

Question S4W-12415: Jenny Marra, North East Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 21/01/2013

To ask the Scottish Government how many children and young people are registered as deaf with NHS boards and how many of them have presented with mental health issues.

Answered by Michael Matheson (31/01/2013):

This information is not held centrally.

Current Status: Answered by Michael Matheson on 31/01/2013

Question S4W-12414: Jenny Marra, North East Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 21/01/2013

To ask the Scottish Government for what reason deafness is not listed as a mental health indicator.

Answered by Michael Matheson (31/01/2013):

The current NHS Health Scotland mental health indicator sets out to provide a profile of the mental health of the Scottish population and a means of monitoring the state of mental health to enable evidence-informed decision making for mental health improvement policy planning. However, these are limited by gaps and weaknesses in the evidence-base, availability of data and the feasibility of collecting data. Additionally, the indicators do provide a firm basis on which to build and develop a greater understanding of the causes and consequences of mental health and how these can be measured.

Although data is available on disability, it is not possible to break it down into specific impairments due to the small sample sizes of key surveys. Specific impairments such as poor hearing/deafness are captured within the longstanding illness and limiting longstanding illness indicators. Unfortunately the sample size does not allow for poor hearing/deafness to be extracted from the data. However as the evidence base improves the indicators and their data sources will be reviewed.

Current Status: Answered by Michael Matheson on 31/01/2013

Question S4W-12413: Jenny Marra, North East Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 21/01/2013

To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to develop a national specialist child and adolescent mental health service for deaf children and young people.

Answered by Michael Matheson (31/01/2013):

I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-12412 on 31 January 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

Current Status: Answered by Michael Matheson on 31/01/2013

Question S4W-12412: Jenny Marra, North East Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 21/01/2013

To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to increase access to specialist child and adolescent mental health services for deaf children and young people.

Answered by Michael Matheson (31/01/2013):

Scottish Government officials have met with members of the National Deaf Children's Society and the Scottish Council on Deafness to discuss their proposals.

We have asked them to engage with NHS boards as primary commissioners of such services and we will continue that dialogue through the Scottish Government child and adolescent mental health services network as we consider next steps. We will ensure that service developments are meeting the needs of children and young people with sensory impairments.

We have made a commitment to work with NHS boards and partners to improve monitoring information about who is accessing services and is consistently available to inform decisions about service redesign and to remove barriers to services.

Current Status: Answered by Michael Matheson on 31/01/2013

**Motion S4M-05421: Jenny Marra, North East Scotland, Scottish Labour, Date Lodged: 21/01/2013
Mental Health Services for Deaf Children and Young People**

That the Parliament welcomes the launch of the Helping Hand campaign by the National Deaf Children's Society, the Scottish Council on Deafness and its Deaf Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services group, which highlights increasing concern around the mental health of Scotland's deaf children and young people; notes the concern that 40% of Scotland's reported 3,500 deaf children experience mental health problems compared to 25% of other children; understands that, although deaf children are in need of specialist mental health provision, Scotland currently has none; further understands that other parts of the UK have well developed provision of specialist child and adolescent mental health services for deaf children; calls on the Scottish Government to build on the model that it has already developed for the provision of a specialist Scotland-wide mental health service for deaf adults based at St John's hospital in Livingston and set up a specialist child and adolescent mental health service for deaf children and young people; understands that the campaign will be exhibited in the Parliament from 5 to 7 February 2013, and encourages all members to visit the exhibition stand and pledge their support.

Supported by: Hanzala Malik, Patricia Ferguson, Mark Griffin, Jackie Baillie, Malcolm Chisholm, Iain Gray, Alison Johnstone, Anne McTaggart, Neil Findlay, Mary Fee, Hugh Henry, Duncan McNeil, Jayne Baxter, Claudia Beamish, James Kelly, Drew Smith, Alison McInnes, John Finnie, Margaret McDougall, Sarah Boyack, Siobhan McMahon, Neil Bibby, Kezia Dugdale, Rhoda Grant

Motion S4M-05528: Christine Grahame, Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale, Scottish National Party, Date Lodged: 30/01/2013 Tinnitus Awareness Week 4 to 10 February

That the Parliament welcomes Tinnitus Awareness Week, which will take place between 4 and 10 February 2013; notes that there are many different causes of tinnitus, including exposure to loud music or noise, ear infections, injury and stress; also notes that new EU standards will mean that all personal music players sold in the EU after February 2013 should have a set volume limit of 85 dB; considers it important to safeguard tinnitus support services and investment in research into new treatments to silence tinnitus; supports the work undertaken by tinnitus and hearing loss support groups and voluntary organisations such as Action on Hearing Loss Scotland, and wishes all those involved in Tinnitus Awareness Week 2013 every success.

Supported by: Nigel Don, John Wilson, Bill Walker, Roderick Campbell, Mary Scanlon, Stewart Stevenson, Annabelle Ewing, Joan McAlpine, Chic Brodie, Nanette Milne, John Mason, Jackie Baillie, Dennis Robertson, Richard Lyle, Mary Fee, Kenneth Gibson, Adam Ingram, Hugh Henry, Kevin Stewart, Bob Doris, Colin Beattie, Hanzala Malik, Mike MacKenzie, Jamie Hepburn, David Torrance, Elaine Murray, Mark Griffin, Maureen Watt, Clare Adamson, Richard Simpson