

# GREATER MANCHESTER AUTISM CONSORTIUM

## STEERING GROUP MEETING

To be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2008

The Links Centre

140 Union Street

Oldham

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Tel: 0161 911 4786

## FAMILY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT

(Period covered 5<sup>th</sup> September – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008)

### DISTRIBUTION OF REFERRALS

Local Authority	Total referrals	Male referrals			Female referrals		
		All ages	Under-19	Under-5	All ages	Under-19	Under-5
Bolton	166	130	60	0	36	13	0
Bury	142	121	68	1	21	13	0
Manchester	461	413	257	7	48	34	0
Oldham	92	77	42	2	15	7	0
Rochdale	125	105	53	2	20	10	0
Salford	182	152	85	0	30	15	0
Stockport	294	244	142	4	50	33	1
Tameside	119	103	66	3	16	6	0
Trafford	202	168	105	1	34	16	2
Wigan	101	87	40	3	14	6	0
Left GMA	22	18	9	0	4	3	0
Closed Cases	12	9	3	0	3	2	0
	<u>1918</u>	<u>1627</u>	<u>930</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>158</u>	<u>3</u>

During the period covered the project has received 22 new referrals.

**ANALYSIS OF STATS**  
(Period covered 5<sup>th</sup> September – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2008)

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	3	1	1	23	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
BURY	12	3	5	12	1	2	6	8	0	1	4	0	3	1	4
MANCHESTER	35	12	13	28	3	8	24	10	6	3	1	3	5	0	3
OLDHAM	5	2	2	4	1	2	3	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
ROCHDALE	4	0	1	6	0	0	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
SALFORD	3	3	1	7	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
STOCKPORT	6	2	3	6	1	0	3	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	1
TAMESIDE	2	2	0	38	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAFFORD	17	2	7	8	3	6	8	7	3	2	1	0	5	0	1
WIGAN	8	1	5	40	1	0	4	4	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
OTHER	7	4	4	3	3	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>

There are a similar amount of calls this quarter to last and almost exactly the same number of minutes spent on calls.

In the past month there have been 4 calls on employment related issues. We are not sure why this is so. We still feel that the trend has been an increase of calls and emails from adults.

**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**

- Employment Issues (4)
- Counselling (2)
- Criminal Justice (2)
- Information (2)

## **AUTISM SERVICES DEVELOPMENT GROUPS**

There have been 18 meetings since the last report.

### **BOLTON**

**Children:** Bolton are now running Cygnet, a post diagnostic parent programme for school age children as well as Early Bird and Early Bird plus. The sub group on Aiming High is ongoing with a number of proposals awaiting approval.

The main group intends to focus on care pathway work.

**Adults:** – The group is reconvening in December.

### **BURY**

There is a proposal for a brokerage service to be set up for adults with ASD funded by LDDF money. The group plan to contribute to the Aiming High consultations.

### **MANCHESTER**

**Children:** The Transition sub-group ran a successful event on Person-Centred Planning and ASD at Loreto College for around 25 parents. There will be a sub-group formed on Aiming High chaired by Mari. All the other sub-groups will be stopped to look at what the new focus should be for the group.

**Adults:** The group has conducted an audit on training by the providers within the city. The Training sub-group has been analyzing the figures and will suggest ways to close the gaps. The diagnostic proposal has now been circulated for consultation and will be sent to the Strategic Health Authority's Specialist commissioning team.

### **OLDHAM**

3 Monthly drop-ins are now running at Rock Street Resource Centre for parents of children and adults with ASD. The Drop-ins are on education, sexual health and general ASD related enquiries.

The post diagnostic groups have restarted and are being run monthly by the specialist CAMHS ASD Worker and the Specialist Clinical Psychologist along with staff from Woodfield.

The Vulnerable Adults Service, the Greater Manchester Appropriate Adult Network and the project are organizing some joint training for Appropriate Adult Volunteers next year.

## **ROCHDALE**

The Information sub-group has been preparing an updated info pack for parents of children with ASD. Each family who receive a diagnosis will get a pack.

The Training sub-group has been planning training which will then be rolled out. The Sibling sub-group is planning workshops for siblings in the New Year followed by regular Get Togethers for the siblings. The youth group is on-going.

## **SALFORD**

**Children:** This group has not met for a while. A meeting has been scheduled for January 2009.

**Adults:** – The 3 Day Service bases working towards Autism Accreditation have achieved this in the past few weeks. Congratulations to all!

Training continues to be a priority for this group as well as Befriending for adults with Asperger Syndrome. Work is also underway towards accreditation for the house in Monton.

## **STOCKPORT**

**Children:**- The group has not met since the last CSG but is due to meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The group recently updated and extended the Greater Manchester Autism Awareness training materials.

**Adults:** Adult services have held an event for adults and parents of adults with Asperger Syndrome and are proposing a service for adults with AS to start April 2009.

## **TAMESIDE**

**Children:** The Multi-agency Autism Assessment group recently had a day to discuss developments. Work is underway to improve this process.

A new service for children with challenging behaviour and severe learning disabilities including those with ASD has been set up and Mari has been invited to be on the Steering Group.

**Adults-** Dan Redfearn, the new ASD Specialist Nurse, has been appointed. His role will be informing strategic and operational issues in relation to working with adults with ASD.

## **TRAFFORD**

None of the groups have met in the last quarter.

## **WIGAN**

There has been a great deal of work done around the care pathway and this is also flagging up training needs.

A meeting will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup> with Adult Social Care about what can be done to support development of service.

## **BOOKLET ON ASSESSMENT OF ADULTS WITH AN ASD**

Earlier on this year Mari and a colleague within the NAS, Andrew Powell, were approached by the NAS Campaigns Team to write a short guide on assessment for social workers working with adults with ASD. This booklet has now been published and is being sent out as part of the campaign materials. BASW have endorsed the booklet and in spring there is a joint conference between NAS and BASW to further discuss these issues. The Campaign Team has paid the project for Mari's time.

## **TRAINING STRATEGY GROUPS**

**Children:** The group is currently working on the growing up, puberty and sexuality training with the first focus on the social and emotional aspects. A 10 minute video has been commissioned by the group and Failsworth High School in Oldham has agreed to make this. The video will focus on social skills in relation to friendship and courtship as well as issues like peer pressure.

**Adults:** The group is currently looking at training for those who carry out assessments on adults with ASD. It is felt that there are two main areas to be covered, training for those who carry out FACs assessments and training for those who do more specialist assessments. The group is starting with the latter group and will be basing the material on the booklet mentioned above.

## **HELP PROGRAMMES**

Since the last steering group report, the following programmes have taken place:-

- Two help! 2 programmes in Rochdale
- One day help! programme in Tameside
- The national pilot for the Adult help! 2 for adults with ASD in Manchester looking at Employment, Housing and access to Social Care.

## **REGIONAL UPDATE**

The first North West Criminal Justice Forum for people with ASD was convened on 26<sup>th</sup> November with a number of professionals both from within the criminal justice system and health and social care attending. It is envisaged that the group will continue to meet regularly with the first goal being to identify training within the region on this subject and to propose the use of an alert card for those with ASD. If anyone is interested minutes will be available from Mari.

Debbie Waters has been taking part in the CSIP project on Identification and Diagnosis of Autism Project as an additional piece of freelance work for the past 6 months and wrote the report on the experience of parents of children with ASD undergoing diagnosis, along with her co researchers Jane Forrest and Wendy Naylor. This report was launched on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The report is also available from Mari and Debbie.

Mari Saeki and Debbie Waters  
NAS Project Officers- Family Services Development Project  
Dec 2008