

**Ruth Dombey – Leader of the Council, London Borough of Sutton**  
**Mary Morrissey – Interim CEO, London Borough of Sutton**

08 February 2019

Dear Ruth and Mary,

We are very pleased to attach our Healthwatch Sutton report that investigated the views and experiences, in relation to mental wellbeing, of secondary school students who are studying in the London Borough of Sutton.

Over 5000 young people completed our survey, giving local providers and commissioners and the voluntary/community sector an invaluable source of intelligence that can be used to improve the prospects for the mental health of young people in the Borough.

By influencing how resources are used and developed, we are confident that really effective support can be put in place in Sutton.

The report includes a series of recommendations for a variety of organisations.

In particular, we are asking Sutton Council to respond to the following:

1	The findings from this report should be used to inform the emerging plans for delivery of the Trailblazer funding allocated to Sutton (Borough) and to support additional emotional support for young people in Sutton
2	Use these report findings and undertake further analysis of the data to inform the CAMHS recommissioning specification and process.
3	Investigate the potential for a young people's mental health Commissioning Director position, jointly funded by Sutton Council and Sutton CCG (similar to the adult mental health position already in place).
4	Use these findings to influence the commissioning intentions of Sutton Council and Sutton CCG
5	Develop a Children and Young People's Plan for Sutton.
6	Share the report with the LSCB Case Review subgroup to look at reasons behind suicides.

7 As most young people would speak to their friends or family if there was something affecting their emotional wellbeing, investigate ways to inform and support friends and family so that they can offer effective help.

However, we are also asking your organisation to investigate other actions that it may feel are appropriate to take in response to this report.

Ideally, we would like an action plan to accompany your response that we can use to track progress and measuring the impact of our report.

The legislation that sets out the remit of Healthwatch, places a requirement on local authorities to respond to a Healthwatch report in 20 working days (i.e. by 8 March 2019).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at Sutton Council who have supported the development and implementation of this project.

We have also written to Sutton CCG and Community Action Sutton to ask for their support to ensure that our recommendations are taken forward.

If you would like us to present the findings at any groups or committees, please let us know.

We look forward hearing from you and offer our support, if appropriate, to help make things happen.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Pete Flavell on 020 8641 9540 or [pete@communityactionsutton.org.uk](mailto:pete@communityactionsutton.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Pete Flavell' and the signature on the right is 'David Williams'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pete Flavell  
Healthwatch Sutton Manager

David Williams  
Chair – Healthwatch Sutton