

Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee

Hearing 17

Monday 1st October 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

**Dr Hannah Swift, Eastern ARC Research Fellow and Co-ordinator,
University of Kent**

- Please introduce yourself and offer an outline of your research interests.
- Who is at risk of social isolation and loneliness? What are the consequences of loneliness and social isolation on older people? Please refer to the Hidden Citizens report.
- Please discuss the key findings and recommendations in the Hidden Citizens report.
- How can ageism perpetuate the social exclusion of older adults?
- How can ageism and negative attitudes to age influence people's potential for active ageing?
- In what ways can environments that support active ageing be created (for example age-friendly and dementia-friendly environments)?
- In your opinion, what more can be done, if anything, to prevent or reduce the impact of social isolation and loneliness on Kent's older residents?
- Are there any other issues, in relation to the review, that you wish to raise with the Committee?