Template for Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel into local services for Autistic Spectrum Condition

1.Matter for scrutiny and reason why raised	To examine local services for people with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) against national guidelines and policy. (Raised to clarify where leadership responsibilities rest, and better define commissioning and funding arrangements)
2. Importance of the matter and relation to Council's strategic priorities and policies	According to DoH (Better Future consultation) there are estimated to be 2,500 ASC people in the city, a proportion of whom will have occasional or ongoing unmet needs for health/social services. The combined Adult Social Care & Housing Directorate budget is the BHCC's largest, amounting to £76.4m for 2010/11. Addressing unmet need may affect the call on public finances. Of the Council's corporate priorities four are met; • better use of public money • reduce inequality by increasing opportunities • fair enforcement of the law • open and effective city leadership
3. If scrutiny is requested on the basis of a deficiency in the decision making process, evidence that decision not properly made	N/A

4. Potential benefits of a scrutiny activity

- Better access and signposting to services
- Fairer access and greater equality for all to services
- Increased clarity of provision arrangements
- Enhanced staff training
- Spending efficiency through review

5. Other avenues tried and extent to which attempts have been made to resolve the matter

The matter was recently raised at the Joint Commissioning Board where greater clarity was sought over which agency had responsibility for local services for people with Autistic Spectrum Condition.

Subsequent conversations with the Director of Social Care suggest that the current arrangements would benefit from greater clarity.

6. Any other considerations or relevant information: (e.g. an indication of the desired outcome, relevant evidence, suggested witnesses etc)

Desired outcomes;

- clarify where leadership responsibilities rest,
- better define commissioning and funding arrangements
- Maximise commissioning effectiveness
- Prepare and advise re the ASC Local Plan

Suggested witnesses/evidence providers;

Aspire

Assert

BHCC Housing Homeless Vulnerable People team

BHCC – Integrated Learning Disability

Mrs Sarah Brown

Prof Hugo Critchley - Neural Behavioural Clinic

Mrs Maggie Darling

National Autistic Society

PCT (Geraldine Hoban)

SPFT (Richard Ford)

SPFT - Access Team

Service users

7. Suggested type of scrutiny/terms of reference for in-depth review	Ad hoc panel See attached suggested scoping diagram

17 December 2009