Report to Good Health Sub Group

Friday 16th April 2010

Reach held a Parliament meeting on Monday 12th April.

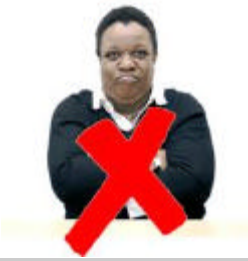
During the meeting people talked about the Health Self Assessments.

One Reach MP shared a very recent story about going to Accident and Emergency.

This Reach MP:

- is in their mid-50's
- has a learning disability
- takes medication for epilepsy
- lives independently
- has carers come to their flat once or twice a day

This report is **their** story.

	“My doctor prescribed some tablets for a fungal infection.”
	“The tablets made me feel ill. They made me feel giddy and light-headed.”
	“I have also been stressed about my sister because she is very ill with cancer.”
	“Last Friday afternoon I collapsed at home. I hurt my arm and shoulder when I fell.”
	“A carer was there at the time and rang for an ambulance. She told the paramedics about my learning disability and gave them information about my medication.”
	“The carer didn’t come to the hospital with me.”

	“The ambulance got to Accident and Emergency in Hartshill at about 2:30pm.”
	“They took some blood and I saw a doctor at about 5:00pm. He checked my arm was OK but didn’t ask many questions or tell me what was wrong.”
	“I didn’t know the answers to all the questions the doctor and nurses were asking me.”
	“There was nobody to talk to or support me.”
	“They said I could go home at ten to ten so I had been there for over seven hours.”
	“I had no money for a taxi so two paramedics took me home and made sure I was OK before they left.”

	"Nobody has told me why I collapsed. I am sure it wasn't a seizure because it felt very different."
	"I am going to see my doctor at the end of the month and hope I can find out then."
	"I think it might have been a panic attack caused by the tablets and the stress I have been under."
	"This has been a very frightening and worrying experience."
	"It would have gone better: • if I had support from a carer at the hospital • if there was a liaison nurse to look after people with a learning disability • if the doctor had more time with me."
	If you have any questions about this report please contact Andrew Garvey. Telephone **01782 747872** E-mail **andrewg@asist.co.uk**