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**From:** Jean MacLellan <jean.maclellan@strath.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** 21 August 2019 10:59  
**To:** I  
**Subject:** Scottish Strategy documentation for SG Mental Health page

Dear Annette

In an email on a number of topics dated 02 August you asked that we pull together a range of materials for the above page. I and I have now done so for your deadline of 23 August.

They have created a timeline of all the activity since February 2017 as requested. This forms the basis for everything else that will be sent. I will send all relevant accompanying paperwork for each of the headers in a zip file. We need to know if you can accept Dropbox as the Zip drive or is there another resource tool?

There are a few points to consider.

The first is that, as you know, the Strategy website keeps crashing because it is no longer fit for purpose. This has meant that when I has tried to post material, it sometimes had been accepted. Curiously it took the micro segmentation report and the Outcome priorities for 2018 to 2021.

So this has created some inconsistency in that some items are up and others are not. Our own website has supplemented this wherever possible. I can give you details if you need them but I am assuming it's all about new beginnings.

The second issue is consideration of what should and should not be posted. An example is the closed Review Group meetings. We would expect these to remain confidential. If they are to be posted, then the style would need to alter.

The third issue is about the status of the records of the likes of monitoring meetings. We have never been asked to provide these but as you know they do exist. I have reviewed their content and they would require major revision -simply because they were written for internal use.

We have not been asked to produce an annual report before either as the annual conference has more than fulfilled that function in the past. We appreciate that this is a new expectation and we are on to it. This would need to be added to the list of core documentation.

We also asked you what documents you have generated that need to be added. I don't think we have had a response yet.

Please let me know if you need any further documentation or would like to talk through the issues more.

We also assume that you want us to stop paying the quarterly fee to the existing website with immediate effect?

On a different matter,

Best wishes

Jean

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 06 August 2019 12:09  
**To:** Jean MacLellan  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Comms re websites

Jean and

Apologies for the delay, forgot to pick this up yesterday in between meetings. I'm content for that message to be put up.

Thanks

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 02 August 2019 13:55  
**To:** Jean MacLellan <jean.maclellan@strath.ac.uk>  
**Subject:** Draft Comms re websites

Hi

Jean and I have worked on this together. We appreciate you will have your own Comms input. We think what we have said is self-explanatory. However, the reference to both Facebook pages is intended to avoid any challenge that there is no other means of communicating whilst the websites are being developed.

See draft Comms below:

"In response to ongoing technical difficulties with the current Autism websites, it is our intention to develop new platforms to sit alongside current Facebook pages. Autism Network Scotland is at an advanced stage in developing a new website with plans for it to be live in August.

The new website will promote good autism practice in a variety of ways. Key components will be news and events from both the ANS Improvement Officers and external sources; collaboration with local authorities, Health Boards, Mental Welfare Commission, etc; By the Community for the Community pages and vlogs.

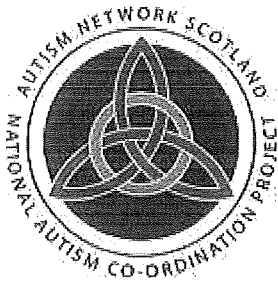
There will also be a Scottish Government webpage for the Strategy located under the Mental Health section of the Scottish Government website.

Please contact [autism.network@strath.ac.uk](mailto:autism.network@strath.ac.uk) and [autismstrategyScotland@strath.ac.uk](mailto:autismstrategyScotland@strath.ac.uk) with any queries you may have and we will direct you to the appropriate person(s)"

Kind regards

Events & Marketing Officer  
Autism Network Scotland  
University of Strathclyde  
Curran Building, Room 636  
101 St James Road  
Glasgow  
G4 0NS

Tel:



[www.autismnetworkscotland.org.uk](http://www.autismnetworkscotland.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/AutismNetworkScotland](https://www.facebook.com/AutismNetworkScotland)  
Twitter: @Autism\_Network

For more information about the Scottish Strategy for Autism visit: [www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk](http://www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk).

Autism Network Scotland is based at the University of Strathclyde. To read more about Data Protection at the University please see [www.strath.ac.uk/dataprotection](http://www.strath.ac.uk/dataprotection).

The University of Strathclyde is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SCO15263.

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 02 August 2019 14:50  
**To:** 'Jean MacLellan'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Websites and social media

Jean,

I appreciate your response, for clarity though the second ask is not for Monday I didn't give a deadline in my original ask however, I asked it to be prioritised. Happy to negotiate a timescale based on leave and resources available but would by 23 August be acceptable so that we can work to get all documents on the SG website by the end of August?

Thanks and kind regards

-----Original Message-----

From: Jean MacLellan <jean.maclellan@strath.ac.uk>  
Sent: 02 August 2019 12:58  
To:  
Subject: Re: Websites and social media

You're right that there was insufficient time to cover all the issues when we met last week so it's good to have this conversation now given that it is so urgent. In the light of this it is imperative that we prioritise more effectively going forward.

When you last asked about the websites we made clear what had gone on, notably that the Strategy website is overloaded and basically obsolete in terms of adding new materials. This was explained when [redacted] was the Lead and we were advised then by SG that any additional funding to rectify the position was not feasible. We offered both then and recently to amalgamate the two websites. You were going to reconsider that position.

In terms of the ANS website, [redacted] has been working on it with external consultants who are providing pro bono support. We expect a crisp and clean page to go live in the next few weeks. Our current grant does not include a component for specialist University input. This may be a point that you would wish to raise with [redacted] when we meet him. He may be prepared to offer more than the standard.

The answer to the question on communication while the website is down is that it is only one means of communicating. We have an extensive mailing list and we target aspects of this to regularly and constantly communicate with the relevant audiences. It is not a one size fits all approach.

What reporter is asking? You set a deadline of Monday for the immediate tasks. This request has come in on one of my two non work days -with the deadline being on the other. My days are usually Tuesday to Thursday as you know but I will do what is required with [redacted] support. You know that our byword is flexibility and our attitude can do.

The second set of asks will take longer than Monday to collate-i.e. those listed along name. They all exist although again they have not been an explicit part of the grant ask. They are simply good practice. Are there documents from your recordings that you would like to be amalgamated with ours?

The last point you make

In summary, we get the seriousness of the requests that are being put to you and we will deal with them as a matter of priority.

Best wishes

Jean

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 Aug 2019, at 11:29, "[jean@autismnetwork.org.uk](mailto:jean@autismnetwork.org.uk)" <[jean@autismnetwork.org.uk](mailto:jean@autismnetwork.org.uk)> wrote:

Jean,

We did not get the chance to discuss this on Tuesday. We are regularly having to deal with media enquires about the Network's website and the Autism Strategy Website and have come to the decision that it is no longer acceptable to not be as transparent on the work of the strategy and Autism Network Scotland.

I need to understand the technical side to the websites. Is it the case that the website was built with - say - windows 7 - and that no longer works? Or is there another layperson-understandable explanation of what the technical problem is?

The reporter is asking how people can sign up to getting Network and Strategy communications as website says that the Autism Network are having technical issues ....

We need a solution to this and a clear communication of the situation. Can you prepare a statement regarding the Network Website and the Strategy website and timelines for when the Network website will be functioning. It would be helpful to get this on Monday 5th at the latest, as we need to respond to a further media enquiry.

With regards to the Strategy website can her comms capacity provide us with all the documents and papers for the strategy meetings that have happened since the last minutes were published on 16 Feb 2017. Could a document be developed that provides a timeline of strategy activity since Feb 2017 with embedded documents, strategy meeting papers, agenda's programme of workshops, conference presentations etc. We will then publish these documents on the Scottish Government Website under our Mental Health page. If this could be prioritised we can get the materials published as a matter of urgency.

On the issue of

We can of course discuss this when we meet next week (Wednesday 7th) for our regular monitoring meeting.

Kind Regards

| C1/TRS – Team Leader and Senior Policy Officer - Autism and Learning  
Disabilities| Dementia, Autism and Learning Disabilities Team | Mental Health Directorate | Room  
GE19 | Scottish Government St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | Tel: |

Mobile: (

A k<mailto: >  
www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk<http://www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk/>

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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 19 July 2019 12:17  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Autism Network Scotland - Ferret

The problem is that the Strategy website is on a platform that is now technically obsolete and ANS are not able to upload any more info onto it.

We have 2 choices:

A - Just upload Strategy info on the SG Directorate website

Or

B - Commission a new Autism in Scotland website to keep the public updated on the strategy activity.

B requires about £10- £20k plus on costs

Are you content for . . . . . o get back to Joe Lo and explain that the website is obsolete and that ANS connect with the wider public through social media and via a distribution list. Say we are currently looking into solutions to keep the public up to speed with the strategy.

Kind Regards

| C1/TRS – Team Leader and Senior Policy Officer - Autism and Learning  
Disabilities | Dementia, Autism and Learning Disabilities Team | Mental Health Directorate | Room  
GE19 | Scottish Government St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | Tel:  
Mobile:

[www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk](http://www.autismstrategyscotland.org.uk)

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 19 July 2019 11:56  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: Autism Network Scotland - Ferret

Just spotted this .....

**From:** Joe Lo

**Sent:** 17 July 2019 12:42

**To:**

**Subject:** Autism Network Scotland - Ferret

Dear Gillian,

I'm a journalist for The Ferret looking into why there's no information on the Autism Network Scotland website about its last two Scottish Strategy for Autism conferences. I know autistic people are keen to follow what's happening with the strategy but are struggling to find anything out. Are there any reports of the conferences?

Joe Lo

--

Joe Lo

Freelance journalist

@joeloyo

<https://muckrack.com/joelo>

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**From:** Jean MacLellan <jean.maclellan@strath.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** 27 March 2019 12:48  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: Tweet by on Twitter  
**Attachments:** ~WRD000.jpg

Don't worry about that. The answer is an issue though.

As you know, there are two websites-the SG one and the ANS one. We have asked for years to make them one site but the answer from SG in era had always been that they needed to be separate.

The SG one is hosted by an Edinburgh company called After Digital who does that on your behalf and we pay the fee for it from the core grant. We also try to post stuff on it. This doesn't always work. That is the level of our responsibility.

We have written SG on several occasions to say that the system crashes and that it is because the platform is too old and would need a costly overall. We have asked SG if this is possible and have been advised that the expenditure needed was not possible. So it literally limps along.

So a simple solution is and always has been to put everything on our ANS site which we are at an advanced stage of renewing. These things take ages with the techies but we're on it. Otherwise it will cost a fortune and for two years??

It can then be presented as a clear recognition that there is a problem that is being actively rectified. The downside is that we would need some money for the additional development.

That's all I can offer I'm afraid.

Jean

Sent from my iPhone

On 27 Mar 2019, at 11:16, "

wrote:

Jean,

I'm sorry to have to ask you for comment on this given the positivity from yesterday. The Minister would be grateful for clarification on whether the information in the tweet is accurate or not? Can you confirm what the situation on the website is?

<~WRD000.jpg>

26/03/2019, 21:15<<https://twitter.com/mxoolong/status/1110651589528834048?s=11>>

[@scrappapertiger](https://twitter.com/scrappapertiger)<<https://twitter.com/scrappapertiger>>

[@Autism\\_Network](https://twitter.com/Autism_Network)<[https://twitter.com/Autism\\_Network](https://twitter.com/Autism_Network)>

[@haughey\\_clare](https://twitter.com/haughey_clare)<[https://twitter.com/haughey\\_clare](https://twitter.com/haughey_clare)> How is the Scottish Strategy for Autism website so out of date? Does it even mention the refresh of the strategy or anything else from conference last year? Why does it still mention the old Governance Group and not the current Strategy Review Group?

Who's meant to be in charge?

Download <[https://twitter.com/download?ref\\_src=MailTweet-iOS](https://twitter.com/download?ref_src=MailTweet-iOS)> the Twitter app

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