



HUGE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS for CHILDREN and ADULTS

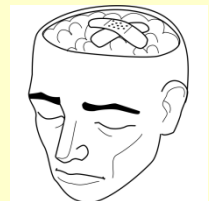
More children and adults urgently need mental health care – even as services are being cut. 6,000 NHS mental health beds have been closed in England since 2010. During that time, there have been about 70 bed closures locally – now there are no beds in Ealing for adult psychiatry patients.

Shockingly a survey last year by NHS Digital found that the number of children with clinically significant mental health conditions had risen by 50% in just 3 years.

But NHS services have been cut and are overwhelmed. Last year four in ten GPs admitted they advised parents to pay for private care – a kind of privatisation that's in any case unaffordable for many.

EALING WORSE THAN MOST

Tragically Ealing is near the bottom of the league table in the provision of help to children in a mental health crisis according to the Children's Commissioner.



Professional care services for children's mental health are mainly split between the NHS and the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provided by local Councils. Ealing has a long history of both providers failing children.

There are NO beds for children in a mental health crisis in Ealing, so

IF YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN NEED HELP YOU CAN:

- Speak to your GP
- Ealing Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service 0208 354 8160
- NHS 24-hour number is 0800 328 4444 (for Ealing, Hillingdon and

they can end up temporarily on an adult ward, which is totally unacceptable. Sometimes they wait for days in A&E before a bed is found somewhere out of Borough.

Some Ealing children with less acute problems have to wait up to 3½ years for treatment – at their age this is like a lifetime.

To make things worse, school nurses are few and far between and Health Visitors numbers have been dramatically cut down so that many are not even able to meet their legally required number of visits to families.

Meanwhile teachers are now somehow expected to not just teach but be alert to children's mental health needs.

West London kids are waiting too long for mental health appointments.



CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER CARE

**WE SAY THE GOVERNMENT MUST URGENTLY INCREASE
FUNDING MENTAL HEALTH AND THE NHS**



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