

AGENDA



SELECT COMMITTEE - AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

Monday, 22nd September, 2008, at 1.00 pm Ask for: Theresa Grayell /
Swale 3, Sessions 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)

- 1.00 - 1.45 pm Presentation by and interview with **Rosie John-Baptiste**, Senior Befriending Manager, London and South East Schemes, and **Jane Vaughan**, Regional Co-ordinator, National Autistic Society (Pages 1 - 2)
- 2.00 - 2.45 pm Interview with **Kathy Melling**, Group Manager, Supporting Employment (Pages 3 - 4)
- 3.00 - 3.45 pm Interview with **Joanna Wainwright**, Director, Commissioning (Specialist Services) and **Andrea White**, Manager, Specialist Teaching Services, CFE, and **Sarah Hindle**, Acting Assistant Principal Educational Psychologist, Kent Education Psychology Services (Pages 5 - 6)

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

Friday, 12 September 2008

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AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 7

Monday, 22 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

Rosie John-Baptiste, Senior Befriending Manager, London and South East Schemes, National Autistic Society

- Please introduce yourself and outline the main roles and responsibilities that your job involves.
- What is a befriending scheme?
- How are befriending schemes organised? What do they involve?
- How are befriending schemes funded?
- What are the benefits and challenges of running a befriending scheme?
- In your view, what NAS initiatives could Kent County Council replicate in Kent in order to support people with autism in the County?
- 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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AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 7

Monday, 22 September 2008

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Themes and Questions

Kathy Melling, Group Manager, Supporting Employment, Kent Supported Employment

- Please describe your role and the role of Kent Supported Employment. What services does Kent Supported Employment offer?
- Who has a role in Kent in ensuring that people with autism find and retain employment?
- Does anyone hold data/figures on people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in employment in Kent? What are the difficulties in collating a good data set?
- In your view, what can/should Kent County Council do to encourage employers in Kent to employ and retain a greater number of people with autism?
- Can you name any employers currently providing best practice examples with regards to the employment of people with ASD?
- What role do schools and colleges have in ensuring that people with autism can find employment upon leaving education? Are there improvements that can/should be made?
- What training could/should be offered, and by whom, to people with ASD in order to help them find employment? Are there organisations currently offering such training?
- What is the existing policy of KCC as an employer in relation to people with autism? Do we know how many people with ASD are currently employed by KCC?

- In your opinion, what general initiatives and policies should Kent County Council adopt to help people with ASD find and retain employment? In your view, what are the challenges?

ASD SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 7

Monday, 22 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

Joanna Wainwright, Director of Commissioning (Specialist Services) Children, Families and Education, KCC; Andrea White, Manager of Specialist Teaching Services, Children, Families and Education, KCC; and Sarah Hindle, Senior Educational Psychologist, Children, Families and Education, KCC.

- Please introduce yourselves.
- Please provide data by cluster and age group concerning children and young people with autism.
- Please provide an outline of the training available to professionals dealing with people with autism in Kent.
- Please discuss good practice transition models adopted in schools in Kent for young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- What support and consultation services do schools in Kent offer to young people with ASD?
- Please outline examples of good practice, with regards to joint assessments of people with ASD, carried out by Education and Health agencies in Kent.
- What local policies and initiatives are in place in relation to people with autism and education?
- What other initiatives and policies, in your view, should Kent County Council adopt in order to enhance its service provision to people with ASD?

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