









<p>Capital funding was made available by the Department of Health Innovation Fund capital money. Commissioners are now waiting for the funding to be paid so they can complete the projects in their local areas.</p> <p>Action: Commissioners to update on progress at the next meeting</p>	<p>Commissioners</p>	
<p>2. Hot Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter received from Chris Stelling – Autism Bedfordshire on how to potentially improve on engagement. • Meetings themed around certain topics eg Housing. • Monitor these themed meetings against the strategy. • This allows people who cannot attend to have their voice heard through Autisms Bedfordshire / POhWER. • Action: All providers to look at any social media opportunities to advertise the partnership board, gather real issues and how we can all work together more smoothly. 	<p>All Providers</p>	
<p>3. Autism Advisory Board – Shape Project Social Policy Research Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Minchington gave a presentation on supporting adults with high functioning Autism and Aspergers syndrome (SHAPE). • Funded by the Department of Health. • 45 month duration with completion in 3rd quarter 2018. • Presentation will be provided with the minutes 		
<p>4. POhWER update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POhWER gave an update on the Luton Voice Group, number have declined. Brammingham voice group is in its early stages but going well. The lunch club that meets in Tavistock Street, Bedford is still going really well. • POhWER welcomed Central Bedfordshire 		

<p>College to the partnership board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Pearce and Steve Minchington spent the day at Stevenage Police station. They were released after good behaviour! • Action: POhWER have drafted information cards on 'hate crime' and everyone was invited to take and look and feed back any comments to Sandra Pearce. <p>POhWER looked into the possibility of running some evening voice groups. Unfortunately there weren't enough people interested in Central Bedfordshire with Autism to run these. Some people from Central Bedfordshire attend the Bedford Borough voice groups</p> <p>Action: All to encourage people on the spectrum to attend the Voice Groups. For further information about how to get involved please contact Sandra Pearce at POhWER (s.pearce@pohwer.net)</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>	
<p>5. Autism Bedfordshire update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism Bedfordshire updated that their employment programme was very successful and that they were even over subscribed, having only 27 places and 30 on the list. • Autism Bedfordshire have been working closely with the local Prison in Bedford on awareness for people on the Autistic spectrum. • Luton has a new social group starting which will be advertised on the Autism Bedfordshire website and leaflets. • New Horizons work in Luton will be ongoing until end of March 2015. <p>Action: If anyone has any questions for Autism Bedfordshire that were not covered in the partnership board meeting please contact Chris Stelling at Autism Bedfordshire (chris.stelling@autismbeds.org)</p>	<p>All</p>	
<p>6. Autism Innovation (capital) Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £18.5k was awarded for the local authority • Presentation will be available with the minutes 		 Department of Health

<p>Action: Commissioners to contact the Department of Health as the money still hasn't been received. What the money will be spent on:</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism friendly housing register • Central Bedfordshire College building improvements • Employment/Education support laptops <p>Bedford Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kempston Day Centre (TEACCH) • Environmental changes – layout, dark/light room, storage, IT <p>Luton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformation of day services – sensory equipment, communication aids and technology. 	<p>Commissioners</p>	
<p>7. Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough strategy updates 2015-2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioners are currently working on the draft update autism strategy • Still awaiting the Department of Health's Autism Statutory Guidance to be published, once this has it will also help inform the draft strategy and make sure nothing has been missed out. • The finalised Autism Strategy will be available in the next financial year. • It was suggested that those people without email addresses the draft strategy be posted to them. Neil Tunniscliffe from the A-Team has offered to help. • It was suggested that in the future a consultation meeting would be a good idea to help people understand the document and how they can comment on it. 		 
<p>8. Winterbourne View</p> <p>Due to absence this presentation will now take place at the next partnership board meeting in April.</p>		

9. Autism Self Assessment

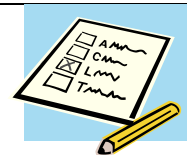
- The Autism Self Assessment reviews progress made and look at the future planning.
- This is the 3rd local autism self assessment
- Previous published self assessments can be viewed online – please see the link within the presentation
- Data is currently still being collected and the deadline is Wednesday 28th January 2015.
- The presentation will be emailed out with these minutes
- **Action:**
- If any people with autism want to write an i-story please contact PoHwer or Autism Bedfordshire
- **Next steps:** Board members to review and comment between 16-17th February and submission to Public Health England by 9th March 2015.



Neil / Sandra Pearce

7. How was this meeting – voting:

- Unfortunately due to a technical difficulty attendee’s were unable to vote using the key pads however with a show of hands this months meeting appeared to be very good



8. Any other business:

- A feedback letter was from a service user whose experience of the diagnostic service..
- SEPT offer full support if diagnosed by Dr Iqbal. They now have a part time clinical psychologist supporting with six sessions per week.
- It was requested that finances around the diagnostic service be discussed as a future agenda item – Commissioners to organise this.
- Brookdale brought in booklets entitled ‘3 minute guide to autism’, these were left on



Marek Zamborsky

<p>the tables for anyone to pick up at the end of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Commissioners thanked Central Bedfordshire College for attending – it was great to see so many people with autism in attendance		
<p>Date of next meeting: 14th April 2015 at 11am at The Rufus Centre</p>	<p>All</p>	