Children and Young People with mental health problems: Priorities for tackling a growing trend.

Mairead McCaffery - Chief Executive Officer
NICCY’s Role

‘To safeguard and promote the rights and best interests of children and young people’.

The Commissioner for Children and Young People (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 Article 6 (1)
Child Rights Approach to Health

Art 6: Survival and development

Art 2: Non-discrimination

Art 3: Best Interests

Art 12: Respect for the views of the child

Art 24: Highest attainable standard of health
Between 2012/13 and 2014/15 rates of self harm recorded in A&E within the 15-19 yr old age group increased by 30%.

Between 2014/15 & 2015/16 there was a 115% increase in referrals from primary school age to family support hub due to emotional & behavioural support needs.

Rates of suicide higher in NI compared to other parts the UK:
For 15 to 19 yr olds this is 4 x higher
For 10 to 14 yr olds this is 10 x higher.

CAMHS- 7.8% of Mental Health Budget (national average 10%)
Why prioritise children's mental health?

In 2014-15 550 under 16 yr olds & 5500 of 16-19 yr olds were prescribed anti-depressants or anti-anxiety drugs. This represents a year on year increase from 2012.

CAMHS waiting time target for a 1st appointment (Tier 3) was missed 130 times in the last year. This represents an increase of 62% from 2015, and an increase of 136% from 2014.

Rates of suicide and self-harm admissions in the most deprived areas of NI are 3-4 times higher than the least deprived areas.

CAMHS- 7.8% of Mental Health Budget (national average 10%)
Priorities

• Investment & Parity:
  • Mapping Need;
  • Measuring Outcomes;
  • Collecting Data and Monitor;
  • Establishing the Cost of Service model.
Priorities

• Children’s and Young People’s Participation

• Co-ordination and Integration of Services
Opportunities

Programme for Government 2016-21

UNCRC & Concluding Observations 2016

Children & Young People’s Strategy & Action Plan

Children’s Services Co-operation Act 2015

1. Physical & mental health
2. Play & Leisure
3. Learning & achievement
4. Safety & stability
5. Economic & environment
6. A positive contribution
7. Society respects rights
8. Equality & good relations
Thank you for listening.

Contact Details:
Mairead McCafferty
Chief Executive Officer
Mairead@niccy.org
028 9031 6397