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### **Minutes of the Stage One INTERREG VA Review Panel Meeting**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018, 3.00pm  
SEUPB Offices, Belfast

**Project Applicant – CAWT**  
**Project Title – The NAVIGATE ASD project**

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In Attendance:	Gina McIntyre	SEUPB (Chair)
	Sean Cronin	MC Panel Member
	Avril Hall Callaghan	MC Panel Member
	Linda Stewart	MC Panel Member (via tc)
	Robbie Davis	Independent Member
	James Russell	MA, SEUPB
	Tara McCormick	SEUPB (minutes)

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#### **1. Introductions**

The Chair welcomed Members to the Stage One Review Panel meeting of the INTERREG VA 2014 – 2020 Programme.

#### **2. Register of Interests/Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Panel.

#### **3. Review**

The Chair reminded the panel that the applicant has requested a review on the basis that “the outcome was a decision that no reasonable person would have made on the basis of the information provided to the Steering Committee”.

The Chair confirmed that in line with Section 3.0 of the Review Procedure, the Review Panel will consider only written information as provided to the Steering Committee and written submissions from the applicant and the Joint Secretariat.

The Chair continued to inform the Panel the CAWT application was submitted under the second call to Objective 4.1, Health and Social Care, and their appeal focuses on

the score of zero awarded against the cross-border cooperation criteria. The applicant originally requested an appeal on both grounds, i.e., unreasonableness and a failure in adherence to procedure, and amended their appeal at a later date.

The Chair opened the meeting to discussion, and the Review Panel made the following comments and observations;

- The Panel noted an admission by the applicant that more specific answers should have been provided in section B3 (cross border collaboration);
- The proposal does not appear unique against existing autism products and services in Northern Ireland and Ireland;
- Consideration of cross-border requirements appears absent in project implementation, planning and the project's organisational chart – the case for a cross-border project was not made;
- The information provided is disproportionate to the level of funding requested;
- The Panel noted a number of references to cross-border operations throughout the remainder of the application however, they were of the view that, combined, the references lack sufficient detail to meet the criteria;
- The Panel agreed that the score of zero was appropriate if section B3 was considered in isolation however, a score of one would be reasonable if considering the application in its entirety and scoring all cross-border co-operation references;
- The Panel stated that any consideration of wider contextual information outside that provided in the application form would compromise the integrity of the assessment process and disadvantage new applicants with no track record of delivery. The Panel recognised that the appeal makes assumptions based on CAWT's previous funding relationship with the SEUPB, and;
- The Panel agreed that the international studies aspect was underdeveloped, and Scottish participation was included as a token addition.

The Chair thanked the Panel and stated that a second Health and Social Care call may be released following a Steering Committee meeting in April 2018, if all outputs were not met with those applications currently under consideration.

In conclusion, the Review Panel agreed they had not seen sufficient evidence to merit an adjustment of the Steering Committee's scoring on cross-border collaboration. The Steering Committee decision was upheld.

The SEUPB will inform the applicant of the Review Panel's decision within 14 working days.

The Chair thanked the Review Panel and concluded the meeting.