

The background of the slide is a blue-tinted photograph of a vast, calm ocean extending to a clear horizon. The sky above is filled with soft, wispy white clouds. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

MENTAL HEALTH

- Mental Health Problems can be identified as a personal and individual risk factor of anti-social behaviour

Location of Housing

- Anti-Social behaviour can be a symptom of mental illness
- There is evidence of an increase in poor mental health in children & young people over the last 30 years, particularly among the socially disadvantaged.

Discrimination and Stigma

- Myth – People with mental health problems are dangerous and violent.
- Fact – They are more likely to be victims than perpetrators
- Myth – Mental Health problems are rare
- Fact – 1 in 6 people suffer mental health problems at any given time.

- Evidence of ASBOs been given to people with serious mental health problems where treatment would be more appropriate i.e: psychosis, autism, ADHD, personality disorders

(National Association of Probation Officers 2005)

Possible Ways Forward

- Protocols for joint working
- Early Intervention
- Training and Education
- Holding regular reviews

Protocols for joint working

- Nominated contacts between mental health services and housing department
- Specialist advisors linked to primary care

Early Intervention

- The emphasis should be on tackling underlying causes eg: symptoms of mental health problems, domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse and truancy.

Training and Education

- Implement joint training to raise awareness of, increase understanding and deal with mental health problems.

Hold regular reviews

- Set up regular meetings/ good practice forums between health, social care services and housing staff to increase understanding of each others roles, pressures and priorities.

- Defining successful outcomes not exclusively in terms of symptom reduction but also in terms of housing, education, employment and participation makes the role of non-NHS agencies all the more important.







