

Autism Partnership Board

March 19th 2019

What we talked about at the meeting.



The Board has talked a lot about autism assessments but it is still not clear which teams provide which services.

Adults with a LD and autism and adults with autism and a mental health condition are in the most difficult situation.

Rachel said private assessments are not always recognised by schools.

Action 1. Develop a basic plan to show how different organisations provide assessment services.



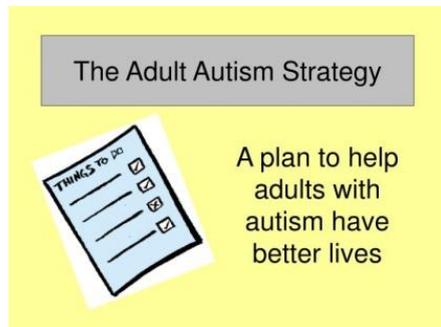
There was an update about the changes in day services from Hugh Evans. Amy Claridge from Cornwall Council will lead. Those who will be affected will be asked what they think before changes take place.

The consultation and decisions will take time and a new model will not start till April 2021.

Transport in rural areas needs to be considered. Kelvin Yates said there was a new scheme (from DEFRA) providing electric cars starting in Cornwall soon.

Action 2. Keep day services update on the agenda for all future meetings

Shelagh



There is still no named Autism Lead in Cornwall. This has resulted in slow progress with the strategy.

- Rachel talked about people with ASC dying 10-15 years early
- Shelagh and Rachel expressed concern that people with a learning disability and autism were only getting extra help when their IQ was less than 70. This misses out many who need help.
- There are lots more older people with autism.
- Training professionals is vital.

The national self-assessment for autism was not fully completed by Cornwall Council nor reviewed at the PB. The PB expressed its' great concern about this.



Rachel was concerned that the PB doesn't get things done. Nuala reminded the PB that there are many staff changes in Cornwall Council and the PB will become more active and effective over the coming months. Poor attendance noted as well as:

- Health representation absent
- Nobody to provide update on TCP



Katherine Lisson from Pentreath came to speak about a project called: Living Will to Work. It is funded by the European Social Fund and aims to increase the number of people with ASC getting work. It ends in July. Katherine provides employers with training and a toolkit of information and advice about autism. She is working with 13 people with ASC on a1:1 supporting them from job advert to interview.

Shelagh asked whether Mitie was involved and Katherine said that they hadn't engaged.



The PB was disappointed to hear that funding runs out in July. Kelvin mentioned that the DWP can give regional and district managers money to commission local support. Steve Matthews is partnership manager at Jobcentre.

Next meeting is on June 20th 10.30-12.30pm. Refreshments at 10am.

Wesley Halls, Redruth.

Please tell Nuala if you are able to come.

Notes on Universal Credit

Disability Rights

All jobcentres can offer one to one support to help people to make their Universal Credit claim online or by other methods. Each customer will have a named work coach who is there to support them to make their claim. Work coaches can also help customers to find work, start training, volunteer, become self-employed or find the right help or advice.

DWP also have specialist staff known as Visiting Officers. Visiting Officers can see customers in their own homes if the customer is unable to attend an appointment in the jobcentre due to a health problem or disability. Visiting officers will help those customers to claim their Universal Credit. This may also be with an appointee or other support/care worker.

Mencap

You can apply for Universal Credit online. If you cannot use the internet, you should phone the helpline on 0345 600 0723. Before you apply for Universal Credit, you should talk to a benefits adviser. You can find advisors in your local area.

Cornwall Council

For help getting online or making a new claim for Universal Credit ring Cornwall Council on 0300 1234 121, option 5. Work coaches at Jobcentres can also provide advice about local IT training opportunities.

Government website

If you have problems using the internet

You can only claim Universal Credit online - there's no paper form.

If you aren't confident using the internet, ask [your local council](#) about help getting online.

You might be able to apply by phone or in person instead of online.

You'll need to tell the DWP why you can't apply online, for example if you have problems reading or writing.

Contact the Universal Credit helpline if you need to apply by phone or in person. Someone else can call for you.

Universal Credit helpline (full service)

Telephone: 0800 328 5644

Textphone: 0800 328 1344

Telephone (Welsh language): 0800 012 1888

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Calls to these numbers are free. It's best to call from the phone number you gave the DWP when you set up your Universal Credit account. You'll have a shorter wait and be put through to the same person who handled previous calls you've made.

The application can take up to 40 minutes on the phone.

If you don't have internet access

You can use the internet free of charge at:

- your local Jobcentre
- your local council
- your local library

Easy Read

<https://www.emhcareandsupport.org.uk/media/2793/easy-read-guide-to-universal-credit.pdf>

<https://www.emhcareandsupport.org.uk/about-us/>

<https://www.rightsnet.org.uk/forums/viewthread/13189/#61369>

General advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/universal-credit/claiming/apply-for-universal-credit/>

<https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit/how-to-claim>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jVeWPsCzUI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMN4knmlnPI>

Accurate as of March 11th 2019

Produced by Nuala Kiely and David Allkins