



FORMAL PUBLIC INVOLVMENT

The following written question has been received from Anthea Franks, Chair NOS, Brighton & Hove Group

Osteoporosis Service

It has been found in the US that for women over 55, bone fractures due to osteoporosis lead to more hospitalisations and health costs than heart attacks, strokes or breast cancer, according to a new study. There, between 2000 and 2011 osteoporotic fractures accounted for 40% of hospitalisations. In the UK one out of four orthopaedic beds is occupied by a patient with a hip fracture. The mortality rate is 20% in the first year of a hip fracture. Morbidity and mortality increases with age for patients who have had a vertebral fracture.

In Brighton & Hove there were 247 fractures in 2013; in 2002 it was estimated that the cost of a hip fracture was £12,000 including social care. This brings the total conservative cost for hip fractures alone at £2,294,000 in Brighton & Hove at 2002 cost. This also affects Community Services.

Brighton & Hove Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy Board Plan for Better Care includes many topics including healthy ageing. An osteoporosis service is not mentioned. Does the board not think that such a service would be beneficial by offering primary and secondary prevention of osteoporotic fractures, thereby decreasing hospital cost, attendance at A&E and social care, not to mention patients' wellbeing?

