

# GREATER MANCHESTER AUTISM CONSORTIUM

## STEERING GROUP MEETING

To be held on Monday 4th December 2006

Between 2pm – 4pm

The Link Centre

140 Union Street

Oldham

OL1 1DZ

## **FAMILY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT**

(Period covered 01.09.06. – 20.11.06.)

### DISTRIBUTION OF REFERRALS

Local Authority	Total referrals	Male referrals			Female referrals		
		All ages	Under-19	Under-5	All ages	Under-19	Under-5
Bolton	157	121	71	2	36	15	0
Bury	127	110	74	0	17	11	0
Manchester	396	356	234	4	40	27	1
Oldham	85	68	40	0	17	8	0
Rochdale	102	82	46	1	20	12	1
Salford	170	141	90	1	29	16	0
Stockport	262	217	143	5	45	31	1
Tameside	103	88	60	1	15	6	0
Trafford	183	151	100	3	32	17	1
Wigan	90	77	43	2	13	6	0
Left GMA	22	18	10	0	4	3	0
Closed Cases	12	9	3	0	3	2	0
	<b>1709</b>	<b>1438</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>4</b>

During the last quarter (1st September – 20th November) there were 25 new referrals.

- 12 referrals had a diagnosis of autism
- 8 referrals had a diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome
- 5 cases were awaiting a diagnosis.

**EXPLANATION AND ANALYSIS OF TABLES**  
**(Period covered between 1.09.06. - 20.11.06.)**

AUTHORITY	NO OF FAMILY/ INDIVIDUAL CALLS	NO OF PROF CALLS	TOTAL TIME PER AUTHORITY	ISSUES RAISED										
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>BOLTON</b>	4	3	1hr 25mins	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>BURY</b>	13	1	3hr 35mins	1	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
<b>MANCHESTER</b>	10	5	4hrs 20mins	1	4	5	2	2	1	0	0	8	0	0
<b>OLDHAM</b>	4	1	1hr 40mins	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>ROCHDALE</b>	7	4	2hrs 20mins	0	3	3	1	1	2	1	0	4	0	0
<b>SALFORD</b>	7	1	2hrs 50mins	2	1	4	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>STOCKPORT</b>	28	3	10hrs	4	3	11	9	0	1	0	2	10	0	1
<b>TAMESIDE</b>	8	0	2hrs 35mins	1	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	3	0	0
<b>TRAFFORD</b>	12	2	4hrs 25mins	3	2	3	2	0	1	1	0	4	1	0
<b>WIGAN</b>	6	0	2hrs 40mins	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
<b>OTHER</b>	7	2	2hrs 25mins	1	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36hrs 15mins</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

**KEY TO ISSUES RAISED**

- 1 Issues around diagnosis
- 2 Behaviour management
- 3 Family support
- 4 Support for adult with ASD
- 5 Respite (overnight accommodation)/ Residential care
- 6 Benefits
- 7 Leisure
- 8 Transition (14yrs-19yrs)
- 9 Education
- 10 Mental Health – Children
- 11 Mental Health - Adults

**AUTISM SERVICES DEVELOPMENT GROUPS**

There have been 16 meetings of the Autism Services Development Groups. In addition there has been one training strategy group meeting, one meeting of a youth group steering group and one attendance of a youth group, a meeting with Bolton, Salford and Trafford PCT Mental Health Trust Commissioners, a Care Pathway Day for Adults in Manchester, several meetings about the Stockport ASD project, a presentation to a Learning Disability Partnership Board, a meeting with the new Consortium Chair, a Labour Party fringe meeting, an Education Special Interest Group meeting, a consultation event on a Foundation Hospital Trust, a transition event, an extraordinary ASDG meeting, attendance in a meeting with education about home-based support, attendance at a CAMHS development group, attendance on Help! and Help!2 events and one-to-one meetings with parents and professionals.

## **Bolton**

The children's group met in September. The group need, and are in the process of strengthening, links with relevant commissioners. The Education Authority has taken a lead on a self-audit using the DfEs Good Practice Guidance document. It is hoped that this will highlight the areas of comparative strengths and weaknesses that need to be focused on both by the group and services generally.

Adult Services are planning to develop a commissioning strategy specifically relating to adults with autistic spectrum disorders.

## **Bury**

The group has had two ASDG meetings and one extraordinary meeting of the group since the last CSG meeting. The extraordinary group was attended by an extended group of people and was to look at the planning of services for adults with ASDs in the borough.

There is now a new Befriending Co-ordinator in the borough and funding has been secured for the project for at least a further 2 years.

## **Manchester**

The children's group has met since the last CSG and all the sub-groups are still working on their goals for this year. There is now also a training sub-group.

The Central Social Communication and Intervention Team have carried out a user evaluation of the service recently which has shown how positive the team has been.

The adults ASDG have recently held a Care Pathway Day for Adults with ASDs who currently do not fit into eligibility criteria with Mental Health and Learning Disability. It is hoped that this will lead to clarity around where to go for assessment and services for adults with ASD within the city.

Mari was asked to report to the Learning Disability Partnership Board on work ongoing nationally, regionally and locally around ASD. There has also been a Health Scrutiny Committee meeting in Manchester which was looking at the rise in the incidence of autism, and two sets of parents approached the project to comment.

## **Oldham**

The Way Forward Group has met once since the last CSG and is due to meet again next week. Lilian Nelson has resigned as Chair due to a change in her role. Lilian has been chairing this group since its inception and (along with Nick Morey) is the longest serving ASDG Chair within the consortium - we will miss her energy and passion! The group will continue to build on the work as before. Since the last time Oldham has also

achieved accreditation of the remaining Day Services, congratulations to everyone involved.

### **Rochdale**

The group has met twice since last time. Denis Holder has now retired and the new Chair will be Kieran Lyons. The group plans to reset some new priorities in the New Year.

The youth group is now meeting regularly and there is a sub-group from the ASDG meeting to steer the project. Numbers attending are still low but there are plans to build on this. The adult group has not met since the last ASDG.

### **Salford**

The adult group has met twice and the children's group has met twice since last time. Work is progressing towards the assessment classroom and the adult group is still focusing on accreditation of Day Services and Training.

Janet Touhy is also looking at commissioning of support for adults with ASD.

### **Stockport**

In Children's Services a Family Support Worker has now been appointed to the ASD Partnership Project. The Education Authority is hoping to open two new ASD resources attached to mainstream schools over the next two academic years.

Adult services are also beginning work on a commissioning strategy for vulnerable adults, with a particular focus on ASD. They now also have the go-ahead for some 'In Control' pilots.

### **Tameside**

The ASDG still has not reconvened. Mari had a meeting with a social worker within Tameside looking at how to gain the views of a young person with ASD in an assessment. This meeting was also attended by a number of other professionals within Tameside. There is an event being planned for 2007 to be held within Tameside to raise awareness of the consortium and to offer more support to parents and professionals.

### **Trafford**

The ASDG has not met for some months but there are plans to do so soon.

### **Wigan**

The group has met once since the last time and is due to meet next week. A new adult group has formed also chaired by Julie Nickisson.

The children's group is looking at a strategic post to gather information about gaps in services to form a plan for the next few years. The first of the Wigan Help! programmes has taken place (see below).

### **Help! Update**

The North West Help! Programme Officers are now fully operational and have run a number of programmes in the region. The Macclesfield programme took place in September and had a large number of families from Stockport attending. The Wigan programme took place in October and 80% of the places were taken by Wigan families with the other two places going to Salford families.

Both programmes were very well received and also involved some local professionals in the last sessions including people from local agencies and parent support groups. Mari attended 2 of the Wigan sessions.

There were also two Help!2 programmes held in Greater Manchester in September. They were held in Trafford and both were on communication. Mari and Debbie attended a session each to raise awareness about the project to families from within the area.

As Vodafone funding runs out next year the NAS are currently making plans about the long-term funding of the programmes.

### **CSIP North West diagnosis project launch**

CSIP the Care Services Improvement Programme that is within the Department of Health held a conference on 6<sup>th</sup> October to look at good practice around diagnosis within this region and to try and achieve a regional set of standards around this. Work will be ongoing on this and other events are planned.

### **ACAMH Conference**

Debbie attended this national conference about the need for CAMHS to provide 'comprehensive' services for all young people with learning disabilities (this is now a key public service target). The autumn/winter edition of our newsletter includes an overview of the presentations.

### **Department of Health Clarification Note on policy for adults with ASD's**

This document was produced by Paradigm and published on 16<sup>th</sup> November. The document seeks to look at existing policy and to clarify what obligations there are towards adults with ASD's on the basis of this existing guidance. The Greater Manchester Autism Consortium is mentioned in the Appendix as an example of good

practice and Rob Gregg specifically mentioned the consortium at the launch of this event on 21<sup>st</sup> November in London.

### **Bolton, Salford and Trafford Mental Health Commissioning Group**

Mari presented a briefing paper to this group on 14<sup>th</sup> September, which proposed a virtual team to look at diagnosis and assessment within this region. The group agreed to take this back for further discussion within their own authorities at the respective ASDG's and to revisit this in a few months.

### **Training Strategy Group**

The group met in October and agreed to look at putting together a module on awareness-raising for siblings. This will be the work of the group for the coming few months and when the module is completed it will be taken to the ASDG's to pilot.

### **Information Officer Post**

We interviewed for this post in October and appointed John Davies who is due to start next week. John is a parent of an adult with ASD and also a member of the Parent Resource Network which is a group of parents who take calls from other parents and offer support on a voluntary basis.

### **The NAS Labour Party Fringe Event**

The NAS ran a fringe event at the Labour Party Conference on the "Make School Make Sense" education campaign. The event was very well attended and Lord Adonis (Schools Minister) attended as well as a number of other people, including a young person with ASD who spoke, her mother and another parent campaigner. Janet Muscutt from Salford also kindly sat on the panel as a Local Authority representative.

Mari Saeki and Debbie Waters  
Project Officers  
NAS Family Services Development Project