

GREATER MANCHESTER AUTISM CONSORTIUM

STEERING GROUP MEETING

**To be held on Wednesday 11th June 2008
2pm – 4pm
Rock Street Resource Centre
Rock Street
Oldham**

FAMILY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT

(Period covered 6th March – 31st May 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	165	129	63	1	36	13	0	
Bury	137	116	70	1	21	13	0	
Manchester	445	400	251	9	45	32	0	
Oldham	89	74	41	2	15	7	0	
Rochdale	122	102	51	3	20	10	0	
Salford	180	150	86	0	30	15	0	
Stockport	290	240	147	6	50	34	1	
Tameside	117	101	68	3	16	7	0	
Trafford	197	165	105	1	32	14	1	
Wigan	97	84	42	3	13	6	0	
Left GMA	22	18	9	0	4	3	0	
Closed Cases	12	9	3	0	3	2	0	
	1873	1588	936	29	285	156	2	

During the period covered (6th March – 31st May 2008) the project has received 19 new referrals.

/continued

ANALYSIS OF STATS
(Period covered 6th March – 31st May 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	12	2	4	45	3	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
BURY	8	3	4	16	1	1	2	5	0	3	1	0	3	0	1
MANCHESTER	27	18	11	13	2	6	31	4	1	0	5	2	10	4	1
OLDHAM	3	0	0	52	0	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
ROCHDALE	12	1	4	21	0	2	7	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
SALFORD	4	2	1	14	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
STOCKPORT	29	5	11	59	2	4	14	8	0	0	1	0	9	1	2
TAMESIDE	6	4	2	19	3	2	1	3	0	0	2	0	4	0	2
TRAFFORD	16	2	5	56	2	3	4	5	0	0	1	0	5	1	3
WIGAN	6	1	3	14	2	3	4	1	0	0	2	0	3	1	0
OTHER	7	3	2	20	2	0	2	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	2
TOTAL	130	43	52	29	17	25	72	37	1	4	18	2	47	8	12

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

Care proceedings x 2
Criminal Justice x 13
Fundraising x 2
Info on project x 2
Emergency help x 4
Recruitment/professional x 2

AUTISM SERVICES DEVELOPMENT GROUPS

Debbie and Mari have attended 18 ASDG meetings since the last CSG.

BOLTON

Children:

Work is ongoing on short breaks in the light of Bolton being awarded Pathfinder status under the Aiming High initiative. It is hoped that more children across the

whole spectrum will be able to benefit from short break support after this. The Care Pathway Group is planning on consulting with parents who have received a diagnosis over the last couple of years to find out what their experience was.

Adult:

The group has not met since the last report but is planning an event with Mental Health on a Care Pathway for Adults with Asperger Syndrome/High Functioning Autism.

BURY

Mari attended the Bury Learning Disability Partnership Board commissioning event. The LDPB have invited the ASDG to put in a bid for a post around ASD from the LDDF funding allocated. A small sub group of the ASDG met to put this bid together and is waiting to hear about the outcome.

The Sibling Sessions were completed and a great success. The team who ran the group and some of the siblings made a presentation at the annual convention. This presentation was inspirational for many of the other groups who now plan to run similar sessions. There are plans to try and support the siblings to meet up again in a group and the sessions will be run again next year.

Karin Sherrington will be retiring in July and so the Chair of the group will be changing.

MANCHESTER

Children:

The group has not met since the last CSG report but sub-groups continue to meet.

The Transition Group are planning an event on person-centred planning for parents later in the year. Post diagnostic groups led by the Social Communication Assessment and Intervention teams are now running in North, South and Central Manchester several times a year.

Adults:

The adult group has met once since the last CSG report and is still working on the Care Pathway for Adults with ASD.

A sub-group has formed to look at training needs within the city in relation to ASD. Another group are going to a meeting organised by a mental health commissioner in Manchester meeting with Steve Hamer one of the North West Specialist Commissioning Team to discuss issues around adults with Asperger Syndrome and, in particular diagnosis.

OLDHAM

The Way Forward group has had a change of chairs. Sean Cook, who has a role looking at Transition and Sally Twist, the new Consultant Clinical Psychologist, will co-chair the group. Wendy Atkinson who is Development Manager for ASD will

continue to represent Oldham at the CSG. The group recently revisited the PATH set 3 years ago and found they had achieved all the goals set. They are now planning for the next few years work.

Several sub-groups have been formed including groups on training, short breaks and a Care Pathway is underway to identify the best people to attend the sub groups.

Another ASD Development Worker post has been agreed within Adult Services. This post will free Wendy up to work closely with Sean Cook on transition issues at a strategic level. The new post will be to run the social groups and develop work in this area.

The Extended Schools Project, carried out by Julia Butcher at the NAS, is coming to an end but Julia and Wendy are liaising about the continuation of this work. Mari supported Julia in training for staff from libraries, sports development and youth services.

Oldham has money to carry out research on what kind of services should be funded by the Aiming High funding. The post holder will liaise with the development group about needs of children with ASD.

ROCHDALE

The group has met twice since the last CSG report.

The youth Club has now been taken over by Rochdale Youth Service from ASGMA/Aspirations. The group is now running twice a month and is linked with a youth service group called SUNSPORT that run activities in the school holidays.

Mari had a meeting with someone from the FWA on behalf of the group to talk about a sibling group. FWA are going to send a proposal of what this may look like for the group to consider.

The group plan to run the sibling sessions as well.

SALFORD

Children:

This group has not met since the last CSG report. At the Convention Janet Tuohy from Adult Services offered a venue for the Early Bird plus sessions. Work is still underway to get the first sessions going.

Adults:

The group has met twice since last CSG report but Mari was off sick and unable to attend the second one. Janet and two colleagues made a presentation at the Annual Convention about Monton House which was very well received. Targets for the development group include working towards accreditation of the Day Services, training, developing a second house for people with ASD and Person-Centred 14plus reviews.

STOCKPORT

Children:

Another set of post-diagnostic workshops have been run by the Joshua Short Foundation. The Care Pathway group has completed their multi-agency Tier 1 ASD Awareness Raising training pack which was based on the Greater Manchester pack but with some additional information. They are also looking at establishing a virtual or real Multi-Agency ASD Advisory Service. The ASD partnership project is in its final 12 months of funding and the steering group is currently trying to identify ways of securing further funding for home based assistance with behaviour as demand for this has been very high.

Adults:

After discussion with Michele Tynan, Joint Commissioner for Disabilities, Mari and Debbie completed a report to look at how needs of adults with Asperger Syndrome could be met in Stockport. Since then Mari has made a presentation to the Learning Disability Partnership Board about the report and there is a Consultation Event coming up at the end of June with parents and carers. Following this event there will be a working group formed to take this work forward.

TAMESIDE

Mari was invited to a meeting to look at the issues raised in the NAS I Exists report and its implication for Tameside. There is a new post planned for a specialist ASD Community Nurse who is expected to take the lead on some of the work discussed.

The Transition Project, funded by Connexions for 4 young people with ASD in Tameside, is now underway. Julia Butcher is taking this role and will work with the young people over a period of 6 months to support them thorough the transition to college. She will write the project up at the end to identify what worked best.

TRAFFORD**Children:**

Work is still underway to develop the care pathway for children.

Adults: This group has not reformed yet.

WIGAN

Following an event in February to look at priority areas of work for this group several sub-groups have been formed including one on care pathways. The ASD development worker Joanne has left her post and the future of this project is currently undecided.

CONSORTIUM TRAINING STRATEGY GROUPS

There are now two groups meeting on training and Mari is chairing them both.

Group 1, which is the original group which has been meeting for many years and developed both the awareness raising sessions and the sibling sessions, is now working on peer awareness-raising. Following the successful pilot in Bury the sessions have been modified and are now available to all.

Group 2 are looking at developing training for those who carry out assessments both in terms of Fair Access To Care eligibility and more in-depth assessment on the single assessment forms.

Mari also attended the event of the Greater Manchester Learning Disability Training group and has offered to join this group.

POST DIAGNOSTIC GROUPS AND PARENT GROUPS

Mari has attended 3 post diagnostic workshop sessions in Manchester, Rochdale and Stockport and has also attended a parent support group and parent drop-in in Bury.

REGIONAL EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Debbie, Mari and Francine have also been involved in a number of regional events and meetings including:-

- Attending and taking notes for the North West Clinical Psychology ASD Network meeting.
- Attending the Learning Skills Council meeting about the changes for this organization and the implications for young adults and adults with ASD.
- Debbie continues to be involved in the CSIP/SEN Partnership Project to create training materials around Mental Health and ASD in children. It is hoped that this training will shortly be piloted as a 2 day multi-agency training event for Tier1 staff. The group has also established links with Cumbria University for accreditation.
- CSIP have funded the NAS to conduct a piece of research in the NW around parents' experience of diagnosis across the region. Debbie is co-ordinating this piece of work along side two colleagues and interviews are starting around now.
- Debbie has been involved in a National Institute of Health research bid led by Jonathan Green and the group has been successful in passing the first round.

THE NAS *HELP!* PROGRAMMES

Since the last report the following programmes have taken place within the region.

- A one day *help!* programme in Bolton/ Bury

In the next few weeks there will be:-

- A 20 hour *help!* programme in Rochdale
- A one day *help!* programme in Tameside

Mari Saeki and Debbie Waters
Family Services Development Project,
National Autistic Society
30/5/08