

Motion

1. Mental Health Services for Young People

Moved by Councillor Foley and seconded by Councillor Gadd

‘Council gratefully recognises the work of schools, charities, mental health professionals and our own officers, and notes the important role they play in the lives of young people.

Council however acknowledges there has been an increase in the number of mental health problems and illness including self-harm in some of our schools...despite the Everyone’s Essex aspiration, demand for mental health support services for this age group now greatly exceeds supply.

Council therefore:

- Calls on the Government to increase funding to local government and health services for young people's issues
- Asks Cabinet to review available budgets and wherever possible to redistribute funds to provide the support needed
- Refers this subject formally to the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee and the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee with a request they conduct an urgent review of mental health services for young people and report back during 2022.’

It was moved by Councillor Ball and seconded by Councillor Spence that the motion be amended to read as follows:

‘This Council gratefully recognises the work of schools, charities, mental health professionals, social workers, family support workers and our own officers and notes the important role they play in the lives of children and young people.

This Council acknowledges there has been an increase in the number of mental health problems and illness including self-harm in some of our schools and demand for mental health support services for this age group is now placing a great deal of strain on current capacity.

This Council also acknowledges that this is a complex issue with no single solution and therefore formally refers it to the relevant Cabinet Members as well as to the Scrutiny Board so that arrangements for a joint review by the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee & the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee can be arranged with a request that they report back to this Council by the end of the calendar year with their recommendations to address this issue.’

The amendment moved by Councillor Ball and seconded by Councillor Spence was put to the meeting and was carried and became the substantive motion.

Having been put to the meeting the motion was carried.