

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1999. The public sector has become an important employer of people with mental health problems.

There is a growing awareness of the need to improve the mental health of people in the public sector. The Department of Health (1999) has published a strategy for mental health care, which includes a commitment to improve the mental health of people in the public sector. The strategy states that 'the mental health of people in the public sector is a priority for the Department of Health' and that 'the Department will work to ensure that people in the public sector have access to the same high quality mental health services as the general population'.

The Department of Health has also published a number of guidelines for the management of mental health problems in the public sector. These guidelines are designed to help public sector employers to create a supportive environment for people with mental health problems. The guidelines cover a range of issues, including recruitment, selection, training, and support. The guidelines also provide information on the legal rights of people with mental health problems in the public sector.

The Department of Health has also established a number of initiatives to improve the mental health of people in the public sector. These initiatives include the 'Mental Health in the Public Sector' campaign, which aims to raise awareness of mental health problems in the public sector, and the 'Mental Health in the Public Sector' toolkit, which provides public sector employers with a range of resources to help them create a supportive environment for people with mental health problems.

The Department of Health has also published a number of reports on the mental health of people in the public sector. These reports provide information on the prevalence of mental health problems in the public sector, the impact of mental health problems on the public sector, and the effectiveness of mental health services for people in the public sector. The reports also provide recommendations for how the public sector can improve the mental health of its employees.

The Department of Health has also established a number of committees and working groups to monitor and improve the mental health of people in the public sector. These committees and working groups include the 'Mental Health in the Public Sector' committee, which was established in 1999, and the 'Mental Health in the Public Sector' working group, which was established in 2001. These committees and working groups have been instrumental in developing the Department of Health's strategy and guidelines for mental health care in the public sector.

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