

Barbara Keeley responds to EPI report in to Child Mental Health Improvements

Barbara

Keeley MP, Labour's Shadow Cabinet Minister for Mental Health, commenting on the EPI report in to Child Mental Health Improvements, said:

"The

Prime Minister said in January that she wanted to 'transform the way we deal with mental health problems right across society' but the findings in this report show these were just warm words.

"With

nearly three quarters of Clinical Commissioning Groups failing to meet NHS England's improvement standards in children's mental health, and more than two

thirds of these groups without fully-funded crisis care plans, it is clear that

the Prime Minister's rhetoric on child mental health is not being matched by reality.

"The

most worrying part of this report is the increase in the number of young people

being treated on adult mental health wards which shows an abject failure of the

Government to grasp the problems in the mental health system.

"The

Government need to make sure that frontline mental health services get the money they need rather than using it to balance NHS budgets elsewhere."