



joint strategic needs assessment

Key points from Homeless Health Audit 2016

Within the context of an increasing number of statutory homeless with health needs, services for the homeless in Stockport have worked together to deliver an updated survey to gauge changes in the health needs of this population since 2013, when a similar survey was run. The sample size of 40 is small, but is also a substantial portion of the homeless population in Stockport.

The survey shows that the homeless in Stockport are people with combinations of health problems, which in many cases would intensify the difficulty of dealing with a given health issue. The relationship between their health and housing situation would also be one of compounding difficulties; over half responded they are permanently unable to work due to health issues.

More registered with GPs and dental practices

- 92.5% are registered with a GP
- this reflects positive work undertaken by TA, H3, the Wellspring and other services, who have prioritised getting clients registered
- 42.5% are registered with a dentist

Secondary care use remains high

- 65% used A&E in last 12 months, with half of them attending more than 3 times
- 65% had been admitted to hospital in last 12 months, with half of them admitted more than 3 times
- only 61% went into suitable accommodation on discharge
- 19% said they were not asked about their accommodation before being discharged

Mental health difficulties remain high

- 90% have mental health difficulties
- 37.5% are receiving treatment, with drug treatment and talking therapies most common
- 22.5% had needed treatment for a mental health problem in the past 12 months but didn't receive it

Physical health difficulties remain high

- 85% have at least one physical health problem
- 15% had needed treatment for a physical health problem in the past 12 months but didn't receive it

Substance use remains high

- 75% drink more than recommended daily limits when consuming alcohol
- 35% reported using drugs in the last 12 months
- 37.5% reported using drugs/alcohol to cope with their mental health; this is lower than in 2013