



AWARENESS OF HEARING LOSS

CHOLESTEATOMA AND TINNITUS

INTRODUCTION

- I would like to raise awareness as there's Limited provisions for members of the deaf and hearing loss community, what its like and how isolating it is.
- I have stats nationally and locally that I want to share.
- This afternoon I have invited Sarah to share her experience to illustrate the challenges.
- I believe there is a gap – there is more help in other areas E.g North bank
- Where people get help? What people want to see in this area.

MARTYN'S STORY

- When I was 10 months old I had failed my first hearing test. I could hear everything outside of the room but not in the room itself. As the years went by and I was getting older I had chronic ear infections whenever each of the seasons had come. I had several operations with grommets but all not successful. 2013 I had felt a change in my hearing and went to my GP for a test which I failed. I went to the ENT department for several years to try and determine what is happening. 2018 and I was no nearer to finding out what was going on. I had a 2nd opinion and the consultant diagnosed me with a condition called Cholesteatoma. What this condition is that I have got dead skin cells behind my ear drum which is eating my bones that work the ear. Surgery is the only treatment with this condition but it's the beginning. If left untreated then it can burrow in to the skull and cause complications such as Meningitis, brain abscess and even death.

STATS - NATIONALLY

- 1 in 16,000 people has cholesteatoma in the UK
- 4,000 people in the UK has the condition.
- 1,000 are children.
- 10 – 11 million people are deaf in the UK that's 1 in 6. 1 in 8 people has tinnitus
- 12 million adults has hearing loss in the UK that's 1 in 5.
- By 2035 14.2 million people will have hearing loss in the UK
- 50,000 children are deaf the in UK

Source - RNID

STATS - NATIONALLY CONTINUED

- 151,000 people in the UK uses BSL
- 40% people over 50 have hearing loss
- 70% of over 70's has hearing loss.
- 7.1 million people in the UK has tinnitus.

Source - RNID

LOCAL STATS.

- In NEL population is short of 160,000
- 2% has hearing loss in the borough which equates to 3,200 people
- Average attendance for Grimsby town home games in the 2019/20 season.
- 110 children are deaf or has hearing loss in our borough.

SOCIAL ISOLATION

- Social isolation among 60 – 69 year olds increase by 52%
- Mental health, physical health is a risk due to social isolation – common issues – Alzheimer's, Dementia (later in Life)
- Avoid social events, activates, business and transactional activity.

PROVISIONS AT THE MOMENT

- No where offers BSL Courses face to face.
- No local RNID centres, closest is Hull (24 miles) and then Doncaster (74 miles).
- No financial help unless you work 15 hours or less.
- No help if you earn 20,000 year - lower income.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PANEL

- Benefits – agree to work with Citizens Advice , RNID and others to promote a fairer system for the deaf community – e.g.PIP assessments.
- Health – request to investigate in hearing loops in all GP practices, Dental surgeries and the hospital. Ask the ICS to consider commission community support, including earlier hearing testing on the south bank.
- Public consultation –to note a survey is currently being run to capture what people, who are deaf or have hearing loss, want to see in NEL.
- To report back to this panel on the findings of the survey.