

Autism Partnership Board Meeting



14 March 2023

**At Truro Library
and on Microsoft Teams**

Who was there

| Name | About them |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Councillor Sally Weedon (Chair) | Cornwall Council |
| Mike Hooper | Healthwatch Cornwall |
| Anna Clemens | Department for Work and Pensions |
| Anna Ingleby-Oddy | United Response Cornwall |
| Antony Bell-Thorne | Cornwall Council |
| Caroline Finlayson | Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust |
| Christopher Burns | |
| David Allkins | Cornwall Council |
| David Burns | Citizen Checkers and Healthwatch Cornwall |
| Deanne Hill | South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust |
| Dina Holder | Community Engagement Manager Women's Centre Cornwall & Divas |
| Heather Davison | The Divas |
| Jason Pape | Proper Job Café and Maritime Museum |
| Karen Gregory | Mid-Cornwall Hub |
| Karen Hooper | Cornwall Council |
| Lisa | Parent Carers Cornwall |
| Lucy Fremantle | Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust |
| Marie Ralph | National Autistic Society Cornwall Branch and The Autistic Community of Cornwall |
| Nory Menneer | Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board |
| Paul Owen | CHAMPS |
| Shelagh Mitchell | Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust |

| Name | About them |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tina Sanford | Cornwall Council |
| Trudie Binnie | Cornwall Council |
| Wayne | Department for Work and Pensions |
| AL, DR, RP and JT | Mid-Cornwall Hub |

Who couldn't make it

| Name | About them |
|------------------------|---|
| Alison Short | The Advocacy People |
| Andrew Gray | Autistic Individual |
| Christopher Burns | Service User and disability campaigner |
| Donna Darby | Calton House Ltd |
| Fliss Hedge | Cornwall People First |
| Sgt Flo Linscott | Devon & Cornwall Police |
| Jane Rees | Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust |
| Julie Atwell-Cook | Cornwall Council |
| Julie Pape | Cornwall Council |
| Julia Wildfire-Roberts | Pentreath and Healthwatch Cornwall |
| Michelle Lobb | Parent Carers Cornwall |
| Tigger Pritchard | NAS Cornwall and The Autistic Community of Cornwall |

What we talked about at the meeting



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

Updates from members



Blue Light Day would be held on 5 July 2023.

Flo Linscott from the Police thanked Fliss Hedge from Cornwall People First and PC Sarah Treeby for getting all the money together



Cornwall Council staff are having training to help them to understand autism.

It is very important that training is led by autistic people so they are working with The Autistic Community of Cornwall



The **Making Good Change Happen** project is looking at how to make sure that people with a learning disability have the best life they can.

Some of the issues with **housing** are the same for some autistic people.

The Partnership Board will hear feedback on housing at a future meeting.



The **CHAMPS** were working with the **Police** to make sure that neurodiverse people could use the **Safe Places** scheme.

Cornwall Council has a new draft **Direct Payments** Policy.

The new Policy is smaller and easier to understand.

They want people that use Direct Payments to tell them how to support people to buy what they need.

They also want help to make their website better.



Adult Social Care



Cornwall Council will have practice quality standards for all Adult Social Care staff.

They will help to make sure that meetings with **Social Workers** are as good as they can be.



The Women's Centre Cornwall is working with **Age UK** on the abuse of elderly people.

Dina Holder is making sure that autistic individuals are able to tell their stories.



The Divas have made a film for the Police about what it is like to be interviewed by them.

It will be used to train the **Police** all over the country.



David Burns said **Citizen Checkers** hold a peer advocacy session called The Talk Together Group in Liskeard.

Also, two mental health groups are held at the Liskerrett Centre in Liskeard.

One of them is run by Mind.



Department for Work & Pensions

The Board has a group working with the **DWP** to make communication better for people with learning disabilities or autism.

Some improvements have already been made though:

- Teaching teams about neurodiversity.
- Autism Accreditation trials with the National Autistic Society.
- More Disability Employment Advisors in Job Centres.

Cornwall Council is introducing **Individual Service Funds**.



Adult Social Care

[Click here](#) for easy read information.

To join a working group email Antony.Bell-Thorn@cornwall.gov.uk.

The Board agreed to invite **NHS** experts to talk about **mental health** services for autistic people.

The Mental Health team has new staff and one is a specialist in autism.



Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



The **NHS** want specialist in-patient beds in Devon.

They will be for neurodiverse people with specific needs.

But Cornwall wants mental health services to be able to cater for all autistic people in Cornwall.

The **Autistic Community of Cornwall** told the Board about their work.

They offer:

- Training
- Advocacy
- Mentorship
- Support
- befriending.

They will tell us about their work at every meeting.

Some Board members told us that their local **GP Practice** was very good.

Staff were understanding and friendly and made reasonable adjustments.

People said how important **Annual Health Checks** are.

David said a person with lived experience should work with GP services to make sure they are as good as they can be.



Next meeting:



or on Microsoft Teams