



Surrey Autism Partnership Board

Meeting held on 07 July 2021 via Zoom

Notes of the last meeting / matters arising:

Follow up actions:

- Defining different types of support – This is on today's agenda.
- Autism Peer Champion Programme is now linked into the Autism Strategy
- Lesley Thomas also had an action to send details of the Autism Peer Champion Programme to Carol Teunon to be put in the Surrey NAS Newsletter. Lesley has confirmed that she is waiting for final details but will send it over to Carol as soon as possible.
- Caroline Hewlett, Senior Manager had an action to feedback to Occupational Therapy Reablement colleagues about how important it is to have an OT assessment at home. We will request confirmation that Caroline has done this.
- Sandra Howard, Senior Manager had an action to include Thomas Moore in the mental health transformation workstream – completed.
- Thomas Moore, Chair had an action to feed into the Autism Strategy workstreams the need for Pathological Demand Avoidance. Tom confirmed that this has been done

Types of Service – Thomas Moore

Tom's presentation on the Definitions of Service will be sent around with the minutes.

- Please see below for a brief summary of the definitions of services. For more information, please visit our [Partnership Board Website](#).

Independent / Supported Living

Supported Living is a way of arranging accommodation and support.

Accommodation can be delivered as:

- self-contained owner-occupied or rented accommodation or
- shared accommodation - for people who prefer a group living environment but can exercise a greater degree of choice and control over their daily lives than would be possible in a care home setting.

Support is provided through an organisation in a way that maximises independence and control. This can include support with developing daily living skills and may include personal care. Supported living is based on individuals having the right to remain in their own home and choose who provides their support to them. Surrey's Independent Living Framework is due to come online in 2022 and will be the way we contract for supported living services.



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Residential and Nursing Care

Residential Care is full-time, often long-term care given to an individual in a registered setting rather than an individual's own home. Residential care homes provide accommodation and support as required by individuals to meet their Care Act eligible needs. This can include maintaining relationships, meaningful activity, and personal care for people throughout each day. These services need to be registered with the Care Quality Commission. Nursing Care provides a higher level of care than residential care as it is also able to respond to an individual's specialist health needs that need to be performed by a trained nurse. (e.g. feeding with a PEG)

Outreach Support

Outreach support is provided to individuals in their own home and in the community. It aims to support the person to develop or maintain their key life skills like being able to manage their tenancy, home making, problem solving, being a good neighbour and playing a part in the local community. Outreach support can also support people to maximise their income by claiming their full benefit entitlements and developing budgeting skills. The level of support an individual receives will vary according to their personal support plan. Unlike Home Based Care, Outreach support does not necessarily involve the provision of personal care

Home Based Care

Home Based Care is support provided for regular fixed time periods, usually on a daily basis, to help people with specified tasks for daily living including personal care (e.g. assisting someone to get up in the morning, wash and dress, prepare meals, etc). Services need to be registered with the Care Quality Commission as a domiciliary care provider and will be inspected.

Shared Lives

Shared Lives (SL) is a longstanding form of care that centres on sharing home, family, and community life, in supporting people to lead fulfilling and active lives. SL schemes are an alternative to home care and residential care for people in need of care and support. In Shared Lives schemes, a Shared Lives carer and someone who needs support get to know each other and, if they both feel that they will be able to form a long-term bond, they share homes, family, and community life. This can mean that the person becomes a regular daytime or overnight visitor to the Shared Lives Carers household, or it means that the person moves in with the Shared Lives Carer.

Day Services: Day Care and Day Opportunities

Day Care can offer support and personal care during the day for those who are assessed as needing it. It is usually provided in a day centre run by trained staff for those with more complex physical and social care needs. Day care can include personal care, skills training to promote independence, the chance to meet other people and the chance to take part in a range of activities.

Day Opportunities cover a wide range of community, vocational and employment related services. These might be operated from a base, but support is often delivered in community settings and aim to develop skills that will help people live more independently in their local community. Day services and opportunities can be



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provided by specialist providers and ones that offer services to a wider community e.g. leisure centres.

Day services have traditionally been provided in working hours, but we are looking to develop the offer to cover weekends and evenings

Employment support - Many of the services described can support people to find and maintain employment, as part of supporting to maximise people's independence and control. In addition, some services focus particularly on employment. This can include:

- Supporting people to develop skills for employment
- Supporting people to find and maintain employment
- Supporting employers to improve accessibility of employment

Short Breaks Services

Provide a break for people with disabilities and their carers. This can be through overnight stays, and day or evening activities. Tom noted that if an organisation provides personal care, they must register with Care Quality Commission.

Questions and Answers

Question 1. Sarah Truman said that this was very helpful and asked if a version of this could be uploaded to the Partnership Board Website as it is a good checklist for people.

Answer: Tom said that there is a lot of information like this on the Partnership Board website since relaunch. In terms of short breaks there is a piece of work that is being looked at which Mary Hendrick, Senior Commissioning Manager is looking at. Mary will feedback at a future meeting about this work.

Action: Mary to feedback about the work she has been doing on Short Breaks

Question 2. Carol Teunon from the National Autistic Society said that some parents and autistic people struggle with emails/accessing websites and people ring the branch phone as they don't want to email. Carol said that we need to bear this in mind when sharing this information. It is easier for professionals to deal with email/websites but there are people who prefer to just speak to someone.

Answer: Tom agreed and said this is a challenge that Surrey are aware of. The autism strategy recognises that we need information available in different formats, not just digitally. Tom said that we are always happy to take calls and answer queries. Our Learning Disabilities Communications inbox will always try to support. Email: ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk

Question 3. Kathryn Fisher, Head of Integrated Learning Disability and Autism Commissioning asked whether we could think of this within the Autism Champion Role?

Answer: Tom said that through the strategy we need to think about communication and getting the digital offer right is important but equally getting the non-digital offer important. We need to use all our networks to get information out to people, including Autism Champions and Autism Leads in various organisations.



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Autism Friendly Communities – Kathryn Telford

Kathryn's presentation on Autism Friendly Communities has been sent round with the minutes.

Kathryn is the Community Inclusion Commissioning Manager and is working on:

- Market engagement around day and evening opportunities
- Green Social Prescriptions - targeted opportunities to access green spaces.
- 'No one left behind' skills and employment work.
- Developing a pilot of Autism Friendly Communities

All this work will be coproduced.

Autism Friendly Communities

- Autistic people told us that they have barriers when accessing their communities – we want to find out what those barriers are and how we can support to help remove them.
- Adjustments made for autistic people can also benefit others. For example having a safe place to go to within the community could also benefit someone with mental health needs.
- There has been a lot of work on dementia friendly communities however autism friendly communities seem to be a new thing. We would like to start at GP surgeries, Libraries, the District and Borough Councils as most people will visit these places often in their community.
- To start with, we are looking at training to raise awareness, accessible building checklists, engaging local members etc. We want to increase awareness, understanding and acceptance of autistic people in Surrey's communities.

Kathryn would love to hear of any suggestions that people have to raise awareness and make communities more autism friendly - please contact her via email:

Kathryn.telford@surreycc.gov.uk

Questions and Answers

Question 1. Kathryn Fisher, Head of Integrated Learning Disability and Autism Commissioning asked whether we need to look at a locality and engage local services for example, Cranleigh - where you could engage the local shopkeepers, the trade association, leisure centre etc.

Answer: Kathryn Telford agreed and said that accessibility of leisure centres had been raised by autistic people several times, so they need to be included.

Question 2. Carol Teunon from National Autistic Society asked whether people still visit Libraries? As there can be literacy and reading barriers whereas going to leisure centre helps wellbeing. Carol agrees that leisure centres should be one of the first to tackle as there is a link between physical activity and wellbeing.



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Answer: Kathryn explained that libraries are well used, and offer a range of services including health services, Active Surrey, and access to computers as well as books. Kathryn referred to a situation where the layout of the library and location of the reception desk could be a barrier for an autistic person.

Question 3. Sarah Foreman, User Voice and Participation Team said that a lot of young people that she works with have additional needs. In terms of the building checklist idea how feasible would that be, as different people need different adjustments? Sainsburys did a revamp of their lights to LED and this was an issue for some people with autism but not others. How would this work?

Answer: Kathryn said that lighting is on the checklist. Our Autism Reference Group has reviewed the checklist, but Kathryn explained that she is happy to send it out to others to gain feedback as the more feedback the better it will be in order to meet people's needs.

Action: Sarah Foreman/Sabrina Peters and Kathryn Telford to link up outside the meeting.

Question 4. Justine McManus, Guildford Job Centre said that in terms of talking about autism friendly communities, Kathryn may want to speak to their Partnership manager and have a look as they work with young people and employment.

Action: Justine to pass on Kathryn's email contact. Kathryn/Partnership Board Manager to link up and discuss autism friendly communities.

COVID-19 Vaccination for Autistic people who aren't covered by the Learning Disability Vaccination Programme – Melanie Ridge

Melanie talked about Surrey Heartlands CCG's COVID-19 vaccination programme.

As part of the national drive the CCG is looking at groups that may struggle to access vaccines and doing outreach work. They have held twilight clinics and an early morning clinic to improve accessibility and have worked with leisure centres to set up accessible clinics.

Melanie asked how the CCG can reach out to autistic people to help with vaccine uptake - could consider pop up clinics etc. The cohort they are currently trying to reach is 18-25-year olds, as well as older people who have not yet been vaccinated. If there is anything Melanie's team can do to support, they are happy to hear ideas.

- Tom said that in terms of vaccination inequalities there has been good work for people with a learning disability who are on their GP register. However, this work does not pick up autistic people who don't have a learning disability. We want to make sure everyone gets the reasonable adjustments they need so that they can get the vaccine.
- Sarah Foreman from the User Voice and Participation Team advised that they have a focus group for 18-25-year olds focussing on COVID-19. She has made a questionnaire for them about COVID-19 so there may be some feedback.



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- Melanie said that it would be great to get some feedback from the focus group as there are ways the team can support if there is a need identified. e.g.; longer appointment times, areas shielded off, lowering lights, people could clarify if they can't wear a mask, need less noise etc.
Action: Sarah Foreman to discuss the above with her focus group and link with Melanie.

If people have any suggestions or feedback, please contact:

Email: melanie.ridge6@nhs.net **Tel:** 07989 693394

Questions and Answers

Question 1. Sara Truman, asked what the arrangement is for those that are unable to leave the house? Sara fed back someone who was unable to leave the house, but the GP would not come to the house to vaccinate her.

Answer: Melanie said that this would be looked at on a case by case basis and would depend on the GP practice and whether they had capacity to send a nurse.

Action: Melanie to talk to her colleagues to look for solutions when someone is not able to leave their home to be vaccinated. Sara Truman represents Surrey Branch NAS who have many members who are autistic or carers of autistic people. It may be a good idea for Melanie to talk to this group.

Action: Sara to link with Melanie about ways to support people who are unable to leave the house to get their vaccine.

All Age Autism Strategy – Thomas Moore

Tom's presentation will be sent round with the minutes.

Implementation plans for the workstreams are being finalised - We should soon be able to share the final copy of the autism strategy, including more detailed plans of the first year's priorities and actions. Work on all the workstreams has started.

In September the strategy will go to the Health and Wellbeing Board for sign off. Over the next five years the workstreams will report to us in the Autism Partnership Board. The slides sent round with the minutes give details of the workstreams.

The final version of the strategy will be circulated via email.

Any Other Business

Justine McManus, Guildford Job Centre shared some good news that working together does move our customers and autistic people forward. Justine said that they have been working with their youth employability coach and referred someone to employment to work at Surrey Choices. This customer is currently volunteering but is starting an apprenticeship. He was very anxious about any kind of work prior to this. This is great news and it shows what we are all doing does make a difference.

Future meeting dates:

- Tuesday 5th October 1.30 – 3.30pm Zoom

