

By: Alex King – Deputy Leader  
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To: County Council –20 October 2011

Subject: Select Committee Topic Review Update – May 2005- June 2010

Classification: Unrestricted

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## **Introduction**

1. (1) The Select Committees are widely recognised as one of the successes of the Overview and Scrutiny Function.

(2) Both executive and non-executive Members have recognised the benefits of the Select Committee process. From a non-executive point of view it provides the opportunity to look at a topic in depth and the majority of Members have found this process very rewarding as it has provided the opportunity to influence Kent County Council policy. From an executive Member point of view, Select Committee reports have added strength to portfolios and in some cases, have had national standing e.g. Alcohol Misuse.

(3) These Committees of non-executive Members have had a major influence on national and local policy and the quality of Select Committee reports has been recognised within Kent and beyond.

## **Topic Reviews 2005-2010**

2. (1) **Appendix 1** to this report shows Select Committees completed between May 2005 and June 2010.

(2) The Select Committees that submitted their reports to County Council on 16 December 2011 (Extended Services and Renewable Energy) are due to meet again at the end of the year to receive a report on progress made with their recommendations and therefore feedback on progress with the recommendations from these Select Committees has not been included in this report. The action plan for the recommendations from the Select Committee on Renewable Energy, were received by the Environment, Highways and Waste POSC on 8 April 2011. The action plan for the recommendations from the Select Committee on Extended Services was received by the Education, Learning & Skills POSC and the Customer & Communities POSC in July 2011.

## **Highlights**

3. (1) The County Council should celebrate its achievements, made through the Select Committee process. Set out below are some highlights from the reviews conducted over the past few years to demonstrate their importance and the impact they have had on the policy of the County Council and partner organisations.

### Water and Waste Water (particularly in Ashford)

(2) “Many of the Committee’s recommendations will be more or less relevant to the welfare of the River Stour. Given that the growth in Ashford’s population will lead to an increase in the output of wastewater, and that this growth sits within a context of higher temperatures and reductions in summer rainfall in the South East it must be stated here that the Select Committee believes that the Stour’s chemical and biological condition, its temperature, flow levels and its chalk river characteristics downstream, and the condition of its environment must be given a priority consideration when carrying out selection of the options for managing water resources and the water supply and wastewater system in and around Ashford. Etc...”

#### Outcome

- Since 2005 public and private sector partner organisations have been brought together through the Ashford Water Group and a comprehensive work programme has been implemented.
- Southern Water has completed a £54million upgrade for the Bybrook wastewater treatment works at Ashford, resulting in significant improvements to water quality in the River Stour. Similar work is also underway for upstream treatment works.
- A new water supply pipeline is under construction to bring water from the Bewl Water Reservoir to Ashford.
- Sustainable drainage is now being incorporated into new developments following the preparation and adoption by Ashford Borough Council of a SUDS SPD.
- A Stour Catchment Improvement Group has been set up in 2011 to help deliver wider improvements to the river system and biodiversity.
- KCC is leading the development of a Water Resilience Framework to examine and respond to the long-term impacts of climate change, population growth and land use change on water systems across Kent.

### Gypsy and Travellers

(3) Recommendation 4: For KCC to facilitate the sharing of best practice between Kent local authorities, over the needs assessment processes, including addressing future needs.

(4) Recommendation 17: For KCC to facilitate the establishment of a joint Kent and Medway Authority group, to address the accommodation needs for Gypsies and Travellers. The primary objective of this group is to address the accommodation needs that are identified. It will also provide a vehicle for consultation and a sub-regional approach for applying for funding. In addition, it will consider the revenue cost implications linked to site provision, with a view to pooling resources.

## *Outcome*

(5) The Group was established, and provided a useful link between public agencies and the Gypsy and Traveller Communities in Kent.

(6) Accommodation needs assessments were commissioned by groups of Borough and District Councils, there was close joint working with KCC, and the data they provided has helped enormously in planning site provision to meet backlog and future accommodation needs.

(7) A number of councils have worked singly or jointly on a number of Kent public site projects, through which more new pitches either have been, or are likely to, be built in Kent over a five-year period than the figure for new public pitches funded in the whole of England between 2008 and 2011.

(8) Recommendation 10: For KCC, with district authorities, to lobby the Department of Work and Pensions to address the difference in the treatment of County Councils (as if they were profit-making landlords) in comparison to housing authorities. This is in the context of the Department of Work and Pensions meeting the full reasonable rent of claimants in receipt of housing benefit who reside on Gypsy and Traveller sites. This is in order to ensure that County Councils and Housing Associations who provide and manage public sites are not forced to subsidise the costs of provision.

## *Outcome*

(9) In 2009, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) reversed the change made in 2001, and county councils are now treated exactly the same as district and borough councils when the level of rents are being considered for housing benefit purposes.

## *Home to School Transport*

(10) *“To explore the possibility of becoming a Pathfinder authority, by providing all students aged 11 to 16 years living in a selected area of Kent with an annual bus pass in order to evaluate bus usage and consequent reduction in car use”*

## *Outcome*

(11) The Kent Freedom pass, funded by KCC, was introduced from June 2007 for students in academic years 7-11 (11-16 year olds). The scheme was fully available Countywide from June 2009. As of 1st October 2011 nearly 24,000 passes have been issued for the 2011/12 academic year. Some 27,000 passes were issued in total last academic year. The cost of the pass is £100 per annum or £50 for those in receipt of Free School Meals or free to young people in care / care leavers and young carers.

## *Climate Change*

(12) Following on from the Climate Change Select Committee the following has been achieved:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation is now integrated in KCC's Environment Policy and ISO14001 and is a key consideration in business planning. Climate change is also logged as a risk in KCC's risk register. A Key Decision Makers pack for Members has been revised and updated for Members. Climate Change is the second theme of the Kent Environment Strategy (Rec 1)
- A full risk assessment of the impacts of climate change on Kent has been undertaken, a Kent wide Adaptation Plan produced, and a Severe Weather Impacts Monitoring database developed, which is now being rolled out across the public sector. (Rec 2)
- Carbon emissions in the KCC estate, excluding schools, have decreased by 5%, over £1.7m has been invested in the KCC estate with savings of over £3m. There has been a total of 120 investment projects, with in excess of 60 energy efficiency installations and 28 renewable energy projects including 4 biomass boilers. (Rec 5 & 6)
- Emissions from KCC travel and transport has again reduced, with 11% fewer miles been driven by KCC staff in 2009/10 (Rec 7)
- A KCC retrofit programme was delivered to Kent residents across 4 target districts, installing over 2228 energy or water saving measures. Phase II of the project was began in April 2011. (Rec 4)
- A Kent wide Climate Change Network has been set up, and has won a Improvement Efficiency South East Award for Innovation.
- In addition, a comprehensive business support programme is being developed for businesses to cut costs and take advantage of the new green economy.

### Physical, Social and Health Education

(13) Currently central Government is reviewing the National curriculum and a separate review is being conducted by the DfE with regard to PSHE. Once the outcome of the review is known KCC will assess what changes will be necessary.

### Transition to a positive future

(14) In April 2007, a KCC Select Committee produced the "Transition to a Positive Future" report. This followed a review of the transition arrangements for young disabled people and those with a learning difficulty.

(15) Since the review there has been progress in many areas of transition.

- The Kent Transition protocols (2008) have been widely distributed and well received. The protocols set out the expectations on the different agencies as young people progress through the stages of transition. The protocols are currently being reviewed to see if they require updating.
- The "Getting a Life" programme has led to a much more person centred approach to transition – helping young people to shape their own futures

including assisting disabled young people into employment. Several special schools have received assistance from transition workers to develop a more person centred approach to young people's reviews and plans.

- One example of the joint working is "Project Search". In the QEQM hospital in Thanet agencies came together to provide internships for 11 young people with learning disability age between 18 and 25. This provided the young people with lessons and practical experience to prepare them for the world of work.
- The Good Day Programme also makes available a selection of community based services and opportunities that reflect people's needs, choices and aspirations. This is being achieved working in partnership with other agencies including sport and leisure providers. The programme includes capital investment in community access.
- Adult social care services are working closely with the Education and Learning Entitlement Team and with Connexions to assess and assist young people moving into further education including those young people who need independent specialist provision.
- The recent KCC restructuring provides an opportunity to further streamline the transition experience of young people moving from children's social services to adult social services. Governance arrangements for transition are being revised by Families and Social Care with partner agencies to further promote effective transition.

There is further work to do on transition but progress continues to be made.

### Flood Risk Management

(16) Following the commencement of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, KCC has become the Lead Local Flood Authority for Kent. The Flood Risk Committee has overseen the work that KCC has undertaken in this new role. This includes:

- Delivering the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment - a statutory requirement that provides an overview of the surface water flood risks in Kent and an identification of the high risk areas where further work is required; and
- Delivering the Dover Surface Water Management Plan - a study into the impacts of surface water flooding in Dover Town, which has included a successful bid for £112.5k from the Environment Agency to protect 30 homes.

(17) The committee is currently expanding its membership to include elected members from district councils and Internal Drainage Boards to ensure that these bodies are included as KCC develops policy to implement the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

(18) The committee will continue to oversee the work KCC does to implement the Act, including further surface water management plans being undertaken in the high risk areas identified; the delivery of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; and the role of approving body for drainage.

## Carers

(19) The Select Committee recommendations have been progressed further since the last update in 2010. Support for Carers and recognition of the important contribution they make continues to be a high priority for KCC. This is but a flavour of the extensive work that has been done:

- From its launch in May 2010 over 400 people have accessed the 24 hour telephone helpline for Carers.
- The Carers Emergency Card scheme continues to provide Carers with peace of mind when away from the person they care for. Annual uptake has increased from 689 carers to over 1900 over the last 3 years. The Royal College of GPs is using an image of the Kent Carers Emergency Card in its action guide for supporting carers in general practice.
- During Kent Carers Week 2010, the 'Do I look Like I Care?' social media campaign was launched. A short advert aimed at Young Adult Carers was posted on Youtube and the kent.gov website was linked with Facebook and Twitter. The campaign encouraged Young Adult Carers to become involved in shaping future support for people in their age group across Kent who are looking after family/friends in an unpaid capacity. KCC again supported voluntary organisations during Kent Carers Week 2011.
- KCC has been influencing how the local NHS allocates carers funding, in particular through the Carers Joint Commissioning Group, which is attended by commissioners from the Primary Care Trust and Kent and Medway Partnership Trust and continues to work closely with Health and Voluntary Sector partners wherever possible.

## Alcohol Misuse

(20) Since the alcohol select committee Kent Drug and Alcohol Team (KDAAT) has managed to source additional investment through the PCT's for a much more comprehensive alcohol service across the county. These services were commissioned through a competitive tendering exercise and the current providers are delivering excellent outcomes for people with alcohol misuse problems. Referrals into treatment have also improved since the introduction of screening into GP surgeries and more recently work is being developed with A&E departments in hospital settings.

(21) Hard hitting campaigns have been developed including House and subsequently House on the Move, which has proved to be highly successful in engaging young people providing interventions where necessary and delivering early prevention work to reduce risk taking behaviours.

## Accessing Democracy

(22) The Select Committee recommended that there should be the opportunity for participatory budgeting from devolved discretionary funds to enable local people to determine how the resources should be spent. The Community Engagement team have carried out of participatory Budget Events in local areas with more planned.

(23) In accordance with another recommendation Members are provided with training in media skills and presentation techniques. The Select Committee also highlighted the importance of achieving the Members Charter, as Members will be aware KCC has been awarded the South East Employers' Charter for Elected Member Development and recently the "Charter Plus" award. This demonstrates that KCC recognises that the development of all members is critical to the successful achievement and delivery of strategic priorities on behalf of the people they represent and serve in the community. "

### Passenger Rail Services

(24) "County Council should use the publicity surrounding the launch of the new services to promote:

- a) Tourism from London and north of London to Kent, building on the present campaigns by Visit Kent (and other partners)".

#### Outcome

(25) Following the successful impact of the Visit Kent initiative reported last year, which, in partnership with Southeastern and other Councils, ran a joint marketing campaign to cover the launch of the new High Speed services, publicity by Visit Kent and Southeastern has continued to grow the High Speed market. Passenger journey figures indicate a significant increase in the number of passengers using High Speed services from Kent, with the highest increases recorded in Ashford and Canterbury.

(26) "The County Council should lobby for services lost in the new timetable to be reinstated at the earliest opportunity."

#### Outcome

(27) KCC has held two further rail summits, in October 2010 and April 2011. These included representatives of the operator Southeastern Railway, Network Rail, members from county, district and parish councils, and rail user groups.

(28) The Rail Action Plan for Kent, which consolidated aspirations for the new Kent franchise from all stakeholders, was approved by Cabinet on 4 April 2011 and presented to third rail summit on 27 April 2011. Plan was then presented to Theresa Villiers, Minister of State for Transport, on 3 May 2011 and will form basis of KCC's submission as part of stakeholder consultation on new Kent franchise in 2012/13.

(29) Paul Crick and Stephen Gasche will meet with officials at DfT in October 2011 to consider KCC's recommendations for new franchise, which include improvement to journey times on Mainline services on North Kent line and to restore direct service to City on Maidstone East line.

(30) KCC has provided revenue support for delivery of High Speed rail services in peaks from Sandwich and Deal to St Pancras. These commenced on 5 September and are initially for trial period of one year. Assessment of use will be made after six months, and continued revenue funding will be dependent on actual revenue generated by new service. If agreement is reached to extend period of revenue

support, this will last from 5 September 2012 to 31 March 2014 as new Kent franchise commences on 1 April 2014.

### **Detailed feedback on progresses with Select Committee recommendations for Select Committees from 2009.**

4. As progress with the recommendations from the Select Committees on Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Provision of Activities for Young People Select Committees have not been reported to County Council. Set out in **Appendix 2** is detailed feedback on the progress with their recommendations. The Adult Social Care and Public Health Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 September 2011 received a report on progress with recommendations 2 years on and this is included in **Appendix 2**.

### **Strengthening of the Select Committee Process**

5. (1) It has become evident from the most recent Topic Reviews of this County Council that successful outcomes of many recommendations rely on partners and stakeholders working together with the County Council to achieve them.

(2) Following the Alcohol Misuse Select Committee's lead, an important part of the process before placing the report of a Select Committee in the public domain was found to be the bringing together of stakeholders in order to gain support for recommendations so that there is shared ownership, and fewer obstacles to implementation. This has now become standard practise for all Select Committees that will rely on co-operation from partners and stakeholders to implement recommendations.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

6. The County Council is asked to note the report and celebrate the impact and added value that the outcomes of the Select Committee reports provided for Kent residents.

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Deputy Leader of the Council

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Background Documents – link to all Select Committee reports – [http://www.kent.gov.uk/your\\_council/how\\_the\\_council\\_works/decisions/overview\\_and\\_scrutiny/select\\_committee\\_reports.aspx](http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/how_the_council_works/decisions/overview_and_scrutiny/select_committee_reports.aspx)

## SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEWS – MONITORING

<b>Select Committee</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Final report to Cabinet</b>	<b>SC meeting to consider progress with Recommendations (12 months on from Cabinet)</b>
Water and Waste Water, particularly in Ashford	Mr Hirst	October 2005	31 October 2007
Gypsy and Travellers	Mr Fullarton	May 2006	May 07 + 29 Nov 2007
Home to School Transport	Mr Law	April 2006	27 April 2007
Climate Change	Mr Wells	October 2006	Quarterly monitoring report circulated starting Feb 07
PSHE	Ms Cribbon	April 2007	14 April 2008
Transition to a Positive Future	Mr Bowles	May 2007	23 June 2008
Flood Risk Management in Kent	Mrs Hohler	November 2007	13 November 2008
Carers	Mr Christie	December 2007	30 January 2009
Alcohol Misuse	Mr Fullarton/ Mr Hirst	March 2008	17 March 2009
Accessing Democracy	Mrs Angell	September 2008	15 June 2010
Passenger Rail Services in Kent	Miss Carey	December 2008	22 June 2010
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	Mr Simmonds	30 March 2009	11 May 2010
Provision of Activities for Young People	Mr Chell	30 March 2009	23 June 2010
Renewable Energy	Mr Ferrin	29 November 2010	Nov/Dec 2011
Extended Schools	Mr Burgess	29 November 2010	Nov/Dec 2011

By: Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and Public Health  
Malcolm Newsam, Interim Corporate Director, Families and Social Care

To: Adult Social Care and Public Health Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 20 September 2011

Subject: **AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER – “TWO YEARS ON” REPORT**

Classification: Unrestricted

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**Summary:** This report is to update Members about the progress that has been made since the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) “One Year On” report. Since the latter report the Department of Health issued Statutory Guidance in December 2010, to Local Authorities, NHS organisations and Foundation Trusts on implementing the changes.

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## Introduction

1. (1) The Autistic Spectrum Disorder Select Committee reported to the County Council in March 2009. It made a total of 15 recommendations for further action to improve services to people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders and their carers.

(2) Based on the Terms of Reference of the Select Committee a multi-agency ASD steering group was established to drive the changes.

(3) First year progress against these recommendations was reported to the Select Committee on 11 May 2010 and the Adult Social Services Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 June 2010.

(4) Since then, Statutory Guidance has been published and is currently informing the work of the ASD steering group, chaired by the Director of Older People and Physical Disabilities.

(5) The steering group consists of representatives from across Families and Social Care Directorate and Kent based NHS organisations. It has set up a number of sub-groups, each lead by a steering group representative to address various work streams. These sub-groups will consider and report back options for change on issues ranging from modifying existing services to make them more inclusive and responsive to people with ASD, to establishing specialist support for people with Aspergers.

(6) Concurrently the public engagement aspect of the steering group is being developed, building on existing mechanisms such as the Learning Disability Partnership Boards and Mental Health Service User forums.

(7) The purpose of this “two year on” report is to inform Members of the Services & Public Health Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the progress that has been made so far on the Select Committee’s recommendations.

#### Policy Context

2. (1) The Autism Act 2009 was the first ever piece of legislation designed to address the needs of one specific impairment group. It was followed by ‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives’: The strategy for adults with autism in England (March 2010))

(2) The national strategy is underpinned by the vision that:

‘All adults with autism are able to live fulfilling and rewarding lives within a society that accepts and understands them. They can get a diagnosis and access support if they need it, and they can depend on mainstream public services to treat them fairly as individuals, helping them make the most of their talents.’ (‘Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives’)

(3) The strategy acknowledged that change will be a long term process with the first year delivery plan acting as a driver.

(4) This was followed in December 2010 by “Implementing Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives”: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities and NHS organisations to support implementation of the autism strategy.

(5) This would be achieved by the following specific areas for action:

- increasing awareness and understanding of autism amongst staff,
- strengthening diagnosis and assessment of needs including establishment of clear pathway(s) with easy access, by 2013,
- continuing to improve transition support for young people with Autism,
- developing with partners local commissioning plans to deliver appropriate support services for adults with autism and their carers

(6) One of the underlying principles of the guidance is to make sure existing policies work for people with Autism to avoid new burdens or extra requirements on Health and Social care professionals.

#### Summary of progress

3. (1) Specific actions that have and are been taken Two Years On are:

- Established a ASD Multi-agency Operational Group to drive the changes
- Created a link hosted on KCC website to provide information advice and guidance to the public
- Provided training to the majority of staff. This is continuing throughout 2011/12
- Provisionally identified an allocation from NHS monies transferred to Social Care to deliver Health outcomes, to support the establishment of a specialist service for people with Aspergers.
- Working on improving care pathways for people with autism. This includes improving transition arrangements for young people moving from children services to adult services.

- Continuing to help adults with autism into work – an essential priority, given the low numbers of adults with autism in employment.

## Conclusion

4. (1) Progress to date has been steady. KCC is continuing to work with local partners to meet the required outcomes as outlined in the Statutory Guidance

## Recommendation

5. Members are asked to NOTE the contents of the 'Two Years On' monitoring report.

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## *Appendices:*

Appendix 1 Autistic Spectrum Disorder 'Two Years On' Monitoring Report  
Appendix 2 Statutory guidance for Local Authorities and NHS organisations to support implementation of the autism strategy (December 2010)  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_122847](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_122847)

## *Background documents:*

Autistic Spectrum Disorder – “One Year On” Report to ASD Select Committee, 11 May 2010 and Adult Social Services Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee 25 June 2010, Item C2

The 'Fulfilling and rewarding Lives': The strategy for adults with autism in England, March 2010  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_113369](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_113369)

**ASD Select Committee - Summary of progress towards each Select Committee Recommendation**

Recommendation 1:	Progress to date	Status
<p>The Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Select Committee recommends that the Kent Adult Social Services Directorate, through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for adults in Kent, establishes the most effective way of conducting a county-wide study investigating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the prevalence and incidence of adults with ASD in need of support and not currently receiving service provision</li> <li>• levels of service satisfaction of those adults with autism living at home and currently receiving support.</li> </ul> <p>This investigation will inform the planning and commissioning of future services for adults with ASD. The study could involve sponsoring a bursary for a student to carry out a research project at the Tizard Centre, University of Kent (please refer to Chapter 3).</p>	<p><b>The national prevalence study work commissioned by the Department of Health will improve understanding of the prevalence and incidence of ASD locally, enabling KCC to make local estimate of need. This will in turn inform the core data sets and planned outcomes of the JSNA</b></p> <p><b>Research sponsored by the Tizard Centre is currently being carried out via an undergraduate project to determine the satisfaction levels of people with ASD and their carers, with the support they receive. The findings will be shared with KCC to inform local planning and commissioning.</b></p> <p><b>Older People and Physical Disability (OPPD) directorate is carrying out a sampling exercise to help determine the level of contacts and requests for support from people with ASD and their carers. This will be completed in September 2011.</b></p>	<p align="center">Some good progress although more to do</p>

**ASD Select Committee**

Recommendation 2:	Progress to date	Status
<p>KCC should encourage the inclusion of autism-related services, in the form of “care pathways”, amongst the services provided by multi-disciplinary mental health teams in the County. The local authority should also explore the possibility of setting up, in partnership with the NHS, a highly specialised autism service in Kent, such as the one offered by the South London and Maudsley Hospital (Chapter 4, Section 4.1 and Section 4.2).</p>	<p><b>The Maudsley Hospital service model has been found to be inappropriate for Kent. However, following a benchmarking exercise, the Liverpool model, subject to some modifications, may be the model that KCC and its partners consider taking forward.</b></p> <p><b>Funding has been identified from the 3 PCTs in Kent to part fund a Social Communication Assessment Service to address the needs of those people with Autistic conditions who do not present with a Learning Disability or Mental Health issues. FSC has provisionally identified an allocation from monies transferred to Social Care to deliver Health outcomes, to support the establishment of appropriate services.</b></p> <p><b>Subject to funding, the Social Communication Assessment Service will establish a pathway to diagnosis, care planning and commissioning of appropriate services, including services from the private and voluntary sector, to meet the needs of individuals and their carers.</b></p> <p><b>Following a review by the coalition government of Implementing “Fulfilling and Rewarding Lives”, <i>statutory guidance for local authorities and NHS organizations to support implementation of the autism strategy</i>, was published in December 2010. The timeline, July 2012, for a model Care Pathway by The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) was unaffected by the review. The ASD Multi-agency Operational Group will be guided by the model pathway when it is published by NICE.</b></p> <p><b>The deadline for establishing a care pathway as laid down in the Statutory Guidance is 2013.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

### ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 3:	Progress to date	Status
<p>The Kent Adult Social Services Directorate should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all its staff involved in the assessment of autism are fully trained to understand the uniqueness, complexity and implications of the condition. This training should be coupled with an increasing number of early interventions aimed at diverting people with autism from care pathways that are inappropriate and expensive.</li><li>• adequate advocacy services with ASD-specific knowledge are offered to all people with autism</li></ul>	<p><b>Staff training commenced in 2009 and by the end of 2010 the majority of staff was trained. Resources have been identified for training throughout 2011 – 12. Feedback has been very positive. Continued training will be informed by national examples of good practice which will be available on-line via the Department of Health’s website.</b></p> <p><b>In addition, KCC has bought an e-learning licence to provide on-line training for all staff including those of Private and Voluntary sector partners.</b></p> <p><b>Kent Autistic Trust (KAT) provides an advocacy, information and support service for Kent and Medway and has secured funding until March 2015</b></p>	<p>Complete/advanced progress</p>

## ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 4:	Progress to date	Status
<p>The Kent Adult Social Services Directorate should aim to achieve greater access to person-centred planning for, and a greater usage of Direct Payments by, people with ASD.</p> <p>It will liaise with the recently appointed Specialist Advisor for Autism at the Department of Health in an effort to expand its capacity, expertise and leadership on autism in Kent (Chapter 5).</p>	<p><b>Self Directed Support (SDS) places the individual at the centre of support planning. Anyone with ASD who is eligible for services and is able to manage a Direct Payment by themselves or through a third party, is offered one as a means of exercising choice and control over the support they receive.</b></p> <p>.</p> <p><b>KCC and NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's Personal Health Budgets pilot supported by Department of Health which focussed on Thanet, has been successful. It is now possible to merge some aspects of Health's Budget with Social Care Budget which, along with adoption of Common Assessment Process (CAP) will deliver even greater choice, control and flexibility to people with ASD.</b></p>	<p>Complete/advanced progress</p>

**ASD Select Committee**

<b>Recommendation 5:</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>The Managing Director of Kent Adult Social Services should oversee and ensure the prompt production and implementation of a protocol for joint working between KCC's learning disability and mental health teams, in order to provide a more inclusive and responsive service to individuals with ASD</p> <p>(Chapter 6, Section 6.1).</p>	<p><b>Following KCC's recent restructure responsibility for Learning Disability Services and the Social Care element of the Kent and Medway Partnership Trust (KMPT) is now managed by a single director. This should greatly enhance joint working, support planning and co-ordinated commissioning which should result in a more responsive service to individuals with ASD and their carers.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

## ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 6:	Progress to date	Status
<p>The Select Committee endorses the production of Transition Protocols, which can enhance data sharing between children and adult social services in Kent, and recommends that the impact of these protocols on service planning and provision for young people with ASD – including those with Asperger syndrome - is specifically monitored</p> <p>(Chapter 6, Section 6.2).</p>	<p><b>The recently created Families and Social Care Directorate (FSC) is leading to greater integration of Children and Adult services particularly around data sharing and planning, resulting in more person-centred commissioning.</b></p> <p><b>Regular evaluation and monitoring of the effectiveness of the Protocols is ensuring that transition arrangements are continuously being improved.</b></p> <p><b>KCC and its partners will review the transition protocols in response to the University of York’s DH funded research into transition planning, when it is published.</b></p> <p><b>KCC and its partners will take account of any statutory guidance emanating from the DfE in relation to improving the support available to children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities, currently the subject of a Parliamentary Green Paper.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

**ASD Select Committee**

Recommendation 7:	Progress to date	Status
<p>7a Kent Adult Social Services should lead on the establishment of a multidisciplinary task group with representation from agencies including health, social care, housing, employment services, education, independent sector providers and the voluntary sector.</p> <p>7b The task group - which should liaise with the Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board - will widen and strengthen the interdependence and joint working amongst all these agencies, to provide more efficient and effective services to people with autism and individuals with learning disabilities (Chapter 6, Section 6.3).</p>	<p><b>Following KCC restructure the responsibility for implementing the Select Committee recommendations has been transferred from the ASD multi- agency task and finish group to the ASD Multi-agency Operational Group consisting of representatives from. PCTs, KMPT, Mental Health, Gypsy Unit, Education and Learning and OPPD and chaired by the director of OPPD.</b></p> <p><b>Through its membership, the group has links with the Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board, Kent Children Trust and the County Strategic Partnership for Disabled Children and Young People. The thrust of group’s strategy is to make existing services work better for people with ASD while spearheading the establishment of a new specialist Social Communication Assessment Service, targeted at people with Aspergers</b></p>	<p>7a Complete/advanced progress</p> <p>7b Some good progress although more to do</p>

Recommendation: 8	Progress to date	Status
<p>KCC should make sure that transition planning offered to young people with autism should start at the age of 14, and that it should be in place before they reach statutory school leaving age</p> <p>The local authority should ensure well coordinated, seamless transitions into adulthood, involving person-centred, effective planning and support. Planning should be coupled with a mechanism to monitor progress and to secure a smooth transition</p> <p>(Chapter 7, Section 7.1, Section 7.2 and Section 7.3. To view the recommendations of the report “Transition to a Positive Future” (2007) see Appendix 4).</p>	<p><b>Kent’s Transition Protocols continue to ensure that young people with ASD who have complex needs are able to make the move from adolescence to adulthood with the support they need and with their involvement in all decision making processes to achieve the outcomes they want, in line with Self Directed Support.</b></p> <p><b>A framework for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of Transition planning has been developed and implemented by County Transition Planning and Review group, supported by Good Practice supervisors.</b></p> <p><b>A qualitative survey carried out last year by Education and Learning to determine young people’s experience of the Transition process revealed that a majority of young people with Learning Disability were either happy or very happy with the process and outcome, relative to their particular circumstances.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

Recommendation 9:	Progress to date	Status
<p>Kent County Council should review the availability of specialist psychology, psychiatry and speech therapy health services to people with autism both during transition and into adulthood (Chapter 7, Section 7.4).</p>	<p><b>The Autistic Spectrum Disorder Operational Group has further work to do in response to this recommendation.</b></p> <p><b>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services commission appropriate services including through community LD teams upon identification of anyone with ASD</b></p> <p><b>Education and Learning are able to identify those who are within the education system who need specialist psychological support.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>
<p>Kent County Council should support a campaign to raise awareness in the community about autism. KCC should also urge internal and partner agencies, including the NHS, the Criminal Justice System, the police and the housing, employment and education services, to enhance awareness amongst their staff about autism, its complexities and the implications for their service delivery (Chapter 8, Section 8.1 and Section 8.2).</p>	<p><b>The KCC sponsored DVD of a young person with ASD telling their story continues to be shown and is a powerful means of raising awareness. KCC is seeking permission to place the DVD on its website.</b></p> <p><b>The ASD webpage (Rec11) is already a source of information but its value will be further enhanced when the e-training tool purchased on license by KCC goes online around September 2011. This is a cost effective way of raising awareness of ASD within the community and will be rolled out to a number of agencies such as Criminal Justice System, Police and Jobcentre Plus, Health and voluntary sector partners in Kent</b></p> <p><b>The possibility of creating a network of “Autism Ambassadors” – local volunteers who actively represent and promote the needs of people with ASD will also be explored by the ASD Multi-agency Operational Group.</b></p> <p><b>Kent Autistic Trust (KAT) has a good track record of raising awareness of Autism within Kent.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

## ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 11:	Progress to date	Status
<p>KCC should contribute to the development of a website which provides up-to date national guidance as well as local information on all the services and support available to people with ASD and their families in Kent. Information and guidance should be presented in a clear, unambiguous and user-friendly form (Chapter 8, Section 8.3).</p>	<p><b>KCC, working with parents, carers and a member of staff with an Autistic Spectrum Condition, has created a web page hosted on KCC website. The web page provides information about Autistic Spectrum Conditions, how to obtain a diagnosis, assessment from KCC and access to support services within the community. There are a number of links to other websites e.g. NAS, NHS and KAT and to relevant publications. The web page will be maintained and updated as more information becomes available.</b></p> <p><b>In addition, Kent Autistic Trust (KAT) provides accessible information about services available locally for people with ASD and their carers.</b></p>	<p>Complete/advanced progress</p>

## ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 12:	Progress to date	Status
<p>Kent County Council should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• review its recruitment practices and selection criteria so that they support and enable the employment of more people with autistic spectrum conditions within the Authority</li><li>• explore the potential of further education colleges in Kent to maximise the employment opportunities of people with autism in the County</li><li>• require the Supporting Independence Programme team to carry out a project, possibly with the Tizard Centre, aimed at helping people with ASD to access employment (Chapter 9, Section 9.1 and Section 9.2).</li></ul>	<p><b>11 learners including people with ASD started on Project SEARCH in September 2010 based at QEQM Hospital in Margate. Of these, 8 learners completed the course and 3 people including 1 with ASD moved straight into jobs. Another course commences in September 2011, and there are plans to make sure similar courses are developed in other areas of Kent.</b></p> <p><b>KCC has set up an apprenticeship project for vulnerable learners offering 22 opportunities to young disabled people including people with ASD. Some of the apprenticeships have been working for KCC and the young people and their employers are receiving additional support through Kent Supported Employment now located in the Customer and Communities Directorate. The project is being independently evaluated and a report is due in early Summer 2012.</b></p> <p><b>KCC is working with Further Education (FE) colleges to make sure that projects similar to Project Search on the employment pathway are available for people with ASD. Kent Supported Employment continues to work with the FE sector to ensure that courses are better geared to support pathways into both employment and supported living</b></p> <p><b>The Employability Strategy was agreed at full Cabinet in July 2010. With the changes in KCC and the review of the Supporting Independence Programme, decisions are still being made as to how the Strategy will be taken forward.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

## ASD Select Committee




Recommendation 13:	Progress to date	Status
<p>Kent County Council should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• carry out an audit involving all Kent District Councils to ascertain accurately the housing options available to people with ASD and those with learning disabilities</li><li>• urge both District Councils and the Joint Planning and Policy Board to take particular account of the needs of people with autism when discussing and deciding housing options</li><li>• encourage both District Councils and the Kent Adult Social Services Directorate to consider allocating some of their PFI housing options to people with autism (Chapter 9, Section 9.3).</li></ul>	<p><b>A Housing Needs Survey in the 12 districts and borough councils and Medway Council to determine the housing needs of Kent's residents, also considered the need for supported accommodation for people with complex needs</b></p> <p><b>The survey's findings informed the Kent Forum Housing Strategy which was launched in May 2011. The strategy supports the Joint Policy and Planning Board's (JPPB) ambition to develop appropriate housing options for people with Learning Disability and Mental Health problems, including those with ASD. This is reflected in the Kent Housing Action Plan</b></p> <p><b>Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) continues to support some people with ASD to become tenants through the allocation of accommodation that enables them to live in the community with varying levels of support.</b></p>	<p>Complete/advanced progress</p>

## ASD Select Committee

Recommendation 14:	Progress to date	Status
<p>Kent County Council should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• start a pilot scheme in Kent in which a drop-in facility providing autism related information and guidance is available one day a week. The Committee suggests using an existing local setting, such as the successful Ashford Gateway, as the base for this pilot scheme. In order to maximise the effectiveness of this initiative, it is essential that the staff working in the premises are made aware both of the initiative and about the condition of autism</li><li>• contribute to the funding of a befriending scheme, using trained volunteers, which may be run in collaboration with The National Autistic Society (Chapter 10, Section 10.1 and Section 10.2).</li></ul>	<p><b>Autism related information is now available on line via KCC website and is accessible at all Gateways throughout Kent. There are links to both the National Autistic Society (NAS) and Kent Autistic Trust (KAT) and other supporting organizations and agencies.</b></p> <p><b>With the roll out of Self Directed Support an increasing number of adults with ASD are opting for Direct Payments to access a wider range of support options to meet their assessed needs.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

**ASD Select Committee**

Recommendation 15:	Progress to date	Status
<p>The Kent Adult Social Services Directorate should carry out a county-wide audit to quantify the need for respite of people with ASD and their families.</p> <p>The purpose of this study is to inform the planning of future respite service provision in Kent, taking into account the Authority's financial constraints (Chapter 10, Section 10.3).</p>	<p><b>See comments provided in response to recommendation 1 above which covers this matter.</b></p>	<p>Some good progress although more to do</p>

- Key**
-  = Complete/advanced progress
  -  = Some good progress although more to do
  -  = Little/no significant progress yet/high risk (therefore high priority next steps)

Appendix 2: SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEWS – PROGRESS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

**Provision of Activities for Young People - Summary of progress towards each Select Committee Recommendation**

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p><b>1. That, as part of the comprehensive review of community library services, Libraries and Archives consider the role of mobile libraries as a means of engaging more young people in positive activities, and whether a change of timetable is a practical way of facilitating this.</b></p>	<p><b>The Library service provided strong and most consistent support for the innovative HOUSE project across each of the locations. Library staff have proven to be an exemplar in engaging young people in the potential future design of library services. The Library Service have provided young people with books that have assisted them with particular life events (such as bereavement, family changes) which have been invaluable to a number of young people and had a profound influence on young people’s confidence, self-awareness and self-esteem.</b></p> <p><b>Library mobile vehicles have recently become single staffed making the engagement of young people more challenging through this avenue however consultation with over 1000 young people is being used to continually inform design and delivery of services and have produced three specific offers for young people designed to support them in looking for work, learning opportunities and gaining the best value from library services.</b></p>
<p><b>2. That KCC particularly through the Kent Youth Service and Extended Services continue to encourage and support schools in their efforts to develop extended services that compliment and supplement those already available in their</b></p>	<p><b>School-based Community Youth Tutors continue to play a key role in the provision of youth services across the county.</b></p> <p><b>During the past year two schools identified that they were unable to continue funding the Community Youth Tutor model, however this has opened the opportunity for other schools to participate in the model which has resulted in new posts at Folkestone Academy and potentially at another school in the Dover area. In addition the Sheppey Academy has reversed its position and recruitment for a new CYT is underway.</b></p> <p><b>No further funding has been identified to develop this work, however Kent Youth Service is continually reviewing its service delivery and methods of working. As such</b></p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>local communities as an essential part of Integrated Youth Support in Kent.</p> <p>To facilitate this, the Extended Services Team should explore how available funding could be utilised to ensure that schools are supported in their efforts to develop up to and beyond the core level of extended services by, for example:</p> <p>a) making extended school co-ordinators or community youth tutors available in more schools</p> <p>b) with colleagues in the Youth Service, developing expertise among School Governors and Head Teachers by providing training/presentations on extended service development and</p>	<p>funding for new CYT posts during 2010/11 may be identified through a review and reduction in dedicated Detached and Outreach projects.</p> <p>Under its current transformation proposals Kent Youth Service is suggesting the retention of all CYT posts and a commitment to maintain at least one per district. 18 posts are now in place, including new appointments in Sevenoaks [Knole Academy], Dartford [Swan Valley] and the Thanet Skills Centre. Proposals for Youth Service Transformation – currently out for consultation until 29 October 2011 – include a continuation of the CYT in future service provision.</p> <p>Analysis of which members of staff require training and access to Togogo is underway. Once completed this will allow training on the redeveloped Togogo site for Extended Service Co-ordinators and ensure that local information is kept up to date. This training will take place once the Children &amp; Young People’s Services Activities Database has been redeveloped along with Togogo.</p> <p>A review of Youth Advisory Groups was completed, recommending a number of changes which will allow a wider, ongoing consultation with partners and young people about service development at a District level. These groups, which focus on the development of local services, will establish a strong working relationship to advise the new local Children’s Trust arrangements on key issues 13-19 year olds, particularly the provision of positive activities.</p> <p>An offer of bespoke training and guidance has been sent to all Governors and Head Teachers to both promote and respond to interest in how schools can be supported in developing the local offer to young people by working with both Extended Services and the Youth Service.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>community engagement</p> <p>c) ensuring that information about extended services within Local Children’s Services Partnerships (LCSPs) is gathered, recorded and made available to the public through various media (as outlined elsewhere in this report) and taken into account as an integral part of the Youth Strategy in every district</p> <p>d) with Youth Service Colleagues, encouraging and assisting schools to ensure there is effective and ongoing consultation with local communities (beyond the immediate school population) about the development of extended services</p> <p>e) ensuring that the allocation and</p>	

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>distribution of funding for extended services (routed LCSPs) is clearly recorded and made available to assist with planning for service provision within local communities.</p>	
<p>3. That KCC together with district and borough councils should:</p> <p>a. proactively engage with rail travel providers in Kent to determine the feasibility, cost and business benefits of incorporating off-peak rail travel into the Freedom Pass to enable more young people to make use of existing activities and facilities.</p> <p>b. proactively engage with bus travel providers to determine the feasibility, cost and business benefits of adding integrated (perhaps specific nights of the week) later bus</p>	<p>A report on the progress of the Freedom Card was presented to Cabinet in November 2009. This report identified potential developments for the scheme. At this point in time rail travel remains unlikely to be included as the cost implications are too great and rail companies are unwilling to participate at this stage.</p> <p>As the Freedom Pass has been rolled out across the county the Environment, Highways and Waste and bus service providers have been continually responding to service demands by putting on larger vehicles and extra services where necessary.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>services to enable more young people to make use of existing activities and facilities.</p> <p>c. consider the benefits and potential cost savings of combining the Freedom Pass with any (future planned) Leisure Card and for example, Library card. This should be considered alongside the concept of rewards for positive activities (e.g. encouraging use of healthy activities).</p>	<p>The Communities Directorate Finance team has undertaken a scoping exercise to determine the costs involved in implementing a Leisure Pass. Solutions for this could take on a number of formats and include a range of functions. The implementation of a smart card system which both the local authority and parents could contribute funds to would incur administrative costs of £25 per person to run (circa £3.25m for all 13-19yr olds) and could also involve significant capital investment to increase the network of smart card machines at participating venues (an initial investment of £1m was required to equip buses with smart card machines). Whilst this level of investment is unlikely the Youth Service and the Reward Team are currently examining whether the contract with Asperity to provide staff discounts could also source activity discounts with local providers by using the existing Freedom Pass.</p> <p>Kent Youth County Council is currently researching the possibilities for a campaign to support the extension of the Freedom Pass to young people aged 16 and 17.</p> <p>A petition on the KCC website recently passed the 12,000 signatures mark, triggering a full debate on the extension of the Freedom Pass in County Council. Members of KYCC have met with Sarah Hohler and Mike Whiting to discuss proposals for a new Post 16 Travel Pass.</p>
<p>4. a. That to fully utilise available transport KCC directorates should co-operate to produce a register of passenger carrying vehicles (minibuses) that could</p>	<p>Resources from Communities Directorate have been identified to undertake this task and work is currently underway to finalise a directory of available vehicles.</p> <p>A list of all vehicles has been created but is now under review as significant proposed changes to Service delivery models will also have an impact on maintaining and managing vehicles.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>potentially be shared with the youth service and/or voluntary sector organisations for individual trips or on a more regular basis and that guidelines be produced for the use of such vehicles.</p> <p>b. That the Youth Service liaise with the Rural Regeneration Officer to determine whether links could be made to existing community transport schemes to provide assistance with transporting young people to leisure activities, or to investigate whether any joint funding arrangements could be of benefit.</p> <p>c. That there be a drive to recruit certified PC V drivers employed by KCC and partner organisations in</p>	<p>The change in the framework of policy and funding for Rural Regeneration has put significant pressures on existing Community Transport schemes and expansion without considerable investment is not realistic. The Youth Service and Rural Regeneration Team are working together to influence the Integrated Transport Policy in order to reflect the needs of young people in isolated communities.</p> <p>A job description and recruitment process for volunteer drivers is currently being finalised and will be distributed via the Kent Volunteer network and also to partners through the district based Volunteer Driver networks.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>Kent to register for occasional voluntary driving duties (subject to satisfactory CRB disclosure being in place) to assist the Youth Service's provision of sports/leisure activities to young people. Once established the Youth Service should assess the viability of extending the scheme to include affiliated and non-affiliated voluntary organisations.</p>	
<p>5. That the Youth Service and in particular the Diversity Team should liaise with the Analysis and Information Team to determine how Mosaic could enhance their work in terms of community profiling and targeting information. That the Analysis and Information Team</p>	<p>The Youth Service is undertaking a pilot examination of two centres using Mosaic to examine its usefulness in supporting Community Needs Analysis processes. Appendix 2 shows the community profile around the two centres and once ContactPoint updates have been completed to the Youth Service MIS system postcodes will be extracted and mapped to examine where the Youth Club Members originate from.</p> <p>The current Youth Service consultation is using online information gathering and Mosaic mapping tools in order to map the needs of local communities when developing any possible commissioning model.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>determine whether Mosaic could incorporate data on Traveller communities.</p>	
<p>6. That KCC (Youth Service and others) should work with district partners including those in the voluntary and community sector to build upon the success of events such as Gifted Young Gravesham, those organised by Blade and Youth of Generation and explore opportunities to hold similar events elsewhere in the county.</p>	<p>Kent Youth Service remains dedicated to the development of Young People though the arts and during 2009/10 a large number of arts events were hosted and/or supported by Kent Youth Service and its partners across the county. Gifted Young Gravesham was delivered successfully again this year with plans for a similar event, Dartford Is Gifted, well under way. In addition the Youth Service hosted a Rhythmix weekend residential experience for young people wanting to develop their performance skills. The Service has also hosted 6 Kick Racism Out of Football events and also 6 events to celebrate LGBT history month in February – at each of these events young people are able to take part in forum theatre and practice other performance skills. The Youth Service also hosts 8 Try Angle awards ceremonies each year which both celebrate young people’s achievement and provide a platform for young people to perform.</p> <p>On 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 the Youth Service hosted a partnership Summer Diversity Festival which was attended by more than 1400 young people who were able to take part in a number of cultural and sporting activities whilst more than 30 young people’s acts were able to perform at the event and take part in talent shows, battle of the bands and workshops. The intention to hold a similar event in 2011 is dependant on securing external funding to do so.</p> <p>The Youth Service continues to develop and support a wide range of arts events for young people alongside Dartford Is Gifted and Gifted Young Gravesham, Similar projects in Sevenoaks and Dover are under development in 2011/12, as are a range of cultural festivals around the county</p>
<p>7. That KCC adopts a policy of promoting positive language,</p>	<p>A code of good practice has been established by the Communications and Media Centre to ensure that all departments recognise the importance of promoting a positive message about young people.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>perceptions and expectations of young people in all KCC publications and communications and encourages and engages with partners and the media to further this aim.</p>	
<p>8. a. That meetings which are to involve young people are planned and structured in a young person-friendly format.</p> <p>b. That Youth Advisory Groups focus on strategic planning in their districts and extend invitations to, and renews efforts to engage, private and voluntary sector facility and activity providers as well as potential funders, in order to create opportunities for mutually beneficial discussions at YAG meetings.</p>	<p>The Youth Advisory Group Review established a new set of Terms of Reference for the groups, emphasising the importance of playing a key role in the strategic development of services for young people – and particularly positive activities – at a local level. As part of this review the Terms of Reference also requires the meaningful participation of young people and ensuring that they are able to engage fully in meeting structures.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>c. That KCC Members be encouraged to contribute towards local young people's transport funds from Members' Community Grants (and other available sources) to finance organised trips for young people from their local area, focusing on those who attend youth groups and projects.</p>	<p>KCC Members Community Grants contributed directly towards work with young people in a variety of ways throughout the 2009/10 year. Full details of the spend of Members grants are available through the Community Engagement Team.</p>
<p>9. a. That projects with an intergenerational theme should receive a high priority in decisions about funding in Kent in order to break down barriers and build community cohesion.</p> <p>b. That KCC should consider how intergenerational activity could be supported in other ways such as through the</p>	<p>Kent Youth Service and partners prepared a bid for the 'Generations Together' programme which unfortunately proved unsuccessful. As a result the Service has included intergenerational work into its business planning processes. This has resulted in a range of activities taking place such as young people supporting Silver Surfers, Allotment Projects and intergenerational video projects examining the views of local young and older people.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>Staff Club and Staff Discount schemes.</p>	
<p>10. That there should be increased opportunities for well motivated young people to shadow community leaders in order for them to gain experience of political life and leadership and that Members of Kent County Council should take a lead in facilitating this.</p>	<p>Work shadowing opportunities to work alongside Council Officers and County Councillors, including Cabinet Members have been taken up by 7 young people and students and this opportunity is on offer through Legal &amp; Democratic Services as well as Kent Youth County Council. An offer for Members to shadow members of the Youth County Council has also been extended.</p>
<p>11. That Kent TV continues to provide young people with the opportunity to broadcast their interests and concerns and gain experience of TV and film production through the apprenticeship programme and the development of a dedicated broadcasting unit.</p>	<p>Kent TV was decommissioned at the end of the 2009/10 financial year and whilst this means that a 'youth channel' is not possible Kent Youth Service continues to offer young people a range of opportunities to engage in media and film activities and develop broadcast and production skills and experience.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>12. a. Development of Togogo could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clear links to leisure listings for specific areas of interest such as cycling, parks, sports</li> <li>▪ Times dates of meetings/venue contacts</li> <li>▪ How to contact local Kent Youth County Councillor and Local Members of the County Council (by postcode look-up)</li> <li>▪ The facility to vote on youth-related proposals</li> <li>▪ Continually providing the opportunity for and proactively seeking out private and voluntary providers to invite listing</li> <li>▪ Interactive local</li> </ul>	<p>The re-development of Togogo has been significantly delayed due to the delays in completing the Kent.gov site – Togogo will be hosted on the same platform and by the same provider. The Youth Service has begun working with young people to identify views and opinions on developing the site however specific functional capabilities will not be clear until later in 2010.</p> <p>In order to aid the development of the Togogo and the adjoining database a part-time administrator has been assigned the task of updated and improving data quality. This is particularly crucial as the Kent Resource Directory, which provided a significant amount of the information for Togogo, has been withdrawn from service.</p> <p>A basic, voluntary survey has been running as a Polaroid on the existing togogo site asking for feedback on the ease of use and design of the site and also asking people to give their postcode to allow mapping against the re-developed site.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>maps showing private/voluntary/LA provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Requesting that schools signpost Togogo on pupil VLEs (virtual learning environments screensaver and enabled in favourite sites) thus reaching every schoolchild</li> <li>▪ Advertising Togogo on the Freedom Pass/Kent Travel Card/Library Card</li> <li>▪ Allowing additional and selected advertising on the website (directly leisure related) to generate revenue and show discount offers.</li> <li>▪ Liaising with the Children’s Disability Register co-ordinator to ensure that views and experience of disabled young people and their</li> </ul>	

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>families help to make the site informative and relevant.</p> <p>b. Following an initial reluctance by young people to engage with Togogo its effectiveness in reaching a range of young people from different areas and backgrounds should be measured before and after development of the site by using Mosaic to analyse users registering on the site with a postcode.</p>	
<p>13. That KCC Innovations Team works with young people, supported by professional advisers to produce a policy and guidelines for the safe use of social networking sites (Facebook, Bebo etc) by young people, and that KCC work towards developing protocols</p>	<p>A new policy for Internet Usage in Youth Centres and projects has developed which gives clear guidelines on how young people should be supported to gain the benefits of online communities whilst remaining safe. Additional guidelines support staff in ensuring their own personal and professional usage is appropriate and safe.</p> <p>A dedicated section of Knet gives clear guidance and direction on the use of Social Networking to promote KCC and its activities – in addition training to achieve a ‘social media license’ has been implemented allowing staff to achieve a corporate standard before using these tools.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>for effective and appropriate use of social networking sites by youth work practitioners, other KCC staff and Members as well as members of Kent Youth County Council.</p>	
<p>14. That KCC should investigate the implementation of an SMS texting service to notify young people of discounts and offers of free access to leisure activities.</p>	<p>An SMS service exists and is available to use with the implementation of data handling processes to gain permission for the use of personal mobile phone numbers, however until such time as Togogo is redeveloped and/or future offers are able to be sourced through Asperity such a service would offer little value to young people. Resource to supply SMS services is yet to be identified.</p>
<p>15. That KCC should consider providing support to Oi! (provided there is a sustainable business plan) to enable more young people to benefit from the work experience and personal development it offers and for the magazine to reach and involve a greater number of</p>	<p>A variety of KCC departments have used SO! to promote activities and examine issues, these include Kent Apprenticeships, CFE Participation team, the HOUSE partnership project, Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Kent Sport Leisure and Olympics and Kent Youth Service. In addition the Try Angle Awards have become a national media partner of the magazine which involves a young person's story and nomination form being printed in each issue.</p> <p>Since December 2010, SO! Magazine has ceased trading.</p> <p>The Youth Service has offered support and guidance to, and material for, Nubia magazine a publication developed with a particular focus on BME young people and currently in it's 10<sup>th</sup> issue.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
<p>young people across the county. This support might take the form of a regular advertising slot paid for by the Kent Youth Service and other directorates/service (particularly CFE Extended Services) to: publicise activities and the availability of other local youth provision, and get across important messages e.g. links to advice on internet safety.</p>	
<p>16. That the Youth Service increases its engagement with the diverse range of services provided by the voluntary and community sector to ensure that the contribution of this sector can be fully acknowledged, mapped and taken into account in planning positive activities within an area.</p>	<p>The completion of the YAG review and particularly the adoption of new terms of reference will allow an increased engagement with Voluntary Organisations in developing local services for young people.</p> <p>Kent Youth Service has renewed its Partnership Awards with 23 different voluntary sector groups to deliver a range of direct youth work across the County and a further 10 groups to provide a range of support services to other Voluntary Organisations throughout Kent.</p> <p>Under the proposals for the transformation of Youth Services, Kent Youth Service is proposing to withdraw from direct delivery in a range of projects and use a portion of the saved revenue to significantly increase the level of funding to Voluntary and Community Youth Service providers through a new commissioning framework.</p>

Recommendation	Provision of Activities for Young People – Select Committee Progress to Date
	<p>During 2009/10 the Youth Service facilitated 2 training courses focusing on developing the capacity to manage integrated services with 12 places taken up by leaders from Voluntary Youth Organisations.</p>
<p>17. That KCC, with its partners, considers how to increase the proportion of activities, as well as information advice and guidance, provided to young people in young-person centred surroundings, in locations accessible during evenings/weekends.</p>	<p>During 2009/10 Kent Youth Service took part in the DCSF led ‘Open Weekend’ during which all areas opened provision during the weekend. Currently some Youth Service Provision in each operational area is open Friday evenings and Saturday in addition to the wide range of residential opportunities offered across the County.</p> <p>Delivery of the partnership project HOUSE on the Move commenced in May 2010 taking advice, guidance and support to young people on Substance Misuse, Alcohol Abuse, Smoking Cessation and Sexual Health to a variety of locations around Kent and delivering services at times convenient for young people to access.</p> <p>Connexions Kent &amp; Medway Ltd has been awarded a new three year contract for the delivery of careers information advice and guidance with a requirement to examine how this can be done in closer integration with other partners and delivered in times and places where young people are keen to engage. Productive meetings have taken place with the new Chief Executive of Connexions Kent and Medway to take forward proposals for closer working relationships including joint location of services and staff.</p>