

The Reverend Beverley Sproats, Rector, St. John's Church, Jersey

Please find below my responses to the Assessment of mental health services questions on <https://statesassembly.gov.je/scrutiny/Pages/Review.aspx?reviewid=296>

What are the current trends in mental health in Jersey?

Increasing amount of mental health issues in younger people, especially self-harm and overdoses

What progress has the States of Jersey made on implementing its mental health strategy?
What further work is required?

Further work required to make seamless mental health support. E.g for people coming out of Orchard House to have support when they return to independent living or in the community. Long waiting times for talking therapies and counselling need to be addressed. These can be very effective but need to be offered sooner / less of a wait. Continue to improve provision for all children at school to have support in how to be resilient and have good mental health in order to pre-empt problems.

How have mental health services changed since the launch of the mental health strategy in 2015?

Cannot comment as only recently arrived in Jersey

What support is in place to ensure the organisations which provide mental health services are able to work in partnership in the best interests of the individual concerned?

Communications between agencies can be a bit variable.

What are the potential risks and benefits of separating child and adult mental health services?
How could any potential risks be mitigated?

Risk of young adults 'falling through the gap' between child and adult mental health service. Or being treated like a child when they are older than that, or treated like an adult when they are younger than that. Risk of poor transition between child and adult mental health services as clients grow up. Potential risks could be mitigated by system that tracks people through from child to adult mental health services.

What examples of best practice are available from other jurisdictions that Jersey could learn from?

See article 'Germany leads Europe in dealing with mental illness': <http://www.eiumedial.com/index.php/latest-press-releases/item/1515-germany-leads-europe-in-dealing-with-mental-illness>

I hope this is helpful,

All the best with the assessment.

Best wishes,

Bev

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