

Autism Partnership Board Meeting



12 September 2023

**At New County Hall, Truro
and on Microsoft Teams**

Who was there

Name	About them
Councillor Sally Weedon (Chair)	Cornwall Council
Mike Hooper	Healthwatch Cornwall
Robert O'Leary	Healthwatch Cornwall
Cheryl Bridges	Cornwall Council
Christopher Burns	Service User and disability campaigner
David Allkins	Cornwall Council
David Burns	Citizen Checkers and Healthwatch Cornwall
Debbie Rees	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board
Heather Davison	Divas and The Autistic Community of Cornwall
Julie Pape	Self-advocate, Healthy Cornwall & CHAMPs
Karen Hooper	Cornwall Council
Kath Jarrett	Self-advocate, Healthy Cornwall & CHAMPs
Kay Henry	Parent Carers Cornwall
Lisa Clark	Parent Carers Cornwall
Liz Cahill	NHS Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly ICB
Marie Ralph	The Autistic Community of Cornwall, Youth Art Connect and Cornwall Tourette's
Michelle Hooker	Public Health
Michelle Lobb	Parent Carers Cornwall
Nory Menneer	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board
Paul Owen	Self-advocate, Healthy Cornwall & CHAMPs
Penni Charteress	The Women's Centre Cornwall & Divas

Name	About them
Rebecca Jelbert	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Sarah Keast	Cornwall Council
Steve Hillman	Healthy Cornwall and CHAMPs
Stuart Ralphson	Self-advocate, Healthy Cornwall and CHAMPs
Susan Joseph	Cornwall Council

Who couldn't make it

Name	About them
Alison Bulman	Cornwall Council
Alison Short	The Advocacy People
Andrew Gray	Self-advocate
Anna Ingleby-Oddy	United Response Cornwall
Clive Gaylard	Cornwall Council
Deanne Hill	South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
Debbie Rees	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board
Dina Holder	The Women's Centre Cornwall & Divas
Donna Darby	Calton House Ltd
Fliss Hedge	Cornwall People First
Sgt Flo Linscott	Devon and Cornwall Police
Jane Rees	Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust
Julie Atwell-Cook	Cornwall Council

Name	About them
Julia Wildfire-Roberts	Pentreath and Healthwatch Cornwall
Kate Alcock	Cornwall Council
Lizzie Denison	Cornwall Council
Tigger Pritchard	NAS Cornwall and The Autistic Community of Cornwall

What we talked about at the meeting



Everybody agreed that the minutes of the June meeting were correct.



The Learning Disability and Autism Team at **Royal Cornwall Hospital Treリスケ** are still working to make appointment letters in easy read format



Ambulance crews do not have access to **Hospital Passports** online.

It is very important that you keep the information on your paper passport up to date and carry it with you.



Housing Options

Cornwall Council's Housing Options Manager offered to come to a Board meeting to answer your questions.

No questions were asked so he will not be coming to talk with us.



Department for
Work & Pensions

There is a sub-group of this Board that looks at communication with the **DWP**.

DWP staff will be coming to our December meeting to tell us what they are doing to make **Job Centres** better for autistic people.

The **Adult Autism Assessment Team** is working with the **Mental Health** team to improve support for autistic adults.

Training had been set up with the help of **The Autistic Community of Cornwall**.

Staff all across the Trust should think about neurodiversity in their work.



Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



Christopher Burns said that autistic people in Cornwall needed more support.

There was no **Social Prescriber** in the Torpoint area.

Some people were having to get help from outside of Cornwall to complete PIP forms.

Robert O'Leary used to be a Social Prescriber. He would talk to Christopher outside of the meeting to find out more.

Sara Sanders is the new lead for **LeDeR**.



LeDeR reports give information about the lives and deaths of people with a learning disability and/or autistic people.

It is very important information as it can be used to improve lives.

The Board will receive updates as soon as they are available.



Members think it would be good if a **GP** joined the Board.

The Partnership Boards team will write to the ICB.



Christopher Burns and Stuart Ralphson have been doing disability awareness work for **Torpoint Diverse Advisory Panel**.

Stuart read 'This is Me!' by George Webster to parent carers and children at Torpoint Library.

It is hoped that it can be done at all libraries across Cornwall

Liz Cahill gave a presentation about the new **"Celebrating Neurodiversity" Strategy** for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

It will be agreed by the Council's Cabinet in December.

No easy read information was available yet.

The four key themes are:

- Cultural change with a focus on outcomes
- Diversity not deficits
- Focus on "need" not just diagnosis
- Earlier help.

The Board said it is important that all professionals are trained about neurodiversity.

The draft Strategy was emailed to all members so they could have their say but it was not in easy read.





Sarah Keates from Cornwall Council gave an easy read presentation about the **Cornwall Supported and Specialist Housing Strategy**.

[Click here](#) to see it.

It would be agreed by the Council's Cabinet in November.

You can email comments to Sarah at sarah.keast@cornwall.gov.uk.



Board members had raised lots of concerns about the **Police** at recent meetings.

The Autistic Community of Cornwall and **The Women's Centre Cornwall** have worked with the Partnership Boards team to write a report about how the Police communicate with autistic people.

That report will go to the Police Community Reference Group in October.

The Police and their training team will join the next Board meeting in December.



Devon & Cornwall
POLICE



Susan Joseph of Cornwall Council is leading on an **Autism Strategy for Cornwall**.

There will be a working group of professionals, carers and autistic individuals.

The first meeting will look at awareness of autism and how to improve support.

If you are interested in taking part please email susan.joseph@cornwall.gov.uk.

Next meeting:



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