

Full Council, 30 January 2018

Agenda item 14.7 - Administration amendment in the name of Cllr Richard Cornelius

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Phil Cohen - Working with Thrive LDN to improve mental health in Barnet

[Amendments in bold]

Council acknowledges that two million Londoners experience poor mental health, which equates to 62,500 people in each borough, and that London's suicide rate increased by 33 per cent from 552 to 735 incidents between 2014 and 2015 – the highest figure recorded by the Office for National Statistics since records began.

Council understands that employment for Londoners with a mental health problem is 31 per cent lower than the UK average and that the financial cost of mental ill-health is approximately £700 million for each London borough.

Council notes that overall rates of individual mental health problems are higher in Barnet than London and England, and the rate of detention for a mental health condition is significantly higher than the London or England averages.

In light of this Council applauds the decision taken by the Government to create a Minister for Loneliness on the advice of the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness, as well as the £15 million extra mental health funding made available, but recognises we also have a role to play.

Council **therefore** reaffirms its commitment to approach mental health and wellbeing as a key priority and to work collaboratively with partners within and outside the borough to address and tackle mental ill-health across our communities.

To this end Council commits to investigating the case for supporting Thrive LDN, the mental health organisation led by the London Health Board, and how this could improve the mental health of Barnet residents.