

Stirling and Clacks Autism Strategy

Employment Work Stream Meeting

29th July 2015

- 1. Attendees:** Ruth Martin (ALT)
Joanne Rae (SVE)
Mattie McLaghlan (CAP)
Tamara Currie (SDS)
Lorene Amet (Stirling Council)
Gordon Wright (Employability Service)
Sarah Webb (Employability Service)

Apologies: Lynne Beveridge (JC Plus)
Isabel Richardson (FVC)
Jacqui MacArthur (FVC)

2. Note of previous meeting

Lorene advised that the website is scheduled to 'go live' in early September.

Mattie had made changes to 'job route' diagram to help easy read. Lorene has this to include on website.

Tamara stated that there was nothing specific to autism on the SDS, My World of Work website and that a link to the site would be sufficient.

Q of L questionnaire: 50 completed and another 30 pending.

Gordon/Sarah to check with employers re including photos of clients on website.

3. Strategy Update

Strategy document currently being formatted and developed for easy read version. Lorene has been assisted by a young adult with autism to list the 16 key objectives, focussing on the visual impact for readers. **Lorene** to pass to **Mattie** by 2nd September for him and colleagues to look over by 16th September before passing on to families and service users.

4. Website

Discussion around content and information regarding employment-related information on website, in particular, where should people go for initial support if looking for work. The DEA at JC+ was thought to be the best point of contact for signposting as individual support agencies vary from one area to another. **Lorene** and **Sarah** to meet with **Lynne (JC+)** to discuss further.

There was discussion around how young people are supported to placements whilst at school and the new post of Developing the Young Workforce Officer was highlighted. **Sarah** to contact Bridget at St.Modan's to find out more about this provision. SDS and Youth Services are also involved in working with young people with additional support needs whilst at school. Joanne outlined involvement of SVE in supporting young people to volunteer and stated that there is someone within SC whose role is to source placements for pupils. **Joanne** to pass contact details to Lorene.

Lorene asked the group to pass any further comments on the website content to herself or Sarah. **Lorene** and **Sarah** will then meet to make changes and review the content before asking **the group** for feedback.

Lorene updated that the Directory of Services has almost 170 entries, but that these need checking. She asked if anyone could identify a service user who could phone round organisations to do this. **Ruth** suggested a volunteer who could do this and will approach them.

5. Leaflet for Employers

Carry forward to next meeting, dependent on completion of website.

6. Moving forward

Lorene referred to the Key Objectives in the strategy document, highlighting number 13, developing a curriculum for employment in conjunction with FVC, as a key piece of work that has yet to be addressed.

The issue of maintaining the website was raised. Lorene stated that her role as Autism Development Officer was funded until March 2016, however, SC is currently reviewing this funding.

Date of next meeting

The group felt that input from Bridget at St.Modan's and Lynne at JC+ would be helpful at the next meeting. **Sarah** to check their availability before scheduling, but will be end Sept/early Oct.