

# Autism Partnership Board Meeting



**5 October 2021**



# Who was there

Name	About them
Mike Hooper Anne Oliver	Healthwatch Cornwall
Anna Passmore	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Anne Bowdler	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Claire Martin	NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group
Christopher Burns	Self-Advocate and Service User
David Allkins	Self-Advocate and Cornwall Council
David Burns	Self-Advocate and Service User
Deborah Rees	Cornwall Council
Dina Holder	Divas, Women's Centre
Sgt Flo Linscott	Devon and Cornwall Police
Heather Davison	Parent Carer, Divas and ICAN
Michelle Lobb	Parent Carers Cornwall
Nory Menneer	NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group
Rebecca Jelbert	Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Cllr Sally Weedon	Cornwall Council
Steph Isaacs	Cornwall People First
Vicki Allen	Cornwall Council

# What we talked about at the meeting



A popular and valued member of the Board had passed away since the last meeting.

Everyone would miss Maurice Shermer.



Nuala Kiely had left Healthwatch Cornwall.

Everyone thanked her for her work with the Board.



Councillor Sally Weedon was the new Board member from Cornwall Council.

She has worked in Autism and is very pleased to be joining.

## Updates from members

Mike Hooper and Nory Menneer said that the Board and the new LDA Programme Board would work together on policies and strategies.



Parent Carers Cornwall are still holding lots of training sessions.

The next one would be Circles of Support and would be on Teams.

The DIVAS would be giving lots of training sessions, many outside of Cornwall.

They would be on Chaos TV to talk about hate crimes.

They were looking at ways to get new funding and links to other services.

# DIVAS



Cornwall People First would be holding forums again from November.

A Saturday group was already running.

Other day centres were invited to get in touch too.

There were still long waits for an Autism diagnosis but the team were working hard.

It was hoped that post-diagnostic support could be provided in the future.

An app called Brain in Hand was being trialled across the country.

Chris Burns said it was important that the app worked on all smartphones.



Sergeant Linscott had met with Cornwall People First. He now wanted to attend Forums to talk about hate crime.

It was Hate Crime Awareness Week soon. The team would be all over Cornwall talking and meeting with people.

## Learning Disability, Autism and Carers Service Users Event



The group had lots of good ideas about how to make Hospital Passports better.

Jane Rees would feed back by the next meeting.



Cornwall Council had a new officer for Direct Payments.

He would be talking with the Autism PB.

That information would be fed to this Board.

The service users were very upset because it was still very hard for people with communication issues to see a doctor.

GP staff were not trained to communicate with people with LD or Autism.

People were in a lot of pain but could not see their GP to explain.

Doctors were prescribing anti-depressant medicines because no therapy was available.

Mike played a recording from the meeting.

The Board were sad at what they heard and agreed that all services needed to work together to improve things.

Staff needed to be trained. Anne Bowdler said that Oliver McGowan training was being planned.

Links to online training for professionals were shared.



## Autism Strategy

Cornwall Council is leading on an Autism Strategy.

Vicki Allen wanted to know what is important to people and what needs to change.



She asked people to give their views on five topics:

- Own front door
- What people do in the day
- Moving from childhood to adulthood
- Staying healthy and well
- Staying safe

Ann Smith hoped to have a draft Strategy ready before the end of the year.

## Any Other Business



Michelle Lobb said that the Blue Badge process had changed.

Mike would look into it.



Michelle Lobb asked when day services would restart for more people.

Mike would look into it.

**The next Autism Partnership Board meeting will be on Teams at 10am on 14 December**

