

GREATER MANCHESTER AUTISM CONSORTIUM

STEERING GROUP MEETING

To be held on Monday 3rd December 2007
2pm – 4pm

The Link Centre
140 Union Street
Oldham
OL1 1DZ

FAMILY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT (1st September – 23rd November 2007)

DISTRIBUTION OF REFERRALS

Local Authority	Total referrals	Male referrals			Female referrals		
		All ages	Under-19	Under-5	All ages	Under-19	Under-5
Bolton	161	125	63	2	36	15	0
Bury	135	116	73	2	19	13	0
Manchester	434	390	247	6	44	31	0
Oldham	87	72	40	1	15	7	0
Rochdale	115	95	50	4	20	11	1
Salford	177	147	89	0	30	15	0
Stockport	281	231	148	5	50	34	1
Tameside	114	98	68	1	16	7	0
Trafford	194	162	106	2	32	14	1
Wigan	91	78	41	2	13	6	0
Left GMA	22	18	10	0	4	3	0
Closed Cases	12	9	3	0	3	2	0
	<u>1823</u>	<u>1541</u>	<u>938</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>3</u>

During the last quarter (1st September – 23rd November 2007) there have been 26 new referrals.

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS
(Period covered between 1st September – 23rd November 2007)

AUTHORITY	NO OF FAMILY/ INDIVIDUAL CALLS	NO OF PROF CALLS	TOTAL TIME PER AUTHORITY		ISSUES RAISED												
			HRS	MINS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
BOLTON	2	0	1	05	1				2								
BURY	11	0	2	38	1	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0		
MANCHESTER	30	10	9	07	5	5	10	9	1	4	7	0	15	0	0		
OLDHAM	10	2	4	22	0	1	4	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0		
ROCHDALE	12	0	3	47	0	1	4	2	1	4	0	0	3	0	0		
SALFORD	8	2	2	9	1	0	3	6	0	0	1	1	1	0	1		
STOCKPORT	14	3	8	0	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0		
TAMESIDE	3	0	1	30	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		
TRAFFORD	12	0	3	06	2	5	6	3	0	0	1	1	4	1	0		
WIGAN	4	0	1	10	2	1	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		
OTHER	7	3	1	11	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	113	20	38hrs	40mins	16	16	39	33	4	11	11	2	33	1	2		

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

Other issues raised included:-

Drugs (2 calls)
 Restraint training
 Funding
 Setting up a support group
 Sensory support
 Bereavement

ASDGS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Mari and Debbie have been to 17 ASDG meetings and sub-groups since the last CSG report was written (31st August). 3 have been cancelled and 1 missed due to Annual Leave.

In Addition Mari and Debbie have had a further 14 meetings with professionals on a wide range of issues (detailed under other meetings and events supported by the project).

BOLTON

The Children's Group are compiling their response to commissioners of the PCT audit of ASD provision for children in the area. There is strong consensus that consultation with users of services is needed in order for the audit to be a legitimate foundation for future service development. A multi agency task group has also been established to look at formalising a Care Pathway through services for children on the spectrum.

An Adult Group is due to restart in December. The group has been drawn together by Health and Social Care Commissioners. Mari will support this group and Debbie will continue to support the Children's Group.

BURY

There has been one meeting since the last report as a second meeting had to be cancelled. Work is still underway to improve transition into Bury College, including training to be offered by the Social Communication Difficulties Team to Bury College staff.

The group is looking for more support for the Youth Group, which continues to be greatly in demand.

There are plans to run the sibling workshops currently being devised by the Training Strategy Group. The hope is to pilot these early in 2008 and a cohort has already been identified.

MANCHESTER

The children's group has not met since the last report due to the chair being off sick.

Work is still underway in the sub-groups but the groups have not had a chance to report back. The Transition Sub-group, which I chair, has met once since last time.

Mari has met with the BME CAMHS practitioner in central Manchester about the post-diagnostic workshops for different language groups. The first part of the process is to plan some training for the Link workers (interpreters) about ASD.

The adult group have met once since the last report and are due to meet again on 28th November. The Asperger Diagnostic proposal has been further amended and models of how a service can be planned for people with AS in Manchester is still being considered.

OLDHAM

There has been one meeting since the last report. There continues to be a great deal of work to continue to maintain the Autism Accreditation achieved by the Day Services and Supported Tenancy Service in the borough including rolling programmes of training.

The Vulnerable Adult Service have made a proposal to Pennine Care about an adult diagnostic service operating from within Oldham and are awaiting the decision about this.

The research post for out-of-school provision for those within the two ASD resource bases in Oldham is well underway and the report will be delivered in March 2008.

ROCHDALE

There has been one meeting since the last report. The parent who has fundraised for the NAS and the North West Help! team has organised a series of Help! sessions to be delivered in Rochdale in the coming year. She has also raised a further £3,000 for a sibling group to be held in Rochdale.

The group has agreed to identify a way for this to happen. There has been a new push to get the ASD Youth Group going as there are still only a few people regularly using this service. The Youth Service has asked for training to be given to the Youth Workers on working with young people with ASD so they can increase capacity.

SALFORD

The Children's group has met once since the last report. The group are currently undertaking work on a Care Pathway and have started this last time and will continue next time (due to meet 27th November). Debbie will now be attending the Salford children's group instead of Mari.

In October the project ran a day in Salford on Person Centred Planning and ASD. Janet Muscutt (Senior EP and Chair of children's ASD task group) and Neil Redford (Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator for Salford) were also delivering the workshop and around 45 people attended. This day was held in Salford because Janet had supported a similar event held in Tameside earlier in the year and asked for the same event to be held in Salford. The day was a great success. Neil has said he is keen to get involved in more events that may reach parents of children in the borough.

The adult group has met twice since the last report. They have recently engaged a Team Leader from one of the locality adult teams in Salford into the group.

The group is looking at targeting more training within the authority and the accreditation work within Day Services is well underway.

STOCKPORT

The care pathway group has now agreed its school age pathway and has moved onto looking at post-diagnostic information, support and interventions. The current focus is on mapping and identifying gaps in training for all groups.

There was a meeting to carry out a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) on services provided to adults with ASDs within Stockport. This meeting led to the decision that there will be working group looking at how current services can be improved. There has not been a date set for this group yet. When this group is up and running Mari will support the group and Debbie will stay supporting the activity within children's services.

A group of staff from the Community Learning Disability Team are putting together training for staff within the borough. The project has offered support to this venture.

TAMESIDE

Mari was invited to speak to the Adult Unit Business Managers within Tameside to talk about the work of the project and the consortium.

There has been no further development with respect to a group within children's services.

TRAFFORD

Mari continues to be involved in the Care pathway work for children. There has recently been some discussion about rolling out Help! programmes within Trafford.

Mari has had discussion about being part of a group within Trafford looking at improvement of existing ASD services.

WIGAN

The ASD Development Worker, Joanne Schultz, has now been in the post for 3 months. This post has been funded by LDDF and is to audit the numbers of people with ASD within Wigan and to identify gaps and set a 3-year action plan for development. Both Mari and Debbie have been involved in the recruitment and steering of this worker and have had several meetings to this end.

There is also an adult ASD development group in the borough but this has mainly involved internal Health and social care staff.

Martin Hanbury, current chair of this group, is leaving the authority at the end of the autumn term so a new chair will be sought.

OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENT SUPPORTED BY THE PROJECT

- Contributing to a training session for North West CAMHS Practitioners Course run by Dr Jo Bromley and Dr Latha Hackett (Manchester CAMHS).
- Meeting members of Manchester Social Services staff to raise awareness about the work of the project and the consortium.
- Attending the Help!2 session on sensory issues at the North NAS Members meeting.
- Attending the final Wigan Help! session to offer on-going support to parents.
- Attending the North West Asperger Research Forum chaired by Dr Dougal Hare at University of Manchester.
- Attending and co-chairing the first North West ASD Network for Clinical Psychologists on behalf of the regional NAS team.
- Running the Person Centred Planning and ASD workshop in Salford.
- Mari presented the ASD awareness-raising event run by Better Choices (Connexions for Manchester, Salford and Tameside).
- Attending the 'Time to Close the Gap' event run by NAS Regional Team for the North and North West Training and Development Team.
- Setting up and offering information to members of the public at the 'AS I SEE IT' exhibition as part of the NAS's Awareness-raising campaign.
- Debbie spoke at the National Launch of the Autism Education Trust at the House of Commons.
- Debbie spoke at the CSIP event on the Identification and Diagnosis of Autism.
- Meeting to help write a bid to the National Institute for Health Research for a multi-agency ASD research grant (led by Jonathan Green).
- Attending a meeting re the research in Oldham about community involvement and extended schools.

NORTH WEST UPDATE

We have been involved in supporting the Identification, Assessment and Diagnosis work undertaken by CSIP. The report is now published and demonstrates the uneven pattern of pathways within the North West. Further work is to be undertaken to interview parents about their experiences.

The NW Regional Partnership and CSIP are working together to develop modules around training for mental health issues. The goal is to train multi-disciplinary groups of professionals to raise understanding and awareness and draw health, education and social care together. The pilot of this project is set for February 08.

The NAS recently facilitated a Professional Forum for those working in supporting ASD in education across the NW. This is driven by the NW Regional Partnership SEN, ASD group chaired by Sylvia Oaks. This first meeting was attended by over 90

members of staff with a very positive response and future meetings planned for each term over the year ahead.

'Time to Close the Gap', a conference for professionals from across the North West was held on the 16th of November. The conference was chaired by Anne Williams and presentations throughout the day highlighted both good practice across the region and the need for strengthening provision and support for individuals on the autistic spectrum. The feedback has been very positive with many participants highlighting that they will use the information to seek to improve local developments.

The Fylde Coast project will come to an end in December and will contribute to heightening awareness of the needs for adults with Asperger Syndrome. It is hoped that the recommendations from this report will result in funding to improve the life chances of this vulnerable group and their families/carers.

The Oldham project will be drawn together in January with further work to provide training for some community leisure opportunities for the children on which the work is focused (those in resourced provision within Oldham). Once again, it is hoped that the recommendations of the report will lead to further action within the authority.

HELP PROGRAMMES

Since the last report there has been one programme within Greater Manchester

- The 20 hour programme in Wigan in September

In the coming months the following programmes are being delivered:-

- A 2 day Help! programme in Trafford in December
- A one day Help! programme in Rochdale in December
- An 'Adult Life' Help!2 seminar in Wilmslow in January 2008
- 2 Help!2 seminars in Bolton in February 2008

TRAINING STRATEGY GROUP

The training strategy group has met once since the last report. The sibling sessions are now out for consultation and a copy of the draft sessions are attached with this report. The agreement is that some areas will pilot and we will amend the sessions if needed after the pilot sessions. The group will look at a new piece of work for next time.

Mari Saeki and Debbie Waters
Project officers, Family Services Development Project
National Autistic Society
22nd November 2007