at Disability Sheffield * Raheel Baig – Commissioning Manager at ICB * Jessica Beech – Autistic Adult * Becks Batley – Participation Project Worker at Chilypep and Autistic Adult * Samantha Bailey – Parent Carer of Young Person with Autism * Katie Monette – Director of Strategy at Sheffield Parent Carer Forum * Tim Wroe – Representing the Autistic Community as a Recently Diagnosed Man on the Autistic Spectrum * Fran Allen – Social Worker at Sheffield Children’s Hospital * Barry Tickell - Operations and Development Manager - Rough Sleeping Initiative, and Late Diagnosed Autistic Adult * Brooke Horry - Autism Peer Support Worker at SAANS/SHSC & autistic adult * Chinyere(Chichi) Ehosiem- Specialist Autism Practitioner, Transition Lead and Occupational therapist- (SAANS) Sheffield Health and Social Care * Danny Antrobus - Autistic Children and Carers Together * Michelle Cook - autistic adult, late diagnosis, parent carer * David Newman - Clinical Psychologist - SHSC - Learning Disability Service and SAANS * Nick Pearson CEO SOHAS delivering the work and health service, helping and supporting people to stay in employment * Amy Weston - commissioning manager- Sheffield ICB * Rachel Hardy * Susan Kirkman - Family carer, Member of National autistic executive | | | |
| **Apologies** | Sylvia Johnson | | | |
| **Chair** | **Alexis Chappell** | **Minutes** | **Siobhan Salter** | |
| **Item 1** | **Welcome & Housekeeping – Anna Guest and Kaarina Hollo** | | | **Action** |
| **2:00pm** | * Anna welcomed everyone to today’s meeting, and confirmed that going forward she and Kaarina will be taking it in turns to open/chair each meeting. * Anna confirmed this will be a 90-minute meeting, and we will be having a 10-minute break at 2:40pm. * Anna asked that everyone stay on mute unless speaking. If anybody has any questions, please use the raised hand function on Teams. * Anna asked that everyone please respect each other’s views, and respect that some people may share their personal experiences. | | |  |
| **Item 2** | **Terms of Reference – Christine Anderson** | | | **Action** |
| **2:05pm** | * Kaarina raised at the pre-meet that if you Google Autism on the SCC website, the Autism Partnership Board (APB) page does need updating, as do the Terms of Reference (ToR). * There is an action from the pre-meet for Alexis, Anna and Kaarina to look at the ToR again and sign off on them. * Christine and Sandra will look at the APB page on the Sheffield City Council (SCC) website and update this. | | |  |
| **Item 3** | **Cultures and Behaviours – Christine Anderson** | | | **Action** |
| **2:10pm** | * Christine shared a slide show sharing the cultures, values, and behaviours of the APB. * As part of this it has been agreed that members of the autistic community will be involved in a pre-meet before each board meeting. * Sue Kirkham asked where she would stand in terms of the pre-meet, as she isn’t autistic but is a carer for an autistic person. Kaarina advised we should re-word the pre-meet to make it clearer that the pre-meet is for the autistic members of the APB. * Alexis passed on her thanks to all for being involved in developing this. | | |  |
| **Item 4** | **Autism Dialogue – Kaarina Hollo** | | | **Action** |
| **2:20pm** | * The autism dialogue approach has been developed by a local Sheffield organisation called Dialogica. Kaarina herself has benefited from them. * Kaarina got in touch with the organisation to see if they could attend, however they advised they would struggle to fit this in at present. * Kaarina thinks it would be valuable to embed some of their approaches, and it would be good to get these from them directly if they could attend. * Kaarina would be happy to share the approach at the next meeting if the board would like this. * Alexis thanked Kaarina for bringing this to the table. This is a great way to create a safe space. * <https://dialogica.uk/autism-dialogue-approach/> | | |  |
| **Item 5** | **Adult Autism Support Hub – Jacqueline Holme** | | | **Action** |
| **2:30pm** | * The service started in November and has gradually increased the numbers they are supporting. They started off supporting 9 people in November and are now currently supporting 36 as of this month. * Group chats have been very successful. These can be anything from coming in just for a chat, to arts and crafts sessions. * Two managers in Sheffield Support Hub have now picked up more hours to help support the staff in the hub. * In regards to telephone support, this has been a mix in terms of quantity of calls. People seem to prefer to call into the office so may need to look at the telephone support and how they approach this. * The service also offer 1-2-1 support. * There are a variety of different age groups that attend. The 25-34 age group seems to be most popular. * People come in for support for a variety of reasons. Sometimes it can be help in areas such as housing, and sometimes it can be for the social aspect. * Katie Monette asked if anybody is able to access the service. Jackie advised that as long it is somebody who has autism, or somebody who supports somebody with autism and are over the age of 16, they are able to access the service. * Kaarina Hollo asked if there would be opportunities for autistic communities to use this space for book clubs for example. Jackie advised the daytime wouldn’t be a problem for this. Tuesday and Sunday evenings are being used for out of hours at the moment so it probably wouldn’t be suitable to run something alongside this, but in the day there is plenty of space and could be something we could look into. * Susan Kirkman asked if people can come with their support workers. Jackie confirmed this is fine. | | |  |
| **2:40pm** | **COMFORT BREAK** | | |  |
| **Item 6** | **What We’ve Achieved So Far – Alexis Chappell** | | | **Action** |
| **2:50pm** | * Reflecting on where we were 3 years ago to now, Alexis would like to create a report to highlight everything achieved during this time. * Alexis highlighted some key achievements around our priorities.  1. Autism Festival – organising this is a huge step forward to promote understanding. 2. We now have a strategy in place for taking things forward. 3. There is a priority around children on the waiting list. There will be a future agenda item around priorities in children’s and reducing waiting lists. Alexis has asked for a colleague in children’s to bring a report to a future meeting. 4. Within youth services, Chelsea Renehan has put some funding towards digital services for young people being able to connect digitally. Chelsea will be bringing this to a future board. 5. We know that employability is an issue in this city, so we are working with colleagues in the ICB to work on improving in this area. 6. How we support our community – came from Rachel Hardy’s idea two years ago. This is now being steered into action. We are going to develop a city wide approach based on this. | | |  |
| **Item 7** | **Workstream Delivery Groups – Sandra Capewell** | | | **Action** |
| **3:00pm** | * Sandra shared her screen to show what the six work streams are and who will be leading on them. * Workstream 1: Helping People Understand Autism Leads: Helena Lath, Christine Anderson and Sandra Capewell * Workstream 2: Helping Autistic Children and Young People at School into Adulthood Leads: Katie Monette and Kate Gleave * Workstream 3: Helping Autistic People Find Jobs Lead: Raheel Baig * Workstream 4: Making Health and Care Services Equal for Autistic People Leads: David Newman and Rebecca Powell-Wood * Workstream 5: Making Sure Autistic People get Help in their Communities Leads: Helena Lath, Christine Anderson and Sandra Capewell * Workstream 6: Help for Autistic People in the Justice System Lead: Jessica Beech * Please can members who are interested in being involved with one, or more, of the workstreams contact Sandra who will ensure their details are forwarded on to the relevant leads. * Alexis suggested leads of each workstream arrange a meeting with the members in their area for some time in March to discuss the priorities for their area and bring this back to the April board to discuss further. | | |  |
| **Item 8** | **Autism Festival – Alexis Chappell** | | | **Action** |
| **3:10pm** | * Alexis advised that she is looking at developing an Autism Festival. The idea started off as a conference, but it was then decided to change this to a festival. A meeting is taking place tomorrow to start arranging this. * Alexis hosted a service event on 20th February, where a discussion was had about having a Disability Friendly Conference as well. Alexis wants to do a piece of work around accessible venues in the city, and which venues are truly accessible, as it has been brought to Alexis’ attention that not all “accessible venues” are really that accessible. * Christine has also had several conversations about a disability friendly conference. She has talked about having a week of activities/events so it would almost be like a mini festival. The teams are currently looking at a week in June, and Christine is just making some final plans with her team now. Christine suggested holding these events in the Winter Gardens due to its accessibility. | | |  |
| **Item 9** | **Payment for Attendance – Christine Anderson** | | | **Action** |
| **3:20pm** | * Christine updated that she is having some behind the scenes payment issues around getting these payments up and running. * Discussions around payments are currently happening with the HR team and have been delayed due to changes with the DWP. * Christine is aware that the delay is unacceptable due to the amount of time people have given, so this is being looked into. Christine has asked for everybody’s details so when payments can be made she can make sure they are paid into their banks/with a cheque. It has been suggested that in the time being payment is made in the form of gift/shopping vouchers, and would like people’s views on this. * Kaarina asked that when payments do come through to please liaise with people as it could cause issues with benefits for example. Kaarina also said she would be ok with a gift voucher as long as it would be broad in where it can be spent. * Anna suggested Love 2 Shop vouchers as they cover a variety of shops. | | |  |
| **Item 10** | **Any Other Business - All** | | | **Action** |
| **3:25pm** | * Before the next APB it’s Neurodiversity Visibility Week deom 18th-24th March. If anybody hears of any events related to this please let Christine know so she can share these. * Alexis thanked Anna for chairing the meeting today, and for the hard work Kaarina has done behind the scenes. | | |  |
| **Item 11** | **Next Meeting** | | | **Action** |
|  | **Tuesday 30th April 2024 – 3:00pm – 4:30pm** | | |  |