

Engagement:

How do people on the Autistic Spectrum, Parents and Carers have an involvement in the delivery of the Scottish Government Strategy on Autism?

and in the shaping of
policy, implementation
and practise?

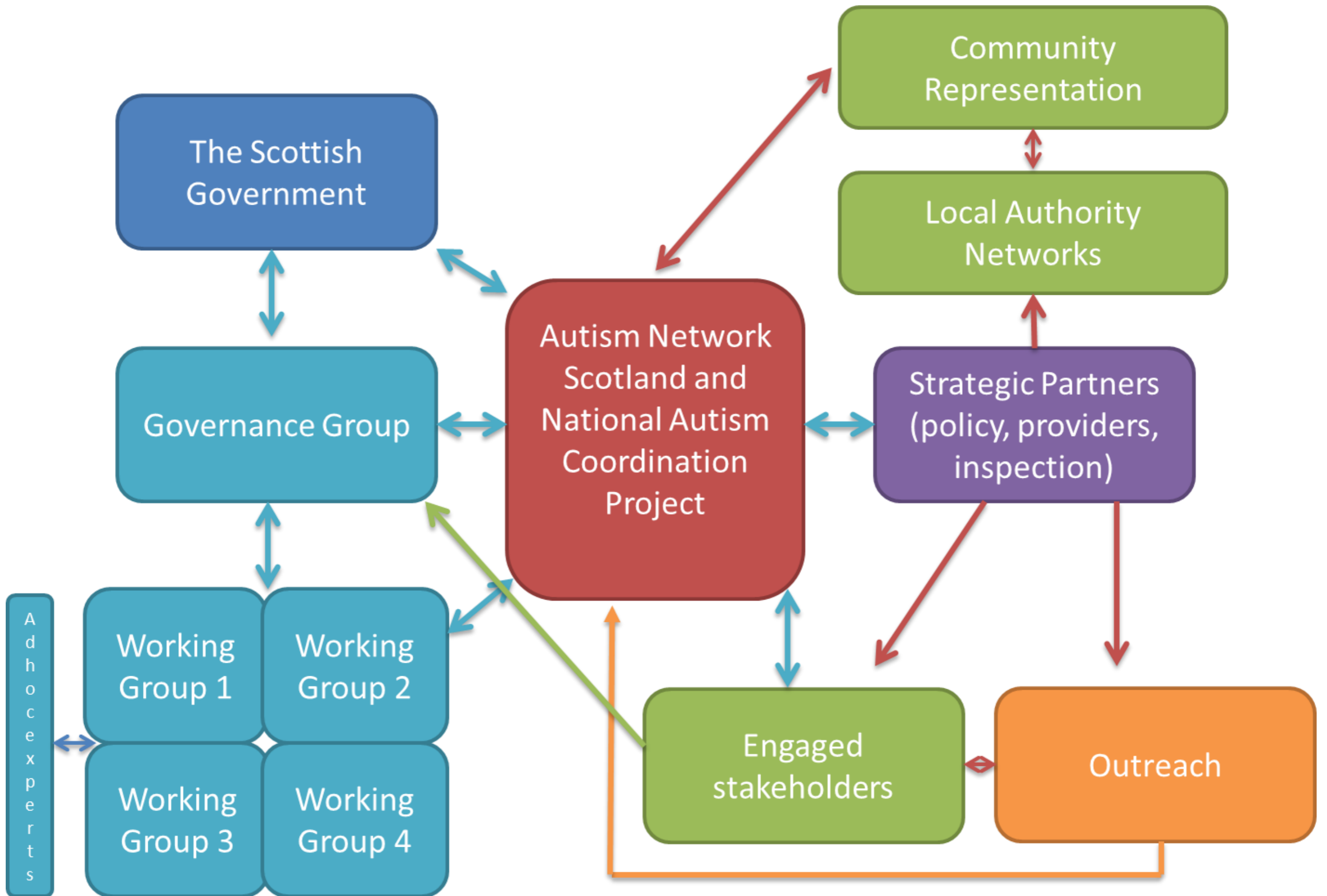
Some History

The formation of Sub Group 6 and the evolution of the two group system.

What we learned:

When Parent and Carers and People with Autism work together, we make a formidable force.

Following the dissolution of the Autism Reference Group and related sub-groups last year, there has been an on-going restructuring process.



Obstacles:

To Dialogue:

Questions and proposals are usually presented to us on terms that favour those presenting it.

They come with a preset mind-set.

We should be prepared to offer alternative models, different approaches and ways of thinking.

Lessons from the Research Review.

The majority of researchers thought that they “frequently” or “very frequently” engaged in public dissemination and dialogue, only a minority of autistic people, family members and practitioners shared this view.

Within our Communities

How do we get the best people from within our communities involved at all levels of the process.

The squeaky wheel trap.

Fostering and nurturing the quiet thinkers.

When communities get involved in setting the priorities, coming up with ideas, you will get outcomes more relevant to the actual needs of the people.

Questions to consider:

- How is the over-all voice of the communities heard?
- What can the communities do to be involved locally and nationally?
- How do the communities linkup locally and Nationally with each other, with local and National structures?
- How do we create a fair, fully representative process?

We need to:

1. Be focused and have a positive attitude
2. Be knowledgeable about what we do.
3. Roll up sleeves and get to it.