Autism self-assessment exercise 2013
Bedford
About Public Health England

Public Health England's mission is to protect and improve the nation's health and to address inequalities through working with national and local government, the NHS, industry and the voluntary and community sector. PHE is an operationally autonomous executive agency of the Department of Health.

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Local authority area

1. How many Clinical Commissioning Groups do you need to work with to implement the Adult Autism Strategy in your local authority area?

   1

Comment

Our Clinical Commissioning Group is Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG).

We established strong partnership with BCCG and other local statutory partners; therefore we are able to strategically coordinate delivery of the Autism Strategy across Bedfordshire while being sensitive to specific needs of Bedford Borough.

Our partners in delivery of the Autism Strategy are: Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Central Bedfordshire Council, Luton Borough Council, and Luton Clinical Commissioning Group.

2. Are you working with other local authorities to implement part or all of the priorities of the strategy?

   ☒ Yes
   ○ No

If yes, how are you doing this?

We have two Commissioning Plans for Bedfordshire.

a) Joint Commissioning Plan between Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, and Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

b) Joint Commissioning Plan for Luton Borough Council and Luton Clinical Commissioning Group

We have two main governance structures in place which allow us joint delivery:

a) Commissioners' Implementation Group - four named autism commissioners meet regularly seven times per year. Each commissioners' meeting is themed, with presence of theme relevant partners.

b) Fulfilling Lives Partnership (Bedfordshire Autism Partnership) - takes place four times per year. The commissioners and relevant partners inform, consult, and seek feedback and suggestions from stakeholders’ community.

Each statutory organisation also reports internally via required channels (e.g. Partnership Boards, Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Health and Wellbeing Board) using information from the implementation and partnership meetings work.

Planning
3. Do you have a named joint commissioner/senior manager of responsible for services for adults with autism?

☑ Yes
☐ No

If yes, what are their responsibilities and who do they report to? Please provide their name and contact details.

**Named Commissioner: Marek Zamborsky, Commissioning Officer**

**Main responsibilities:**

* Prepare, coordinate delivery, and update on progress of The Joint Autism Commissioning Action Plan 2011-2014

* Coordinate delivery of the action plan with identified partners in all areas (training and awareness, local planning, diagnostic and social care assessments, employment, transitions, housing, criminal justice system, voluntary sector support)

**Marek's contact details:**

Marek Zamborsky  
Commissioning Officer  
Bedford Borough Council  
6th Floor, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP  
tel. 01234 228 933 (internal:42933)  
email: marek.zamborsky@bedford.gov.uk  
www.bedford.gov.uk

Marek reports directly to Head of Commissioning, George Hunt.  
**George's contact details**

George Hunt  
Head of Commissioning, Adult Services  
Bedford Borough Council  
Borough Hall (Room 607)  
Cauldwell Street  
Bedford  
MK42 9AP  
Tel: 01234 718240  
Email: george.hunt@bedford.gov.uk
4. Is Autism included in the local JSNA?

- Red
- Amber
- Green

Comment

Autism JSNA content is available here:

http://www.bedford.gov.uk/health_and_social_care/bedford_borough_jsna/adults_and_older_people/vulnerable_groups/autistic_spectrum_disorder.aspx

5. Have you started to collect data on people with a diagnosis of autism?

- Red
- Amber
- Green

Comment

We are able to determine exactly how many people are known to the local authority and Community Mental Health Teams based on manual scanning of our records.

We are able to do it because we are relatively small local authority with population of 157,000.

New diagnostic and support service for Bedfordshire which started on 01/07/2013 will be collecting local data.

We have local voluntary sector contracts (e.g. mental health, carers) and CQUIN indicators with the local hospital trust and local mental health foundation trust which track vulnerable groups, autism included.

We also have Bedford Borough Partnership Information Sharing Protocol, high level Sustainable Community Strategy protocol, which allows all local strategic partners to share data. The Protocol is an over-arching framework for sharing information between health, social care and other agencies in Bedfordshire and Luton.

We now need to establish more formal collation and cross referencing of the autism data.

6. Do you collect data on the number of people with a diagnosis of autism meeting eligibility criteria for social care (irrespective of whether they receive any)?

- Yes
- No
If yes, what is

the total number of people?

247

the number who are also identified as having a learning disability?

the number who are identified as also having mental health problems?

Comment
[Text removed] from physical disability team

7. Does your commissioning plan reflect local data and needs of people with autism?

☑ Yes

☐ No
If yes, how is this demonstrated?

We have four chapters in our local commissioning plan, which can demonstrate this:

a) Local Picture
b) Autism in Bedford Borough
c) Health Needs Assessment for People with Autism in Bedfordshire
d) Local Autism Workshops

Main conclusions written in 2011 were:

Available data indicates that total number of adults with autism is in the range of 983-987, with a projected increase to 1,023 by 2030

There is a disproportion in diagnosis between males and females. We have data on minimum and maximum expected ratios of this disproportion.

There is a significant gap between amount of people with autism who have learning disability and are known to Bedford Borough social services (as of 2009), and total estimated amount of people who have autism and learning disability.

It is important that local strategy does not overlook people with autism who come from BME group (estimate of 213), given the ethnic make up of local population.

The document can be found here:

Since 2011 more information has become available.

8. What data collection sources do you use?

- Red
- Red/Amber
- Amber
- Amber/Green
- Green
Comment

We have data available from following sources:

1. Adult Social Care
2. Transitions - number of young people with autism transitioning to adult services for next 5 years
3. Community Mental Health Teams
4. Bedford Hospital - local hospital
5. SEPT - local mental health provider
6. Voluntary Sector Portfolio (mostly mental health, and carers e.g. Impact MH, Mind, Carers in Bedfordshire )

Data quality needs to be improved from
7. GPs

9. Is your local Clinical Commissioning Group or Clinical Commissioning Groups (including the Support Service) engaged in the planning and implementation of the strategy in your local area?

☐ Red
☐ Amber
☒ Green

Comment

We note national theme that there is a problem with CCGs' engagement in delivery of the Autism Strategy. Our local experience is different. We want to commend Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group for the engagement and leadership they have demonstrated in the delivery of not just "NHS related" elements of the strategy.

This can be demonstrated by following examples:

* CCG have a named lead commissioner and a GP lead who are active members of the local implementation group as well as partnership groups
* Autism diagnosis and support was one of the main QIPP (Change Programme) projects for BCCG in 2012/2013
* Local diagnostic and support service, local training pathways and local voluntary autism support is co funded by CCG
* Local CCG fully appreciates link between diagnosis, community care assessment and on-going support, therefore continuous to be open to local authority’s input into diagnostic service specification and operational protocols

10. How have you and your partners engaged people with autism and their carers in planning?

☐ Red
☐ Amber
☒ Green
Please give an example to demonstrate your score.

Following examples demonstrate our rating

* 2010 Local autism workshops

* 2010-2011 Local autism strategy steering group (membership included voluntary sector, self-advocate, carers' representatives, self advocates's representation via Autism Bedfordshire, regional NAS support)

* 2012 - on-going
  Autism Partnership (50% of 60+ regular attendance are carers and people with autism, [text removed] co-chairs of the partnership are self-advocates)

We have just starting regular catch ups of self-advocate co-chairs of the partnership with local lead commissioners based on co-chairs' feedback about how the partnership board operated in the first year

Autism Training is co delivered by [text removed] people with autism

Centre for Social Care Practice (University of Bedfordshire) for the first time this year is helping us to conduct annual survey across professionals, carers, and people with autism on the delivery of the Autism strategy. Results expected in December 2013.

We provide required reports on progress to local Health and Wellbeing Board, and Overview and Scrutiny Committee

People with autism co-created local assessment and support pathway

[Text removed] with autism started and shapes work on autism identification and support in local prison

Autism Bedfordshire regularly consult their membership on current services and future service needs and use this information in the planning and development of services, feeding the information to commissioners.

11. Have reasonable adjustments been made to everyday services to improve access and support for people with autism?

- Red
- Amber
- Green
Please give an example.

The need for reasonable adjustments for people with autism needs to be supported by raising of awareness of autism.

Therefore, as a local authority, we trained 239 employees of statutory, voluntary and indepedent sector organisations in 2012/2013 and 28 (to date) in 2013/2014 in Autism Level 1 (awareness) and Autism Level 2 (awareness +1 day of additional training).

Autism Bedfordshire offer a consultation and advice service to organisations, including local authority, in enabling their provision to be more 'autism friendly'.

12. Do you have a Transition process in place from Children's social services to Adult social services?

☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please give brief details of whether this is automatic or requires a parental request, the mechanism and any restrictions on who it applies to.

Bedford Borough Council has a Transition protocol in place which sets out the arrangements for supporting young people and their families to progress from childhood to adulthood by ensuring that they and all relevant services are prepared for meeting their eligible needs.

To assist with the transition process a Multi-Agency Assessment Tool (MAAT) has been in operation since 2011. It was developed by drawing support and guidance from a range of professional and stakeholders, including young people and their families. This tool is used in conjunction with the transitions protocol. The aim of the document is to enable a lead professional to consolidate important information about a young person's needs and aspirations (avoiding as much duplication as possible) which will effectively contribute to planning and delivery of service provision and support throughout the transition process and across disciplines including health, education, social care and third sector input. The document forms the transition plan as detailed in the SEN Code of Practice, and is delivered through person centred planning principles.

The transition information between children and adults services includes all young people who may require services into adulthood. Information is provided to all individuals whether or not they receive social care services in childhood. This means that at any time an individual's needs change; an assessment of need can be requested and carried out. Young people already receiving services are referred to adult services for an assessment of eligibility to be carried out, which links to a community care assessment of need. Close communication and processes are in place between Children and Adult Services, and the teams work together on joint panels to assure that future needs are known and this links into future commissioning requirements.
13. Does your planning consider the particular needs of older people with Autism?

- Red
- Amber
- Green

Comment

Our Autism Training Programme is available to all staff from health and social care, including staff from older people services.

In 2012/2013 45 staff of older people services and in 2013/2014 (to date) 16 staff from older people services attended autism training.

We also collect data from older people’s services about number of people with autism known to local authority for both Autism Self Assessment Frameworks in 2011 and 2013.

All services available to people under 65 with autism are also available to older people with autism.

Autism Bedfordshire started a social group for people with autism who are over 50.

Training

14. Have you got a multi-agency autism training plan?

- Yes
- No

15. Is autism awareness training being/been made available to all staff working in health and social care?

- Red
- Amber
- Green
Comment: Specify whether Self-Advocates with autism are included in the design of training and/or whether they have a role as trainers. If the latter specify whether face-to-face or on video/other recorded media.

Self advocates with autism are included in the design of training and they have a role as trainers. They deliver training face-to-face.

Comment from Autism Beds (training provider):

Autism Awareness training has already been commissioned for 2 years and has been available to all appropriate staff who work with, or may have contact with, adults with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). Front line staff from receptionists to specialist workers are catered for in the training programmes. Social Workers, Nurses, GP’s and OT’s are just some of the types of workers who have attended. Currently over 800 staff (across Bedfordshire) have received the training, overwhelmingly offering positive feedback, and as a consequence, service delivery has been seen as improving for those with ASC.

More information on training statistics, gaps, plans and pathway is available if required.

16. Is specific training being/been provided to staff that carry out statutory assessments on how to make adjustments in their approach and communication?

○ Red
○ Amber
☒ Green

Comments

In 2012/2013 7 care managers attended level 1 and level 2 training.
In 2013/2014 (to date) 2 care managers attended level 1 and level 2 training.

So far total is 9 (mostly from Learning Disabilities Team, which has 8 permanent staff and 2 locum social workers).

17. Have Clinical Commissioning Group(s) been involved in the development of workforce planning and are general practitioners and primary care practitioners engaged included in the training agenda?

☒ Yes
○ No
Please comment further on any developments and challenges.

Dr Judy Baxter is an identified GP Lead for autism for Bedfordshire CCG. She was engaged in the development of the local service.

GP specific training session took place on 13/04/2013 during Bedfordshire GPs symposium.

Main agenda points:
* Introduction to autism/ Personal Perspectives / Legislation
* Diagnosis, assessments and therapies across varying age groups / Planned transition from children's to adult services.
* Referral Pathways / Multi Disciplinary Team / Strategy groups / Future Pathways.

GP’s and other Primary Care practitioners have attended the current Autism Awareness training and specific training sessions have been delivered to a number of GP Practices. A more specialist, Level 3 training programme is being developed with the involvement of two Clinical Psychologists, for delivery to specialist staff, GP’s and residential workers.

18. Have local Criminal Justice services engaged in the training agenda?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please comment further on any developments and challenges.

We have had two developmental workshops to establish how local criminal justice system (CJS) will contribute to the autism strategy. CJS partners engaging with the autism strategy are: Bedfordshire Police, Bedfordshire Probation Trust, CJS Mental Health Team, Community Safety Partnership, Bedford Prison.

As a result of the workshops we have identified "critical" points for a) autism screening b) information sharing c) autism training across CJS.
All partners have expressed full support to organise their training or access already available local training pathway.

Bedford Prison implements following activities: initial survey on autism prevalence, training delivered to prison staff as well as in-reach providers, initial entry screening includes autism screening using autism screening tool AQ 10.

Comments from Autism Bedfordshire:
Autism Bedfordshire have engaged with and have run a training programme for staff at Bedford Prison and are planning subsequent training for additional staff. A small number of Probation staff have attended the current training, fed back positively to their management and there will soon be negotiations to offer specific training to other Probation staff. Police trainers have attended the training and are cascading it through their own staff team training programmes.
Diagnosis led by the local NHS Commissioner

19. Have you got an established local diagnostic pathway?

- Red
- Amber
- Green
Please provide further comment.

A local diagnostic pathway is in place and accessible, GPs are aware and involved in the process. Wait for referral to diagnostic service is within 6 months (18 weeks) whilst the Interim Service is in operation. NICE guidelines are considered within the mode

The Adult Autism Service (AAS) is for Adults (18+) and based on a multi-disciplinary model of local and community based assessment and diagnosis to work alongside existing Specialist Health Services, Local Authorities, independent and voluntary services.

*Where the Service is based & hours of operation
The AAS will be based in community satellite clinics covering Bedford; Central Bedfordshire and Luton with an admin base as the central contact point for the service.

AAS will operate 09.00 - 17.00 Wednesday to Friday, with flexibility on appointments to meet patient need.

AAS Admin & Referrals
Clinical Resources Centre - Twinwoods
Milton Road
Clapham
Beds
MK41 6AT

Telephone: 01234 310593
Email: autism.service@nhs.net (secure email for referrals)

*Referrals
Referrals to the AAS admin are welcome from:

* GP's
* Specialist Healthcare Services
* Criminal Justice Service
* Local Authorities

Patients must be 18+ adults who are living in Bedfordshire and Luton, registered with a Bedfordshire or Luton GP and who are believed to be on the autistic spectrum.

*Response Times
All referrals will be acknowledged within 7 days of receipt of referral and an appointment scheduled with the appropriate clinician within 18 weeks.

*Further Information
If you have any comments or questions regarding this service, please contact:

Dr Muhammad Iqbal
Lead Consultant
20. If you have got an established local diagnostic pathway, when was the pathway put in place?

**Month (Numerical, e.g. January 01)**

7

**Year (Four figures, e.g. 2013)**

2013

**Comment**

This is a newly established pathway. We still have a lot to do to sort out logistics and some operational protocols in order to make diagnostic and support experience for people with autism as positive autism as possible.

21. How long is the average wait for referral to diagnostic services?

Please report the total number of weeks

14

**Comment**

No additional comment.

22. How many people have completed the pathway in the last year?

14
Comment

Our local pathway has three milestones in 2012/2013 -2013/2014.

1. Last (financial) year 2012/2013, we had "old pathway" in place.

Old pathway involved local people travelling to London for diagnostic assessment only. Number 14 is for whole Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group. We are not able to break it down by local authority.

2. From 01/04/2013 - 30/06/2013 we had interim diagnostic diagnostic pathway and this was completed by 0 from Bedford.

3. From 01/07/2013 to date we have a new local diagnostic and support pathway in place. [Text removed] people from Bedford have been referred so far.

23. Has the local Clinical Commissioning Group(s)/support services taken the lead in developing the pathway?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Comment

We note national theme that there is a problem with CCGs' engagement in delivery of the Autism Strategy. Our local experience is different. We want to commend Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group for the engagement and leadership they have demonstrated in the delivery of not just "NHS related" elements of the strategy.

Local CCG fully appreciates link between diagnosis, community care assessment and on-going support, therefore continuous to be open to local authority's input into diagnostic service specification and operational protocols

24. How would you describe the local diagnostic pathway, ie Integrated with mainstream statutory services with a specialist awareness of autism for diagnosis or a specialist autism specific service?

☐ a. Integrated with mainstream statutory services with a specialist awareness of autism for diagnosis

☒ b. Specialist autism specific service
Please comment further

Local Autism Pathway is based on the "Bristol Model". It is a multidisciplinary team with clinical expertise, training element, clinical supervision element, social care element, and on-going long term support element.

The pathway has capability to support complex cases, however at the same it integrates with the mainstream services (e.g. LD teams, MH teams, etc) in order to support individuals with autism in the "referral area" by providing guidance, case supervision and signposting where appropriate.

Full pathway diagram is available.

25. In your local diagnostic path does a diagnosis of autism automatically trigger an offer of a Community Care Assessment?
   ☒ Yes
   ☐ No

Please comment, i.e. if not who receives notification from diagnosticians when someone has received a diagnosis?

Exact operational protocols are being worked out at the moment due to the fact that the pathway has been in operation since 01/07/2013.

Our idea is to establish clear information exchange between diagnostic service, local GP and a local authority community care referral team.

26. What post-diagnostic support (in a wider personalisation perspective, not just assuming statutory services), is available to people diagnosed?

Following elements of post diagnostic support are available for people with autism:

*Community care assessment and, if eligible, agreed support package
*Autism Support Worker linked to Diagnostic and Assessment Pathway for on-going targeted support
*Autism Bedfordshire available to anyone with the need of support (main commissioned activities are social groups, telephone help line, training)
*Information provision - universal services in Bedford Borough available on the Council's website
*Information provision - autism friendly places directory complied by Autism Bedfordshire
*Carers Support - Carers assessment as part of community care assessment package, support from Carers in Bedfordshire in cooperation with Autism Bedfordshire
*Advocacy Services
*Autism trained housing support officers employed by local authority

Care and support
27. Of those adults who were assessed as being eligible for adult social care services and are in receipt of a personal care budget, how many people have a diagnosis of Autism both with a co-occurring learning disability and without?

a. Number of adults assessed as being eligible for adult social care services and in receipt of a personal budget

56

b. Number of those reported in 27a. who have a diagnosis of Autism but not learning disability


c. Number of those reported in 27a. who have both a diagnosis of Autism AND Learning Disability


Comment

[Text removed] without LD declined

28. Do you have a single identifiable contact point where people with autism whether or not in receipt of statutory services can get information signposting autism-friendly entry points for a wide range of local services?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please give details

Autism Bedfordshire
Helpline: 01234 350704
Other Enquiries:01234 214871
Email:enquiries@autismbeds.org
Address: St Mark's Church, Calder Rise
Bedford, MK41 7UY

http://www.autismbedfordshire.net/

29. Do you have a recognised pathway for people with autism but without a learning disability to access a community care assessment and other support?

☐ Yes
☐ No
If yes, please give details

Referrals can be received into any adult services team but mainly come in the first instance, via the Adult Learning Disability Team. The receiving team is responsible for carrying out a community care assessment and to determine if the Fair Access to Care eligibility criteria is met. If needs are determined through assessment then a team will be identified to support in order to meet the identified assessed needs of the individual. At times this results in joint working between teams but with one team leading the care management. The Council has a protocol in place to support cooperation between teams and to prevent people from falling through the gaps. If an individual does not meet eligibility under Fair Access to Care they will be supported and guided towards other services available universally and to agencies in the community, such as Autism Bedfordshire.

30. Do you have a programme in place to ensure that all advocates working with people with autism have training in their specific requirements?

- Red
- Amber
- Green

Comment

Our advocacy provider is Pohwer.
All Pohwer Advocates receive training around engagement and working with people Autism. This is part of Pohwer’s mandatory training and this is supplemented by accessing external training i.e. Level 2 Autism Training - Autism Beds.

31. Do adults with autism who could not otherwise meaningfully participate in needs assessments, care and support planning, appeals, reviews, or safeguarding processes have access to an advocate?

- Red
- Amber
- Green

Comment

Autism Bedfordshire, through their Helpline, offer advice and support to individuals, their families and carers. Where more individual and specific advocacy needs are identified, they are then signposted to relevant organisations such as Pohwer or their local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Our advocacy service provides access for adults for 1 to 1 advocacy support on a issue specific basis.

The service is widely promoted across the county and engagement is supported by Community Development Workers who support groups of people with autism. Referrals can come direct from clients or by a third party with client consent through a number of referral routes.
32. Can people with autism access support if they are non Fair Access Criteria eligible or not eligible for statutory services?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Provide an example of the type of support that is available in your area.

* Autism Support Worker linked to Diagnostic and Assessment Pathway for on-going targeted support for social care non eligible people with Autism
* Autism Bedfordshire is available to anyone (main commissioned activities are social groups, telephone help line, training)
* Information provision - information on universal services in Bedford Borough is available on the council’s website
* Information provision - autism friendly places directory was compiled by Autism Bedfordshire
* Carers Support - Carers assessment as part of community care assessment package, and support from Carers in Bedfordshire in cooperation with Autism Bedfordshire is available
* Autism trained housing support officers employed by local authority
* Advocacy services are available to any vulnerable person in Bedford

33. How would you assess the level of information about local support in your area being accessible to people with autism?

☐ Red
☐ Amber
☒ Green

Comment

* Everyone diagnosed locally will have a chance to access Autism Support Worker linked to Diagnostic and Assessment Pathway for on-going targeted support
* Autism Bedfordshire is available to anyone with the need of support (main commissioned activities are social groups, telephone help line, training).
  They also promote their work through publicity leaflets and presentations at various venues and tries to make its services as accessible as possible.
* Information provision - universal services in Bedford Borough available on the council’s website
* Information provision - autism friendly places directory is compiled by Autism Bedfordshire
* Carers Support - Carers assessment is part of community care assessment package, support from Carers in Bedfordshire in cooperation with Autism Bedfordshire
* Advocacy Services are available to any vulnerable person in Bedford, theyu have regular presence at the Autism Partnership Board

* We are developing local "autism strategy website" which will have all the local information about support for people with autism. Expected to launch on 19/09/2013
Housing & Accommodation

34. Does your local housing strategy specifically identify Autism?

- [ ] Red
- [ ] Amber
- ☒ Green

Comment

Extract from our housing strategy:

"The Council has developed an Autism Strategy which includes a commitment to "review the Supporting People Strategy and work with housing providers to understand the needs of people with autism and how these can be supported."

Our housing colleagues attended the Autism Partnership meeting dedicated to housing with following outcomes:

* All Housing Options team members (14 Officers), attended Autism Awareness Training provided by Bedford Borough Council Adult Services.
* Personalised one to one sessions are available to support individuals with autism with housing bidding systems. This can be accessed in person at the Customer Service Centre, Horne Lane Bedford, via e-mail to the Housing Advice e-mail (housingadvice@bedford.gov.uk or via telephone to the Housing Options Team (01234 718058). There are also computers available in bpha’s reception in Horne Lane, where clients can access the choice based lettings system as well as receiving assistance with using the system.
* The choice based lettings Home Finder application process will be reviewed in relation to people with autistic spectrum conditions ( partnership approach across Bedfordshire)

Employment

35. How have you promoted in your area the employment of people on the Autistic Spectrum?

- [ ] Red
- ☒ Amber
- [ ] Green
Comment
Regular contacts with Autism Bedfordshire are established by BBC Supported Employment Service (SES) to inform shape of local supported employment service for people with autism.

Supported Employment Service utilizes specialist knowledge of Autism Bedfordshire to support people who are eligible for social services into employment.

The BBC Supported Employment Service is
* Working with Autism Bedfordshire and Youth Inspired (a community interest company based in Bedford that provides a range of courses for young people aged 16 to 25) and local people with autism and learning disabilities.
* Bringing Autism awareness into joint work with the BBC Economic Development unit.

As a result:
* [text removed] people in paid employment by Autism Bedfordshire worked on the Autism Partnership website in 2012
* Ongoing post for [text removed] people on volunteer basis to keep updating website
* [text removed] people are employed on volunteer basis to deliver training
* [text removed] people are co chairs of the autism partnership which enables them to increase their employability skills.

The majority of Bedford Job Centre staff have been on the Autism Awareness training and feedback from several service users is that their experience at the job centre has improved.

36. Do transition processes to adult services have an employment focus?
   - Red
   - Amber
   - ☑ Green
Comment

Extract from BBC Multi Agency Assessment Tool (MAAT) used for transitions.

Employment:
What type of employment would you like to do?
* A job
* Self employment
* Internships
* Supported apprenticeships
* Supported employment
* Work related learning at college
What type of training or further education opportunities would you like to do?
What do you enjoy doing and how will this help you in employment or at college?
Have you had any or have you taken part in any Saturday, part time or holiday job opportunities?

The form can be found here:

Comments from Autism Beds
Autism Bedfordshire have access to adult Careers Guidance and can offer this to those who are seen as potentially benefiting from this. They also offer, in partnership with other organisations, education and training programmes specifically targeted at adults with autism.

Criminal Justice System (CJS)

37. Are the CJS engaging with you as a key partner in your planning for adults with autism?

- Red
- Amber
- Green
Comment

We have had two developmental workshops to establish how local criminal justice system (CJS) will contribute to the autism strategy. CJS partners engaging with the autism strategy are: Bedfordshire Police, Bedfordshire Probation Trust, CJS Mental Health Team, Community Safety Partnership, Bedford Prison.

As a result of the workshops we have identified "critical" points for a) autism screening b) information sharing c) autism training across CJS. All partners have expressed full support to organise their training or access already available local training pathway.

Bedford Prison implements following activities: initial survey on autism prevalence, training delivered to prison staff as well as in-reach providers, initial entry screening includes autism screening using autism screening tool AQ 10.

Comments from Autism Bedfordshire:
Autism Bedfordshire have engaged with and have run a training programme for staff at Bedford Prison and are planning subsequent training for additional staff. A small number of Probation staff have attended the current training, fed back positively to their management and there will soon be negotiations to offer specific training to other Probation staff. Police trainers have attended the training and are cascading it through their own staff team training programmes.

This marks the end of principal data collection.

Can you confirm that the two requirements for the process to be complete have been met?

a. Have you inspected the pdf output to ensure that the answers recorded on the system match what you intended to enter?
   ☑ Yes

b. Has the response for your Local Authority area been agreed by the Autism Partnership Board or equivalent group, and the ratings validated by people who have autism, as requested in the ministerial letter of 5th August 2013?
   ☑ Yes

The data set used for report-writing purposes will be taken from the system on 30th September 2013.

The data fill will remain open after that for two reasons: to allow entry of the dates on which Health and Well Being Boards discuss the submission and to allow modifications arising from this discussion to be made to RAG rated or yes/no questions.
Please note modifications to comment text or additional stories entered after this point will not be used in the final report.

What was the date of the meeting of the Health and Well Being Board that this was discussed?

Please enter in the following format: 01/01/2014 for the 1st January 2014.

Day
10

Month
12

Year
2013