








<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Elizabeth Saunders requested that Commissioners engage with the local Health and Wellbeing Boards for agreement and support with the priorities voted on by the Think Autism partnership board for the new strategy 	<p>Commissioners</p>	
<p>2. Hot Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Health Innovation Fund capital money is now available and the deadline for submissions is the 14th November 2014. This is a national fund and if a local area's bid is successful they will be told by the 19th November 2014. All funding awarded will have to be spent by the 31st of March 2014. Commissioners have been talking to housing colleagues and some providers for ideas about how to spend the money. <p>Action: Commissioners will email the funding criteria to partnership board members</p> <p>Action: If any partnership board members have any ideas about how to spend this capital money please email Commissioners by Friday the 7th of November 2014 at the latest.</p>	<p>Commissioners</p> <p>All</p>	
<p>3. Autism Bedfordshire update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism Bedfordshire gave an update presentation to the partnership board on the work that they have been doing and new staff that have joined them. • Helpline issues have stayed the same with an average signposting time of 38 minutes. • Autism Bedfordshire is now part of Autism Alliance. • Autism Bedfordshire are working with Luton Employment to increase employment in Luton through a job coach with a specialism in Autism. • Autism Bedfordshire presented at the Milton Keynes Autism Partnership Board and they were impressed with fantastic work that the Bedfordshire Think Autism Partnership Board has achieved so far. 		

<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>4. POhWER update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POhWER gave an update on the Voice Groups that meet in the Tavistock in Bedford and the TOKKO centre in Luton, although number have dipped slightly here. They are going really well. • POhWER invited the Police to join one of their lunch groups. The Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) who came along was very friendly and changed the groups' opinion of the Police. • POhWER have also met with the Crown Prosecution Service do discuss autism. • POhWER will be attending the Bedfordshire Police Equality and Diversity courses. • It was mentioned that not everyone can attend a lunch time group as they work full time. It was suggested that an evening group could be done at a local pub and Sandra would ask the taxi people next door what charges would be. <p>Action: POhWER to look into the possibility of running some evening voice groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POhWER explained that it takes up to 48 hours for new referred customer to be allocated an advocate. <p>Action: All to encourage people on the spectrum to attend the Voice Groups. For further information about how to get involved please contract Sandra Pearce at POhWER (s.pearce@pohwer.net)</p>	<p>Sandra Pearce</p> <p>All</p>	

<p>5. Diagnostic Pathway update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colin Parsons went through current and new staff. They are still trying to recruit a Clinical Psychologist; in the meantime they have a very good locum covering this area. Colin has completed the ADOS-2 Training which will make the service more robust. Statistics were shown on where referrals were coming from over the area and it was mentioned that it would also be good to see how many males and females are being referred. <p>Action: Colin to add this to the analysis and also bring along case studies on the impact that a diagnosis has made on an individual and outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a surprise at the ages of people being referred 40s/50s/60s with diverse background that without the service may never had been picked up. 	<p>Colin Parsons</p>	
<p>6. Care Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioners gave a presentation on the Care Act and what this new law means for the Council, customers, carers, the general public and providers.. All local authorities will have to comply with this Act from April 2015. For further information about the Care Act please visit the website below: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-2014-part-1-factsheets 		 <p>Care Act 2014</p> <p>CHAPTER 23</p>
<p>7. How was this meeting – voting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All partnership board members in attendance had the opportunity to vote on today’s meeting. 		

8. Any other business: None		
Date of next meeting: 27 th January 2014 at 10am at The Rufus Centre	All	