



## Parent Carers Together Feedback Form

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Name: Louise Middleton

Meeting description: Brain in Hand Steering Group

Where was meeting: virtual

Date of meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Start & finish time: 11:15-12:30

Any future meeting dates, if known:

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Feedback can be in any format; it should contain important points that came out of the meeting, your opinions, any related work that you think overlaps, action points that you might be involved with, any areas of concern. This will be shared with all PCT reps and committee.

Please email to [bethcallis@parentcarerstogether.org.uk](mailto:bethcallis@parentcarerstogether.org.uk) within 2 weeks of meeting

### **FEEDBACK & COMMENTS** *(please use further pages if necessary)*

Brian Langridge (Commissioning Manager, BCP. Charing), Wismah Hearnshaw (Commissioning Officer Adult Mental Health, BCP), Kim Ward (Children's Commissioning Manager, BCP), Laura Albuary (Brain in Hand Account Manager), Luke Powlikow (Brain in Hand Project Manager), Courtney McMennum (Asperger's Team, BCP), Emily May (PfA Team, BCP), Elspeth Bridges (PfA Team, Dorset Council), Trish Jubb (DAAS – Dorset Adult Asperger Support Group), Amanda Shelvey (Occupational Therapist, Dorset Council).

This is Phase 1 of a 2 year project. Luke will present a final evaluation to Brian and Wismah in July. There has been a lack of engagement this year: 11 active users – 15 licenses have been purchased by BCP.

In August 2021 when project started there was a high referral rate, however, from Sept to Mar there has been on average 1 referral per month.

There seems to be a lack of understanding on the referral process. EM stated that in August she had referred 4 or 5 individuals, 2 were not suitable for the project. She was not aware that she could continue to refer throughout the year. There does seem to also be issues around finding suitable candidates for this project. They must have an ASD diagnosis and be able to function independently, it appears that this Brain in Hand app is not always suitable for people when in a state of high anxiety.

TJ stated that as the app does not have a function to remind people to check it regularly regarding their activities, she wondered if people were simply forgetting about it. LA did state that there is a prompt /reminder function in the app, but it is not automatic it needs to be switched on. It was suggested that maybe the supporters of the person using the app could be informed of this, maybe a quick reminder for users of what the app can do for them. KW suggested that info can be sent to staff via internal newsletter.

LP stated that there was one instance where a supporter was the barrier to the person engaging with the app – not being supportive etc. It was asked how this info was communicated back tot the referrer (BCP & Dorset Council etc), it is not, they are only informed if user has disengaged. In future both BCP & Dorset Council would like to know this



info as they assume that everything is okay. WH gets monthly reports from LP she can share this info with referrer so they can look into any issues.

Once evaluation report received in July both councils will decide how Phase 2 will be implemented.