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| <b>Title of Report:</b>            | <b>Adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in West Berkshire</b> | <b>Item 7</b> |
| <b>Report to be considered by:</b> | Healthier Select Committee  |               |
| <b>Date of Meeting:</b>            | 6 July 2010   |               |

**Purpose of Report:** To receive information on the services available to those adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in West Berkshire.

**Recommended Action:** To note the ASD Review, action plan and progress made in developing future services.

| <b>OSC Chairman</b>              |  |
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# Executive Report

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In 2008 the National Autistic Society coordinated a national campaign (“I Exist”) to raise awareness about the potential number of unknown cases of adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) living in our communities.
- 1.2 It was anticipated that in the UK almost 1% of the adult population may be living with ASD but without any formal diagnosis. This led to the charity raising concerns about the adequacy and accessibility of support services to these individuals.
- 1.3 Previously, the Council’s former Healthier Communities and Older People’s Policy Development Commission and Healthier Select Committee have received presentations on this subject. This has included a briefing from the West Berkshire branch of the National Autistic Society, as well as officer reports on existing services, such as support via the “Pathways to Employment” Scheme.
- 1.4 The attached ASD Review details the Council’s service provision for adults with ASD and an action plan for taking these services forward.

## 2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Members note the findings of the ASD Review and the Action Plan aimed at improving future services.

## Appendices

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Appendix A – Review of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in West Berkshire.