**Thurrock Adults Autism Action Group**

**Monday 4th December 2017**

**1.30 – 3 pm at the Beehive, Grays**

**Attendees:** Allison Hall – Thurrock Council (Interim Co-Chair)

Ashley Woodward – CaPa, (Co-Chair)

Ian Evans – Thurrock Coalition

Karen Haltham – Thurrock Coalition (minutes)

Insp Kevin Whipps – Essex Police

Mo James - PATT

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|  | **Discussion** | **ACTION** |
|  | **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**  Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.  Allison stated she is acting Co-Chair at present until an Autism Lead is in post, the position has been advertised, closing date was 1st December 2017, the post will also include lead role for Mental Health and Dementia. It is hoped the person will be in post before the next meeting.  Apologies: Julie Evans on behalf of Healthwatch staff  Wendy Robertson – Thurrock Mind  Anita Griffiths  Katrine Basso  Samuel  Andrea Walter - SAFE |  |
|  | **Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising.**  The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed as a true record.  **Matters Arising:**  Transforming Care Presentation document presented at the last meeting to be circulated with these minutes. | Ian Evans/  Karen Haltham |
| **3 & 4** | **Market Position Statement – and Market Position Consultation**  Sarah Turner presented the Market Position Statement for the next five years to those present. **ACTION: Karen to circulate a copy with the minutes**  The Market Position Statement is an important part of what a council must do to help to make sure that there are lots of different types of service and support available.  Those present read through the document, discussion took place with the following actions:  Ashley suggested it would be good for Sarah to meet with the following:   * CaPa – (Carers and Parents Participation Forum) * Treetops School * Beacon Hill School * St Clare’s School * Harris Chafford Hundred School * Cariads * Advocacy Service | Karen Haltham |
| **5** | **Family Mosaic – Medina Road Project Update**  Allison reported the plans are still with the Planning Department. Allison poke to Christopher Smith this morning and still have a completion date of the end of March 2019. There is a meeting with Family Mosaic on 8th December 2017. Allison will email Karen with the outcome to put in the minutes.  Email from Allison received 6.12.17:  *The matter still remains with the planning department and Family Mosaic are due to meet with them on Friday to resolve further design and layout matters.*  *Thurrock council has a scheduled meeting with Family Mosaic on 19th January and I am hoping to have a further update then.*  *Allison* | Allison Hall |
| **6** | **Transforming Care Partnership, Experts by Experience Group Update**  There is a meeting next week, Ashley to pass any feedback on to Karen to distribute with the minutes. | Karen Haltham/  Ashley  Woodward |
| **7** | **Personal Independence Payment (PIP)**  **Ian gave a brief update and in summary as follows:**  A Statement from the President of the Tribunal Service states in the next 18 months HMCTS will start to allow people to file their appeal online, by uploading documents rather than sending them by post. Individuals will also be able to track the progress of their appeal online.  On hearings, HMCTS will also start to hold some hearings by video link rather than face-to-face. They may also start an online process before hearings where a judge can ask appellants questions to speed up the appeal, but not decide it.  This is likely to be a very slow process and these are only their goals, not predictions. As we know (with the likes of Universal Credit) Government IT always takes much longer than predicted.  Face-to-face hearings will still continue, just as they do now, for everyone who wants one, or who can’t attend a video conference, or who can’t take part in the online process. This is being branded as an additional route to justice.  The full post is available here:  <https://insidehmcts.blog.gov.uk/2017/10/26/susan-acland-hood-sets-out-our-priorities-for-the-next-phase-of-courts-and-tribunals-reform/>  Tribunal Statistics (June 2017 - See page 2 onwards):  <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/644443/tribunal-grc-statistics-q1-2017-18.pdf> |  |
| **8** | **Any Other Business**  Allison gave apologies for the next meeting and will ensure another commissioner will attend if the new Thurrock Council Autism Lead is not in post. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting**  **Monday 5th March 2018**  **at The Beehive, West Street, Grays RM17 6XP**  **1.30 – 3 pm in the Main Hall (near the kitchen)** |  |