








Autism Partnership Board





Agenda – What we will talk about

	<p>Meeting Date: 15 March 2022</p>
	<p>Meeting Time: 10.00am to 12.00pm</p>
	<p>Teams: Click here to join the meeting</p>






	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>Councillor Sally Weedon, Chair</p> <p>10 minutes</p>
	<p>Minutes and actions from the last meeting.</p> <p>Easy Read version – Page 5 Standard version – Page 12</p> <p>5 minutes</p>
	<p>Updates from members</p> <p>20 minutes</p>
	<p>Adult Social Care Critical Incident</p> <p>Cornwall Council</p> <p>10 minutes</p>



	<p>Feedback from LDA Programme Board</p> <p>Nory Menneer</p> <p>10 minutes</p>
	<p>Break</p> <p>10 Minutes</p>
	<p>Delivering Better Care – Update on Strategies</p> <p>Ann Smith, Cornwall Council</p> <p>15 minutes</p>
	<p>The Advocacy People</p> <p>Page 19</p> <p>Penny Newman</p> <p>20 minutes</p>



	<p>Making Services Accessible</p> <p>Led by Ann Smith, Cornwall Council</p> <p>10 minutes</p>
	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>10 minutes</p>
	<p>End of the meeting</p>

2022 Meetings:

Tuesdays, from 10:00am–12:00pm.

28 June

20 September

15 November



Autism Partnership Board Meeting



14 December 2021



Who was there

Name	About them
Mike Hooper Helen Newton	Healthwatch Cornwall
Ania Nicholls	Cornwall Council
Anna Passmore	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Claire Below	Cornwall Council
Christopher Burns	Self-Advocate and Service User
David Allkins	Self-Advocate and Cornwall Council
David Burns	Self-Advocate and Service User
Dina Holder	Divas, Women's Centre
Sgt Flo Linscott	Devon and Cornwall Police
Nory Menneer	NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group
Philip Hanscombe	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Rebecca Jelbert	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Shelagh Mitchell	CHAMPS, Cornwall Council
Steph Isaacs	Cornwall People First
Tasha Milton	Department for Work and Pensions
Vicki Allen	Cornwall Council

What we talked about at the meeting



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



Tazmin Hook from the Independent Cornwall Autism Network would not be attending Board meetings anymore.

Everyone thanked her for her great work with the Autism, Learning Disability and Carers Service Users Group.



Stopping over medication of
people with a learning disability,
autism or both

The Board was asked if they had any questions about the STOMP Programme.

Nobody had any questions .

Updates from members



Mike Hooper had been in touch with The Advocacy People.

They would attend the next meeting to tell the Board about their work in Cornwall.

Nory Menneer said that the a member of the Quality Team would talk at a future meeting about the LeDeR Programme.

Reports were being made into easy read.

The CHAMPS were now called the Health inequalities Team

They had started drop-in sessions and walks in places across Cornwall.

Courses would start in January.

Sergeant Flo Linscott hoped that the new Autism Alert Card would be available soon.

Control Centre staff were being trained in how to communicate with people with Autism.

Flo was talking with the British Transport Police to improve its Autism awareness.

Learning Disability, Autism and Carers Service Users Event



Mike said that not many people joined the last meeting because there were no advocates to support them.

The Advocacy People would be working to help people to become self-advocates.



The group had given more feedback on the new hospital passport.



Nory said that feedback from the Service User Group had been heard by NHS bosses.

The Primary Care Liaison Team were working with GPs to make improvements.

A GP would be a Clinical Champion. They would work across Cornwall to improve communication for people with Autism and Learning Disabilities.

Adult Social Care Strategies



Vicki Allen from **Cornwall Council** updated on a new Strategy that includes Autism.

It is called the Better Lives Strategy.

Click [here](#) to see a short film about it.



Vicki said that she wants the Board to help the Council to set up small groups of service users for the next stage.

Any Other Business

DIVAS

The DIVAS had been working with the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office.

Mike would email a survey about domestic abuse to everyone after the meeting.



Dates for Cornwall People First forums and events in 2022 would be available soon.



Christopher Burns said that a foodbank in Liskeard gave out 83 food parcels in one week.

He said it was a safeguarding issue and Mike would speak to him about it.

The next Autism Partnership Board meeting will be on Teams at 10am on 15 March 2022



MEETING NOTES:	Meeting of the Autism Partnership Board
DATE:	Tuesday 14 December 2021
LOCATION:	Via Teams

ATTENDANCE

Name	Position	Organisation
Mike Hooper (MH)	Partnership Boards Officer	Healthwatch Cornwall
Helen Newton (HN)	Administration Officer	Healthwatch Cornwall
Ania Nicholls (AN)	Commissioner	Cornwall Council
Anna Passmore (AP)	Patient Experience Lead	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Claire Below (CBe)	Graduate - Strategic Commissioning Team	Cornwall Council
Christopher Burns (CBu)	Self-Advocate and Service User	N/A
David Allkins (DA)	Revenue and Benefits Admin Assistant and Self Advocate	Cornwall Council
David Burns (DB)	Self-Advocate and Service User	N/A
Dina Holder (DH)	Engagement Manager	Divas, Women's Centre
Sgt Flo Linscott (FL)	Diverse Communities Team	Devon and Cornwall Police
Nory Menneer (NM)	Clinical Lead and Learning Disabilities Commissioner	NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group
Philip Hanscombe (PH)	Adult Autism Intensive Support Team and Chair of the Advisory Board to the All-Parliamentary Group on Autism	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Rebecca Jelbert (RJ)	Clinical Psychologist, Adult Asperger's Assessment Team	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Shelagh Mitchell (SM)	Healthy Cornwall Team Lead Health & Inequalities CHAMPs Team Manager	Cornwall Council
Steph Isaacs (SI)	Outreach Inclusion Worker	Cornwall People First
Tasha Milton (TM)	Disability Employment Advisor	DWP
Vicki Allen (VA)	Adult Social Care Commissioning Manager with responsibility for Learning Disability and Autism	Cornwall Council

APOLOGIES

Name	Position	Organisation
Ann Smith	Head of Commissioning for LD, Autism and Mental Health	Cornwall Council
Cllr Sally Weedon	Councillor and APB Chair	Cornwall Council
Tazmin Hook	Self-Advocate	Independent Cornwall Autism Network

ACTIONS

Action	Responsible	Status
Share contacts for LeDeR updates to future meetings.	NM / MH	Incomplete.
Share suggested inclusion for Hospital Passport with Jane Rees.	MH	Complete.
Contact RJ and DH re participation in Strategy working groups.	VA	Incomplete.
Contact CB re foodbanks, safeguarding and safety in the community agenda.	MH	Incomplete.
Investigate changes to blue badge application process.	MH	Ongoing. MH met with Donna Collins, Assessment, Billing & Collection Team Leader, CC and is liaising directly with members that raised questions.
Update on Day Services.	MH / AS / VA	Incomplete. Waiting for a full list of what services are available and where from Ann Smith. 14/12/21 - VA undertook to follow the matter up.
Convert Direct Payments information into easy read, for circulation.	AS / CG	Ongoing. CC to produce.
Liaise to ensure timely updates on progress of Autism Strategy.	AS / TS / PB Team	Ongoing. MH met AS & TS in May 21. Updates received at June, Sept and Dec 2021 APB meetings.

Item	What was discussed	Action
1.	Welcome, introductions and apologies	
	<p>MH welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the meeting would be recorded for minute taking purposes. Permission would be sought from those speaking prior to the footage being shared elsewhere.</p> <p>MH updated that Tazmin Hook from the Independent Cornwall Autism Network was stepping away from her role for a while. MH expressed thanks for her contributions to the Board and more recently the pivotal role that she had played in ensuring that the Autism, Learning Disability and Carers Service Users Group provided succinct feedback to decision makers throughout the pandemic.</p>	
2.	Minutes of the Meeting of the Autism Partnership Board held on 5 June 2021.	
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>MH said that two matters that were raised quite regularly by Board members were Direct Payments and the STOMP programme. However, to invite people to attend to discuss issues it was important to be able to provide a clear remit of what members would like to know. When the agenda was circulated, MH had asked that anyone with questions have them ready to share with the Board so it could decide whether or not the matters should be added to a future</p>	

	<p>agenda. He also shared two ER documents on STOMP to remind people of the remit of the project.</p> <p>No questions were raised so it was agreed that the matters did not currently require scheduling for consideration at a future meeting.</p>	
3.	Updates from members	
	<p>MH updated that Healthwatch Cornwall were interviewing that week for a new officer to work on the Partnership Boards. The new role would be more project based and facilitate more contact with members between meetings.</p> <p>At the recent Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting, members asked about the work of The Advocacy People. MH had since been in touch with Penny Newman, Team Manager covering Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly, Plymouth and Torbay. Their contract with Cornwall Council was focused on community advocacy and statutory responsibilities in connection with supporting health related complaints. The service aimed to support the development of group advocacy opportunities with the aim of helping people to develop self-advocacy skills. Moving forward, they would be linking in with the Partnership Boards to help people to have their voices heard at and through the Boards.</p> <p>CB added that most of the references on The Advocacy People website related to mental health with very little reference to Autism. MH advised that two new Advocacy Co-ordinator roles had recently been appointed to. They would be setting up peer support groups and training sessions with a view to enabling people to become self-advocates.</p> <p>NM updated that responsibility for the LeDeR programme had now passed to the Quality Team in NHS Kernow and they were investing in extra people to make sure that deaths of people with learning disabilities and Autism were reviewed and lessons learnt. They were currently preparing the means to identify those patients with learning disabilities and Autism who pass away in hospital. A representative from the Quality Team would attend a future meeting to update the group. NM added that commissioning to put reports into easy read format was underway.</p> <p>When asked about the Small Supports programme, NM said that it was aimed at trying to find people who wanted to start up a small business in Cornwall to care for people with learning disabilities and Autism in very person-centred ways. Finding care for people was currently very difficult due to lack of resources and problems with finding housing.</p> <p>The CHAMPS were now called the Health Inequalities Team, with a wider remit and aiming to become more accessible to members of the community. Face to face courses were due to return in January and the team had been organising outdoor walks around Hayle, Truro, Newquay, and Camborne. They would also be offering a Resilience course and a Healthy Weight course from January. The team had been taking learnings from LeDeR to make courses more current, appropriate and accessible for service users.</p> <p>FL updated that the new Autism Alert cards had been sent out to contacts in the NHS and across the corporate team. He was aiming to get the card circulated across Cornwall and would share it at the earliest opportunity.</p>	<p>NM to pass contact details to MH</p>

	<p>Work was still underway to train control centre staff to ensure they engaged effectively and appropriately. However, turnover of staff was significant in that area and so consistency was a challenge. It was acknowledged that the sharing of lived experiences was also very valuable.</p> <p>FL had also emailed contacts within the British Transport Police to improve their awareness and would update further at the next meeting.</p> <p>SI advised that CPF had been very busy since the last meeting, with many easy read commissions and the formation of 'Speak Up' groups, which had proved very successful in sharing advice and gathering feedback.</p> <p>RJ said that the Assessment Team were still addressing short staffing and long wait times. They were working with senior management to find short term solutions to clear the backlog and to meet ongoing demands.</p> <p>DB updated that System Checkers had been talking to patients in hospital and would be continuing that work into the new year</p>	
4.	Feedback from the Learning Disability and Autism Service Users and Carers Event on 23 November 2021	
	<p>MH fed back that the group had Jane Rees, Manager of The Learning Disability and Autism Team, RCHT Safeguarding had provided the group with an updated draft hospital passport for comment. Having considered an earlier version and submitted comments upon it, members were content with the changes.</p> <p>Ann Smith, Head of Commissioning for LD, Autism and Mental Health, Cornwall Council had been scheduled to present the Better Lives Strategy, incorporating Autism and learning disability, but had been unable to. VA had stepped in to present but no comments were received from attendees. It was suggested that could be because the communication did not cater for the needs of service users and that further engagement should utilise more accessible means of communication.</p> <p>The meeting had not been very well attended and feedback from partners suggested that support was not available for self-advocates to attend. The current intention for the group was for a meeting to be held in early 2022 but if attendance was low again it could be necessary to focus upon other means of engaging with service users between Board meetings. MH was due to meet with The Advocacy People in the new year in order to discuss their plans to empower service users to become self-advocates.</p> <p>DA asked whether the hospital passport could include information on the Covid vaccine that has been received.</p>	MH to pass this query to JR
5.	Feedback from LDA Programme Board	
	<p>NM updated that discussion has not yet taken place regarding how the Partnership Boards and the LDA Programme Board would formally link going forward but the information that was shared and discussed at the last meeting around access to NHS services had been raised at the November meeting of the LDAPB.</p> <p>The Primary Care Commissioner took the feedback on board and the Primary</p>	

	<p>Care Liaison team were now working with specific practices to make improvements. There was still work to do on wider access and equality of access. One of the issues was to make sure that complaint routes were made easier on the occasions where issues arose. A Clinical Champion, who would be a lead GP, was being recruited to work across networks in Cornwall to focus on Autism and learning disabilities and improve communications for those groups.</p> <p>He added that System Checkers were also providing self-advocacy for people in out of area placements as part of a national project. The outputs would be evaluated in March.</p> <p>CB highlighted a recent news report about people with learning disabilities and Autism that had died in Assessment and Treatment Units, many having been put into unsafe situations. NM noted that the Mental Health Act was changing next year and learning disability and/or Autism would not be a justification for sectioning patients.</p> <p>Currently, Cornwall had 5 people out of area, 4 of which were expected to be discharged by the end of February.</p>	
7.	Better Lives Strategy	
	<p>Ann Smith, Head of Commissioning for LD, Autism and Mental Health, Cornwall Council had been scheduled to present the Better Lives Strategy, incorporating Autism, but had been unable to attend. VA and AN stood in for her and updated on two new adult social care strategies: Maximising Independence and Better Lives, which would form the Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy for 2022-2026.</p> <p>A video and presentation explaining the background to the new Strategies was shared.</p> <p>The Strategies were aimed at enabling people to receive the care they needed as close to home as possible and to give everyone access to the right care in the right place at the right time, giving them the opportunity to live as independently as possible.</p> <p>‘Maximising Independence’ focused on older people and people with physical disabilities and ‘Better Lives’ focused upon people of working age with Autism, learning disabilities and mental health concerns.</p> <p>All the documents supporting the Strategies, including engagement activities, were available to view on the Let's Talk Cornwall portal.</p> <p>The main intention behind the Strategies was to deliver better care. The commissioned services would be based on supply and demand data and financial modelling. They would learn from best practice and carry out performance comparisons between local and national services. The commissioners were keen to work in conjunction with the Partnership Boards, partners, networks etc, to redesign services for local communities.</p> <p>There were six main workstreams within the Better Lives strategy that would align with national strategy, aiming to maximise choice and control and determine the Council's priorities.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing was at the forefront of everything and how an offer of</p>	

	<p>care would co-designed, making sure that people were looked after in safe, vibrant communities.</p> <p>The Employment workstream was aimed at creating meaningful employment opportunities for people.</p> <p>Accommodation with Care was about developing safe independent supported living accommodation within the community.</p> <p>Staying Safe and Managing Risk was about how to positively manage risk without people feeling unsafe.</p> <p>Preparing for Adulthood focused on working with Together for Families to look at what was right for young people, 16+, so that they did not have to worry about turning 18 and the transition from children's services to adults.</p> <p>The team would be looking at how they could engage with service users in a more meaningful way in the new year.</p> <p>VA added that setting up working groups would be included in the next phase of development. The groups would be made up of a mix of different people from organisations, with lived experience etc, to help deliver together what the focus areas would look like.</p> <p>RJ had previously provided feedback to AS and was keen to participate in the working groups.</p> <p>DH would also like to participate in the work around staying safe and managing risk.</p> <p>Feedback from the Let's Talk Cornwall survey would be reviewed early in the new year to identify themes. VA would bring a further update to the next meeting and discuss engagement in more detail. Outline proposals for meaningful engagement and details of the groups to be involved in engagement would be ready in late February.</p>	<p>VA to contact RJ and DH to progress</p>
8.	Any other business	
	<p>The DIVAS had recently done some work with the Domestic Abuse Commissioner's Office around the consultation issued regarding people's experiences of domestic abuse and how and if they had been able to get help. They wished to understand whether there was "a postcode lottery" across the country for the availability of help. An easy read version of the survey was being produced but in the meantime DH would share a copy of the current survey for MH to circulate. DH asked for everyone's input and help to circulate the survey to service users and across agencies.</p> <p>Once agreed, SI would share details of Cornwall People First forums and events that were coming up in the new year - Covid permitting.</p> <p>CB advised that the Foodbank in Liskeard gave out 83 food parcels in one week. The fact that people were potentially starving in Cornwall needed to be added to the safeguarding and safety in the community agenda.</p>	<p>CB and MH to discuss further</p>

9.	Future meetings	
	<p>2022 meeting would be circulated before Christmas.</p> <p><i>Note: Dates and invites were sent on 21 December:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 March • 28 June • 20 September • 15 November <p><i>Following consultation with the Chair, meetings would continue to be held on Tuesdays at 10 am and were currently scheduled to held on Microsoft Teams. The possibility of holding in person meetings would be considered in due course.</i></p>	



1

Advocacy Training

Penny Newman
Manager for Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Plymouth and Torbay



2

What do we do?

We support people who lack capacity to make a decision or have substantial difficulty to have their voice heard when decisions are being made about their lives such as:

- Moving home
- Moving into a care or nursing home
- When having serious medical treatment
- When you need a care needs assessment & support through the process
- Safeguarding



3

Community Advocacy

Under our Community Advocacy service we can support you with:

- Accessing services such as Social Care
- Finding a solicitor
- Accessing housing services
- Accessing financial support



4

Community Advocacy

- Through this service we will help and support you to 'self advocate' to get what you need.
- Supporting you to gain confidence to manage without or with minimal support
- We can also provide training sessions for groups of people to learn advocacy skills
- We are setting up Peer Support Groups across Cornwall



5

Advocacy Training

These sessions will be arranged throughout Cornwall either in person or through Microsoft teams

They will be run by two qualified advocates

The sessions will be for anyone who has an interest in advocacy support such as carers, service users, family members, friends and professionals



6

Advocacy

What does an advocate do?

Talk to you about your issue to find out how they can help

They can provide you with information about your issue

They will discuss the different outcomes possible

They will Support you to make a decision and do what needs to be done



7

Advocacy

What an advocate won't do:

- They will not tell you what you should do or make decisions for you
- They will not make judgements about you
- They will not do anything for you unless you ask them to



8

Advocacy Training

How do you get invited to a training session?

Please contact:

Claire.menear@theadvocacypeople.org.uk

Or

Samantha.Mokarram@theadvocacypeople.org.uk



9

Thank you



10