Hannah Doody

Director of Community and Housing
Adult mental health

• Mental illness is what it says; it is an illness of the mind in which a person to some degree loses control over aspects of their thoughts and/or their feelings.

• 1 in 4 British adults experience at least one diagnosable mental disorder in any given year.

• Many factors, such as age, gender and lifestyle, may contribute to a person’s likelihood of developing mental ill health, and some people may experience more than one mental disorder during the course of their lives or even at the same time.

• Half of all lifetime mental disorder starts by the age of 14 and 75% by the mid 20’s.

Source: The London Mental Health Report 2014
Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2017
• People with mental ill health are two to four times more likely to die prematurely.

• Many children will grow up with a parent who, at some point, will have some degree of mental illness.

• Some children will live with a parent who has a severe mental illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

• 68% of women and 57% of men with a mental illness are parents.

• In addition many children live with a parent who has long-term mental health problems, as well as alcohol or drug problems.

Source: The London Mental Health Report 2014
Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2017
Many disorders diagnosed in adulthood actually have their onset in childhood or adolescence.

It is therefore not surprising that many of the mental disorders present in children and young people are also present later in working age adults.

However, at working age we also see the onset of severe and enduring illnesses, such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder that are very rare in younger age groups.

Source: The London Mental Health Report 2014
Royal College of Psychiatrists March 2017
• The messages show the importance of strengthening the way we work across services in both Children's and Adults

• Learning for improved practice

• Understanding the effects of parental mental health may have on the children and family

• Think family

• Assessments – holistic, needs collaboration and communication

• Incorporating the professional knowledge and skills to identify needs and risks
Strengthened Merton Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB) by:

Recruitment

• Independent chair

• Adult Mental Health Liaison Specialist

• Safeguarding adults board business manager:
  • MSCB business manager is a present member of the MSAB and has worked closely with the safeguarding adults manager to strengthen the links between departments.
Strategy Planning

Think Family

- Development of protocols are shared across both children and adult boards. Opportunity for joint task and finish groups and sub groups.
- Conference workshops today are led by both children and adults practitioners as well as our board partners.

Working in partnership

- Working together to approach assessments and support as a shared task; fully understanding the impact the risk and management plan
- Looking at Transitions of vulnerable children to adulthood
- Opportunities for joint commissioning training on common themes