

**GREATER MANCHESTER CONSORTIUM  
TO DEVELOP LOCAL SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM**

**FAMILY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT**

**STEERING GROUP MEETING**

**To be held on Monday 7 th March 2005  
between 2pm – 4pm  
The Boardroom, Crompton House  
100 Chorley Road, Swinton M27 6BP**

**FAMILY SERVICES PROJECT REPORT**

**12th NOVEMBER 2004 – 14 February 2005**

**DISTRIBUTION OF REFERRALS**

Local Authority	Total referrals	Male referrals			Female referrals		
		All ages	Under-19	Under-5	All ages	Under-19	Under-5
Bolton	141	106	71	0	35	17	0
Bury	110	96	74	1	14	10	0
Manchester	339	304	204	8	35	26	2
Oldham	80	64	39	2	16	7	0
Rochdale	90	75	42	4	15	9	0
Salford	155	129	94	0	26	17	0
Stockport	225	191	130	8	34	23	2
Tameside	87	74	51	0	13	5	0
Trafford	154	125	87	3	29	17	0
Wigan	83	71	42	1	12	7	0
Left GMA	19	15	8	0	4	3	0
Closed Cases	9	6	1	0	3	2	0
	<b>1492</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>4</b>

Of the 1492 referrals known to our service 741 have a diagnosis of autism, 418 have a diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome and 333 haven't yet received a diagnosis.

**EXPLANATION AND ANALYSIS OF TABLES calls logged up to 7/2/05**

AUTHORITY	NO OF CALLS	NEW PARENT/ IND	EXISTING PARENT/ IND	PROF	TIME SPENT ON CALL	ISSUES RAISED								
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>BOLTON</b>	7	3	2	2	1 hr 50 mins	2	1	4	3		1		1	1
<b>BURY</b>	9	1	6	2	2hrs 6 mins	2	1	4			1	2	1	5
<b>MANCHESTER</b>	28	11	10	7	6hrs 05 mins	6	7	9	3	1	4	5	1	12
<b>OLDHAM</b>	1	1	0	0	0 hrs 20 mins	1								1
<b>ROCHDALE</b>	6	2	2	2	2hrs 05 mins		3	3	1					2
<b>SALFORD</b>	7	5	1	1	2hr 40 mins	2	2	5	1		1	2		1
<b>STOCKPORT</b>	21	7	9	5	4hrs 35 mins	1	5	5	1	1		5	1	6
<b>TAMESIDE</b>	4	3	1	0	1hrs 15 mins		1							3
<b>TRAFFORD</b>	11	4	5	2	2hrs 50 mins	2	2	4	2		1	2		3
<b>WIGAN</b>	2	1	1	0	0hrs 30 mins		1		1	1				1
<b>OTHER</b>	1	1	0	0	0hr 10 mins									1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24hrs 26mins</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</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**

**AUTISM SERVICES DEVELOPMENT GROUPS**

Between 12<sup>th</sup> November and 20<sup>th</sup> February we have attended 15 Autism Services Development group meetings.

**BOLTON**

The Children's Group met in December and are due to meet again at the beginning of March. They plan to strengthen links with the Learning Disability Partnership Board and Children's Trust Board by making presentations to them about local ASD related issues. They are still waiting to hear about the bid for an ASD training initiative, which may incorporate Bolton's share of the proposed Greater Manchester Help! Worker. .

Doreen Hedley (Chair of the traditionally 'children's' group) attended the last Bolton Adult's Group and both groups are looking at how to link with each other and the newly formed Young Adults Team. The Adult Group was pleased to report that a bid for a small day service provision solely for people with ASDs in Bolton had been successful. They are also looking at training, diagnosis and transitions. This group now has a parent representative.

## **BURY**

A small group are continuing to work through on the Autism Good Practice Guidance. The Leisure Group for young people with ASD has met and was a great success. The Befriending Project is working well and is continuing to recruit volunteers. A third round of training has just been completed.

A representative from the parent support group has attended the last two development group meetings. The group is meeting on a monthly basis in the evenings. It is looking at publicity and planning a programme of events for the coming year, including guest speakers.

A scheme involving 6 schools in Bury is piloting a transitions review for 14 year olds with statements. Information about this work was reported on at the February meeting.

The befriending scheme and the social group for teenagers with Aspergers syndrome are continuing to go well. The social group is being run in partnership with Lifelong learning. There is a pressure to provide more social activities; the main problem is having enough staff to run the groups.

## **Manchester**

A small group has been working on collating the work done at the development day last November. This group has produced a proposed structure for autism related groups and also a proposed list of key groups and membership with priorities for future work. This work has been circulated for comment and a way forward will be agreed soon.

The adults group has not met since the last steering group

## **OLDHAM**

The Befriending Project and the social group set up by Aspirations with the help of local volunteers are going very well. CAMHS has agreed to provide funding for the Befriending Service until the end of the financial year. Longer term funding will need to be addressed

Oldham's supported living service has been preparing for NAS accreditation, which is due to take place in March 2005. The Development Worker has been leading on this piece of work. An in house accreditation "practice" took place in January

The Asperger's Development Group did a presentation to the Way Forward group in December. It hoped to raise awareness among commissioners and service providers of the needs of people with Asperger's syndrome living in Oldham. The group have planned some awareness raising with mainstream service providers who are coming into contact with people with Aspergers Syndrome for example Connexions, Youth Offending, The Duty and initial assessment team.

A number of new posts based in the CAMHS have now been advertised. The autism practitioner will work alongside CAMHS professionals offering post diagnostic support and information to families.

## **ROCHDALE**

The Children's Group meeting in December was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for the end of

The Adult Group has not met since the last CSG.

## **SALFORD**

The Adult Group has continued to meet on a monthly basis. Issues discussed include the accreditation of day services in Salford, the proposal for a Befriending Project, the consortium-training package and links with the Salford children's group.

The SEN Review Group has met on a monthly basis. The main focus of work is the completion of the action plan for ASD provision in Salford. The chair of the education group has been in discussion with colleagues from other services about having a more multi agency children's group. There continues to be discussion about how the Adults and Children's groups can best link together.

## **STOCKPORT**

The local NAS Branch, in conjunction with Stockport CP and the Project has continued to run Communication Workshop for parents. Local speech therapists continue to offer their services on a voluntary basis

The ASD Group has decided to have an away day to look at its future focus. The sub groups are continuing to meet and to be quite productive.

Stockport LEA is completing its review of MLD and autism provision. The Family Services Development Project has been involved in the provision models task group.

## **TAMESIDE**

The last Tameside meeting was cancelled. It is likely that the group will look again at their composition, possibly setting up smaller sub-groups to look at specific and project-focussed issues.

Training, short breaks and transitions have been identified as a priority.

## **TRAFFORD**

Trafford are continuing to discuss training. An audit of staff needing basic awareness raising is to take place so that training can be planned. More in-depth training for staff also needs to be put together.

The Parent Support Group continues to meet. One of the Family Services development project Officers attended a meeting to discuss the work of the project and the consortium.

## **WIGAN**

A highly successful conference on autism was held at Landgate School on 25<sup>th</sup> November. This is aimed at Wigan parents and professionals. The Family Services Development Project will be represented at this day and will have a stall in the foyer with books and leaflets for parents.

The group are continuing to look at the recommendations of the National Autism plan for Children and the DFES Good Practice Guidelines

## **OTHER WORK**

We have also attended a number of other meetings:-

- The Greater Manchester Training Strategy Group
- Oldham Asperger's Development Group meeting
- Stockport Moderate Learning Difficulties Review meetings.
- Autism training task groups in 2 authorities
- Oldham Befriending Scheme Steering group
- A new parents support group
- A training session for a new befriending scheme in Manchester

We have forwarded information to families/adults with Asperger syndrome about 2 research projects:-

1. Research by 2 trainee Clinical Psychologists looking at how autistic children understand time.
2. An audit of adults with Asperger syndrome living in Rochdale

## **TRAINING STRATEGY GROUP**

The Training Strategy Group has completed its consultation on the half-day awareness- raising package. Feedback was generally very positive and the slides have been amended accordingly and a protocol for distribution and use of the package is available for discussion.

## **Help! Proposal**

The Help! Proposal has been circulated to a wider audience and Jane and Debbie have spoken to a number of commissioners. One definite offer of funding has been given by Salford CAMHS. A written update of progress is available for discussion.

## ***One day Help! programme***

The national Help! team delivered a 1-day Help! programme in the Greater Manchester area on 12 January 2005. Places were offered to 21 families. The programme offered information on support, education and welfare benefits. Both project officers attended the day and were available to talk to families and refer on to other agencies. Feedback from the families has been very positive

## **STAFF CHANGES**

Jane Forrest will end her secondment with the project on 24 February. Mari Saeki will return from maternity leave on 21 March. Mari will be working 4 days a week. The additional day will continue to be covered by Debbie Waters. During the 3 weeks 28 February to 21 March Debbie will provide some additional cover for the project supported by Barbara Whillans, Brenda Nally, and Claire Graham from the regional development team.

## **JOINT COMMISSIONING PROPOSAL**

A small group was due to meet on 20 January to further develop this proposal, unfortunately a number of people were unable to attend and the meeting was cancelled. Some ideas were circulated by email, however, this piece of work has not made much progress since the last CSG

Jane Forrest and Debbie Waters, Project Officers  
NAS Family Services Development Project  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2005