

People Scrutiny Committee – 14th July 2015

Public Questions

Questions from Mr Ali to the Executive Councillor for Health & Adult Social Care

Question 1

“What proportion of Southend 173,600 population have been diagnosed as having mental health challenges?”

Answer

There is limited information available that is specific to Southend and depends on people receiving a formal diagnosis. Specific estimates on individual conditions relating to Southend are provided by Public Health England which show higher estimates for anxiety and depression than for England, but does not provide prevalence figures for all mental illness. Therefore the best estimate is around 32,000 adults based on the most recent adult population figure (139,715) which is roughly equivalent to the 23% figure for England as a whole.

Question 2

“To have a quality mental health provision in Southend is there currently consideration to have a mental health drop-in centre in Southend especially as such centres were in existence prior to 2010?”

Answer

There is one mental health drop-in centre which is run by MIND which the Council have assisted with funding. Although there are no plans to develop any further mental health drop-in centres in the Borough there are many different types of community mental health support services on offer; Re-think, Richmond Fellowship, Trustlinks, Mind and Southend Adult Community College. Additionally a Recovery College is in development which is collaboration between third sector, NHS provide and CCG/Local Authority. The aim is to that it will be personalised, focussed, co-produced and transformational.

The Joint South Essex Mental Health Strategy outlines what services and provision will be provided for secondary, community and primary mental health services up until 2018. The strategy which was fully consulted on centres on the desire for recovery focused services rather than mental health drop in services, with access to services being the least intrusive possible and starting with GP access to IAPT services or community based services.

We are currently conducting a full mental health provision review, which will be presented to the H&WB Board via the standard governance route.