



Notes and Actions from the Oxfordshire Autism Partnership Board

Tuesday 23 April 2013

People who came:

Parents and people with autism:	
Paul Isaacs	Autism Oxford and person with Autism
Faye Brown	Autism Oxford and person with Autism
Ann Memmott	Person with Autism
Tiffany Williams	Co-Chair and person with Aspeger's Syndrome
Kathy Erangey	Autism Oxford
Health:	
Juliet Long	Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Ian Bottomley	Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Julia Stackhouse	Commissioning Support Unit
Providers:	
Sue Osborn	Kingwood Trust
Social care:	
Ann Nursey	Co-Chair and Lead Commissioner Adults
Lara Fromings	Commissioning Manager
Marian Roiser	Parent Partnership
Sarah Ainsworth	Disabled Children's Manager
Janet Johnson	Children with Special Educational Needs Manager
Pat Gibson	Commissioning Manager
Sue Edwards	Special Educational Needs Support Service
Chris Booker	Senior Practitioner
Zoe Elford	Engagement Team
Lynda Chalcraft	Strategy Team
Stakeholder organisations:	
Pete Quinn	University of Oxford
Helen Young	University of Oxford
Jonathan Dennett	Head Teacher Fitzharrys School
Sue Brooks	Connexions

People who could not come:

Lucy Butler	Co-Chair and Deputy Director, Social care
Joanna McConnell	GP and parent
Sarah Hewitt	
Faye Brown	Autism Oxford, parent and person with Autism
Jonathan Gough	Oxford Health
Gita Lobo	Autism Family Support
Graham Whitwell	Oxford Health
Jo Clay	National Autistic Society
Andrew Bates	Thames Valley Probation Service
John Walton	Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

1. Actions from the October meeting

- The new venue for meetings will be the Said Business School. It has been checked out as good for people with Autism by the people on the Board with Autism.
- The terms of reference have been changed to try and make the Board meetings more inclusive.
- Zoe is finding more ways for children, young people and adults with Autism to have a voice by visiting people with Autism at the Kingwood Trust and by setting up extra meetings before and after the Board meetings.
- Gita to help build relationships at the Board by putting together mini biographies and contact details.

2. What people said about the Oxfordshire Big Plan for Autism – Julia Stackhouse

Please see the attached slides from the meeting and the full consultation report.

Board members said:

- We need to celebrate the progress that has been made so far and the good services we have.
- The response from parents about schools is very personal and emotional but we must remember that it is from a small group of parents that responded.
- The full consultation report will now go up on the Public Involvement (PIN) website.
- We should consider further media coverage of the Big Plan once it has been finally agreed.

3. The changes made to the Oxfordshire Big Plan for Autism – Juliet Long

Please see the attached slides from the meeting.

Ann thanked both Juliet and Wendy Buckley for their work in developing the Big Plan and the Kingwood Trust for funding Wendy's input.

Board members worked in small groups to look at the changes and whether there should be "I" statements in the Big Plan.

The groups said:

- The "I" statements would be confusing for people with Autism because they may see them as facts, when they are aims.
- It is difficult to come up with statements that are good for everyone when people with Autism have such different needs.
- Sue Edwards agreed to test the statements with children and young people.
- The Easy Read version of the Big Plan has the priorities in clearer language so it would be good to use those.
- The "I" statements need to be at the beginning of the Big Plan if we keep them.
- Suggested wording from one group was:
 - We will try to make sure that children, young people and adults with Autism have the same choices as everyone else.
 - We will try to make sure that the carers and families of children, young people and adults with Autism are supported, respected and valued.

4. The Oxfordshire Big Plan for Autism – Action Plan

Action Plan – the groups said:

Support for children and families –

- Juliet will set up a small group of people from Children's Services to make this action stronger in the strategy and show the changes in legislation expected in the next 18 months
- Sue Edwards will provide feedback to add on SCERTS – the educational model for working with children with autism and their families which is being tried out at the moment
- More information to be included on the work of the County Council SEND group and personalised support

Suggestions from groups for buying practical support for people with autism:

Everyone supported the second idea - to buy a service run by a mixture of paid staff and volunteers that provides face to face, telephone and electronic accessible support

They also said:

- Make sure the service has a name that links it with some of the early work around post diagnosis
- It would be good if the service could provide peer support
- Please make sure the money is spent

There will be a follow up meeting on Monday 13 May 11-12.30 for Board Members who would like to discuss the Action Plan and buying practical support some more.

Board Members can make further comments on the Action Plan and buying practical support direct by email to Juliet.Long@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk

What happens to the Oxfordshire Big Plan for Autism next?

The final Oxfordshire Big Plan for Autism and the Action Plan, with all the changes made, will be agreed by the Joint Management Group (the people who make the decisions in Oxfordshire County Council and Clinical Commissioning Group) and the Plans will be sent out to Board Members in July.

We will check the terms of reference and the membership of the Autism Partnership Board at the next meeting to make sure it works as well as it can to deliver the Big Plan.

ACTION: Any Board Member interested in being part of a small group to start work on checking the terms of reference and the membership of the Autism Partnership Board before the next meeting please contact Lynda.

5. Anything else?

Board Members congratulated Gita Lobo from Autism Family Support on winning a National Award for Innovative Family Support.

Board Members thanked Pete Quinn for his work on the Board and wished him all the best when he moves to start a new job at the Disability Advisory Service at the University of York.

6. Evaluation

It was agreed that we all still have work to do to make the meetings understandable and accessible for all Board Members to be able to contribute.

ACTION: Zoe