

Vice Chair's Report of the Carers Networking Event held on 4th October 2017

Mark Grundy opened the meeting.

Much of the morning was spent with each person talking briefly about their different organisation/s and roles within their group/s.

'Getting to know each other':

BAAS Barbara Brooks spoke in brief & Vice Chair, Roselle Gorman, gave an up-date on the following:

- a. Autism support and signposting for the individual and their families.
- b) AFT/APB
- c) Carers Trips/CVS grant
- d) Autism Awareness presentations @ Autism Training days
- e) Assistance to Dr. Pedro Vital of Bolton University with his research project - Effects of ethnicity and Socio Economic status on the age at which a person receives an ASC diagnosis.
- f) Chairman, Graham Heywood's on the Manchester University panel of research into Developing Novel Diagnostic Markers for Autistic Adults
- g) Involvement in GMP Inspector Gail Spruce project to improve the force's arrest & custody procedures.

Common problems arose i.e. carers having sufficient time.

Carers 'Vouchers' were available from the Olympus Chippie on Newport St., Bolton.

The meeting were advised of CVS Carers Grants Programme 2018 for grants up to £1000. This was to be extended to September 2019:

- a) In future grants would have to be applied for on-line through the Bolton CVS website
- b) The deadline for applications is Monday 26th March 2018.

There was some consternation and discussion by Groups present who could not apply on-line or did not have access to a computer. These groups had previously applied verbally and/or completed a paper copy application.

It was agreed that they could request an appointment at CVS to use their computers with assistance to apply on-line.

2 grants were available on-line: Prevention Services & Carers Grants.

Mark Grundy thanked everyone for their contribution at the meeting which closed later than planned at 2.15pm.