Lancashire Autism Partnership Board

Thursday 27th March 2018

10:00-12:30 pm

County Mess, County Hall, Preston

Attendees: Kizzy Felstead, Jo Bebbington, Ellen Smith, David Middleton, Pam Smith, Rob Grigorjevs, Victoria Wilson.

Apologies: Ali Wilson, Sue Austen, Ju Richmond, Helen Hughes, Sue Titterington, Liz monks, Neil Wilcocks.

The action log was agreed as an accurate record however members of the board felt that it should contain a completed section so that members who cannot attend the board and the general public who can view it on the website know what has been completed and what actions have been taken.

Victoria- To amend the log accordingly with a completed column next to the actions and the responsible individual.

Members also raised that they thought the lack of minutes was an issue. They felt that the action log wasn’t enough on its own. They felt that when there is meaningful discussions that everyone should at least be aware of what has been discussed.

Victoria – To produce brief minutes regarding the board meetings and circulate with the board members and upload on the portal.

**Pam Smith and Rob Grigorjevs - PREVENT**

There was a discussion to start with regarding the relevance of the Prevent Agenda to the board and its priorities. Pam and Rob informed the group that the public are becoming almost desensitised to the seriousness of radicalisation, he said that there were a high percentage of referrals to Channel (a multi-agency panel who evaluate cases) were people on the autistic spectrum. The Local Authority has a duty to give regard to PREVENT when carrying out its statutory duties. Within Lancashire, there are two Tier 2 medium threat priority areas (Blackburn with Darwen and Burnley) and the UK being on severe threat level, meaning a terrorist attack is highly likely, it was felt that it is important for the board to hear the strategies which are in place and the guidance which is promoted.

They went on to explain the different types of extremism;

* Far Right
* Animal Rights
* Islamist
* Violent/ Non Violent

To try and stop all these types of extremists, the Government has a CONTEST plan, this is broken into

* Protect
* Prepare
* Pursue
* Prevent

The Channel Panel works by partners jointly assessing the nature and the extent of the risk and where necessary, providing an appropriate support package tailored to the individual’s needs. Channel's overall aim is early intervention and diverting people away from the risk they may face, using existing collaboration between partners to support individuals and protect them from being drawn into terrorism. It is a multi agency approach with a wide range of partners working together to provide support for individuals. Coordinators are usually police officers with the multi-agency panel being chaired by the Local Authority.

The referrals to Channel are generally marginalised individuals who feel like they don’t belong in society and it was mentioned that typically autistic people can be more at risk to these thinking paths.

There is an anonymous hotline which you can ring and report any queries to or any concerns;

* Anti-terrorism hotline 0800 789 321

**Discussion re Board members and increasing membership**

As there were very few attendees at the Board, it was decided to defer this discussion until the next meeting, however, an initial discussion took place.

Ellen shared with the group the links of guidance from NAS which was created and circulated when the Partnership Boards were formed. The links are below;

* <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/strategy/practical-guidance.aspx>
* <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/strategy/2010-strategy/autism-partnership-boards.aspx>

These links will help with the Board discussion re: who might be a missing key member for the board who could be able to help with decision making and driving forward our action plans.

* CCG Reps – There are lots of CCG Commissioners across Lancashire and so it was thought that we should invite relevant commissioners as and when they are needed, however, it would be beneficial to have a key contact as a point of liaison.
* Public health Commissioners – Need to be invited to future board meetings as they commission some Autism services.
* Transforming Care – Sally Nightingale attends the board when invited and provides an update.
* Children's – David Middleton attends Board and when the Transition sub group is active then we will look at other colleagues which it would be beneficial to have their input.
* STP – Nigel Sanderson attends the board when invite and provides an update.

We also had a discussion re how we can advertise the board better and look how we currently tell people about us.

We discussed that we have the website which is regularly updated but we decided that we need to do more of a push on advertising the great work which the board is achieving.

Some members felt that more self-advocates may attend if they felt like their voice would be listened to and to have a standing agenda items for feedback, however, it was felt that this may take a lot of time out of the meeting and a more appropriate mechanism may be to have a separate forum for self-advocate views to be heard.

As a board it was decided that we need to look as how our board ties in with strategic local boards such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Transforming Care Board, STP Board.

**The next meeting is the 22nd May 2018 at 10am until 12:30pm in Cabinet Room D, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ.**

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| Action | Date To Be Completed By. | Completed Yes / No |
| Victoria- To amend the log accordingly with a completed column next to the actions and the responsible individual. | 22nd May | Yes |
| Victoria – To produce brief minutes regarding the board meetings and circulate with the board members and upload on the portal. | 22nd May | Yes |
| Kiran Banati – To have a look at current engagement arrangements with self-advocates and how we can improve this. | 22nd May |  |
| Kiran Banati – Take a lead on organising a further meeting of the Transition Subgroup. | 22nd May |  |
| Victoria – Agenda item for next meeting which focuses on membership of the Board and the Board's priorities. | 22nd May |  |
| Victoria – Circulate DASP Flow charts for sign off | 22nd May |  |
| Victoria – Circulate Family Carers Group newsletter | 22nd May |  |
| Victoria – Circulate NAS Links | 22nd May | Yes |
| Victoria – Circulate updated statutory guidance from the Department of Health | 22nd May | Yes |