

ASD SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 2

Wednesday 16 July 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

Mr Cliff Robins, Consultant Psychologist, Head of East Kent Learning Disability Psychological Services, Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust.

- Please introduce yourself.
- Please discuss the issues – if any – with regards to Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Kent.
- What kind of support – if any - should be provided to people with autism?
- In your opinion, who should take responsibility for dealing with ASD-related issues?
- What does the assessment process for people with Asperger Syndrome involve?
- What services – if any - should support adults with Asperger Syndrome in Kent?
- In your view, to what extent do service providers, both in the private and public sectors, recognise ASD? To what extent do their policies and attitudes meet the needs of people with autism?
- In your opinion, should there be more training for professionals working with people with autism? If so, what type of training should they access?
- In your view, to what extent is local service provision in general being successful in dealing with children with autism in Kent?

- What initiatives and policies should Kent County Council adopt in order to meet the needs of people with autism in the County?