

# **Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee**

## **Hearing 13**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

### **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**

**Ken Scott, Voluntary Chair, Older People's Task and Finish Group, and Paul Clarke, Healthy Lifestyle Commissioning Officer, Maidstone Borough Council**

- Please introduce yourselves and offer an outline of the Older People's Task and Finish Group and its role in relation to loneliness and social isolation.
- What are the main causes leading to loneliness and social isolation amongst older Kent residents?
- In what ways can we best identify older people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, loneliness or social isolation?
- In what ways can the needs of older people be articulated (for example, through Focus Groups)?
- Please discuss the importance of proactive and preventative approaches to tackling loneliness and social isolation.
- Please discuss the creation of a more extensive and accessible database of support activities for older people, and the role of local older people as champions.
- What other initiatives and strategies should be put into place to prevent or reduce the negative impacts of loneliness and social isolation on older people?
- Are there any other issues, in relation to the review, that you wish to raise with the Committee?