



AGENDA

SELECT COMMITTEE - AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

Wednesday, 10th September, 2008, at 10.00 am Ask for: Theresa Grayell /
Waterton Lee - Invicta House, County Hall, Telephone Gaetano Romagnuolo /
Maidstone (01622) 694277 /
694292

Tea/Coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting in the meeting room

Membership

Conservative (5): Mr J D Simmonds (Chairman), Mrs A D Allen, Mr M J Northey,
Mr R A Pascoe and Dr T R Robinson

Labour (2): Mr G Cowan and Mrs E Green

Liberal Democrat (1): Mr S J G Koowaree

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

10.00 am Interview with Representatives of the National Autistic Society (Pages 1 -
2)

Robert Pritchett, Regional Manager, Dianne Veness, Area Manager, Anh Nguyen, Regional Officer, and Dr Jacqui Ashton Smith, Principal of the Helen Allison School at Meopham, which is run by the Society

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

At the end of the public session, Members of the Committee should remain in the meeting room for 20 minutes for summing up

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership
(01622) 694002

Tuesday, 2 September 2008

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AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 6

Wednesday 10 September 2008

Witness Guide for Members

Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members will be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.

Themes and Questions

Robert Pritchett, Regional Manager, National Autistic Society, Dianne Veness, Area Manager, National Autistic Society, Anh Nguyen, Regional Officer, National Autistic Society, and Jacqui Ashton-Smith, Principal, Helen Allison School.

- Please introduce yourselves.
- Please supply data with regards to autism in England.
- In your view, is it important to carry out a strategic needs assessment in Kent? If so, why?
- Please outline education issues in relation to Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- Please discuss transition issues in relation to ASD.
- In your opinion, what are the main problems for adults with autism in Kent and in England?
- What are the main concerns – if any – with regards to Learning Disability and Mental Health service provision to people with autism in Kent? If there are concerns, what initiatives should Kent County Council implement to deal with them?
- In your view, to what extent is there understanding and knowledge about autism amongst professionals working with people with ASD?
- In your opinion, are housing services for people with ASD in Kent adequate?
- In your view, what initiatives and policies should Kent County Council adopt in order to enhance its service provision to people with autism in the County?

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