

# **EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE**

## **Hearing 3**

**Wednesday, 12th May, 2010**

### **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 may 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**

#### **Martin Absolom, Principal, Oakley Special School, Tunbridge Wells**

- Please introduce yourself and outline the responsibilities that your post involves.
- Please outline the extended services that Oakley Special School offers, and the ways these services are structured and delivered. Why did the school pursue an extended services pilot initiative?
- Are the extended services offered by Oakley Special School delivered in collaboration with other agencies? If so, who else is involved in the provision of extended services in the School? How do you rate the level of collaboration?
- In your experience, what are the main benefits resulting from the provision of extended services?
- In your view, what are the main economic, legal, social and operational challenges – if any – for the School, when providing extended services (for example, with regard to transport, expansion and equality of access)?
- In your opinion, in what ways can these blockages be resolved?
- In what ways, if any, may the reduction of Government funding for Extended Services in future years affect the extended services Oakley Special School provides?
- In your opinion, in what ways can Kent County Council, together with schools and other providers of extended services, ensure the sustainability of extended services into the future?

- In your view, in what ways, if any, can Kent County Council, schools and external partners, improve the general provision of extended services?
- Are there any issues or questions in relation to extended services that you would like to raise with the Select Committee?