



July 2024

Dear people we support/Carers,



I hope you are enjoying the summer (although the weather so far is less summer and more rainy season!). I hope life is going well and you feel that TAG (The Action Group) is making a difference in a positive way to your life.

The UK election means a change at the UK Govt level, which will mean changes to some extent in Scotland, - hopefully, these will be positive changes for everyone- but we will need to wait and see. It remains to be seen if social care services and everyone who uses these, will be given more priority as the new UK Government goes forward and as the SGovt also makes its decisions regarding its Programme for Government. We know that the cost-of-Living crisis has had an impact on everyone, and that is why we are trying to do a little to help. There is a Hardship fund for anyone who is really struggling financially:

TAG Hardship/Crisis Fund [Application Form](#):



Plus, a Digital support fund will also be made available in the next few months, for you to apply to as well. More information will come out soon about this.

I also wanted to give you some updates on ongoing aspects of changes that are happening in TAG.

New Services (Saltire Project):



The Saltire project that I spoke about in previous letters, is moving along at pace, as part of the agreed plan. This project is for the transfer of supported people and staff from another Provider in East Lothian. The Transfer date for the staff, income and the people supported is August 1st. We are delighted to be able to bring these services into The Action group- but we know the change might be difficult for everyone- and there is a lot of support to help people with these

changes. Everyone coming across to TAG is very welcome. It is great that new people are joining TAG.

TAG evolve:



This project is about the changes of leadership and teams/geographic areas for HACSS and CAATS services. Just like TAG Saltire, this has been a separate project team, resourced to be able to plan and make this necessary improvement work happen. I am delighted that these changes have now happened and overall, this seems to have gone well for the majority of staff involved. However, like any

change process, there are things that have not gone to plan, and we are grateful for the people we support and carers who have reached out to share this with myself and the project manager, Jen Dow. The issues raised are being dealt with on an individual basis and we are also looking at the themes of where things have not gone to plan to ensure we act on these in a more organisational wide way. I am sorry for anyone where the changes have not happened as smoothly as they should have.

Later this year, we will be evaluating the TAG Evolve changes so far, through various methods to see if we have made the positive impacts these changes promised:

- improved quality of service to everyone supported (Reviews 6 monthly; community support teams, with improved staffing; person centred recruitment options etc)
- overall quality standards as evidenced by IIP/Care inspectorate grades etc.
- Improved communication with your Leaders.

AGM (Annual General Meeting) and TAG Conference:

Just a reminder again to save the date:



Our AGM/Conference is on the 26th of October, 10am -4pm. This is an opportunity for us all to come together as an organisation, with you, our Board, and your staff etc. As well as being at a great venue (which will be announced soon), this will also be a time to hear more about what is happening in TAG, our different services, as well as lots of other fun and useful activities.

This is for everyone who is part of TAG, so please come along and encourage your staff to come along too!

Also just a reminder to everyone we support, to join our TAG facebook page, to help you stay connected and be able to see what else is happening in TAG. Contact:

JohannaRomero@actiongroup.org.uk

I hope you have a great July and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the conference in October.

Best wishes and Thank You for being such an important part of TAG.

Linda Tuthill CEO
Lindatuthill@actiongroup.org.uk

