

Themes & Questions – Oliver Mills, Managing Director, Kent Adult Social Services (KASS)

1. Could you please comment on the impact of demographic change in Kent on the demand for services to support people with dementia and their carers.
2. The Kent & Medway Mental Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment does not include dementia, could you comment on the way strategic needs in relation to dementia across both East and West Kent are assessed.
3. How well have local authorities across the country responded to the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy – what can we learn from them and is Kent leading on any aspects?
4. Currently, the main providers for NHS dementia services are KMPT which includes memory clinics where diagnoses of dementia are carried out. KASS commission services primarily from the P&V sectors – what is your view about these arrangements and how do you envisage them changing in the future?
5. Could you please comment on KCC's involvement in the QIPP programme (Quality Improvement, Productivity and Prevention). What are the implications of there now being a Social Care Lead (Anne Tidmarsh)?
6. What opportunities could be opened up by close collaboration between Kent County Council and the GP practices in Kent who are among the first wave of the Pathfinder Programme (regarding local management of budgets and commissioning of services for patients)? What is already in place in this regard?
7. What role, in your view, could KCC play in empowering communities to embrace and support people with dementia and those who care for them?
8. What role could KCC play in helping to raise the level of dementia-awareness that exists among professionals as well as the general public.
9. In November, the Coalition Government set a target for councils to offer personal budgets to a million social care service users by 2013 as part of its vision for social care. What is your vision for services for people with dementia and their carers over the next 10-20 years – where do you feel efforts and funding should be directed in order to achieve the best outcomes?