

Health and Wellbeing Board 25th May 2017

SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY

Responsible Officer

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1. Summary

- 1.1 The Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin Suicide Prevention Network (a multi-agency group (including CCG, LAs, VCS, Emergency services, Criminal Justice etc.) have drafted a joint area Suicide Prevention Strategy. The Strategy will serve to help co-ordinate efforts to achieve the ambition of zero suicide within our communities, provide appropriate support to those affected by suicide, strengthen links with wider mental health services and contribute towards achieving the target of a 10% national reduction in suicides by 2020 as outlined in the NHS England Five Year Forward for Mental Health.
- 1.2 The Action Plan will be further developed as part of the Shropshire Suicide Prevention Community Action Group (first meeting scheduled Wednesday 7th June) to ensure the factors and activities specific to our population in Shropshire are addressed.
- 1.3 The Board is asked to support and agree the implementation of this Strategy for Shropshire (please note the Strategy is also being taken to the Health and Wellbeing Board in Telford and Wrekin for sign off on Wednesday 14th June 2017).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 For the Board to agree and endorse for the Suicide Prevention Strategy to be implemented within Shropshire.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

(NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board works to reduce inequalities and health inequalities and must make considerations of inequalities with all decision making.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 No direct financial commitment from the Local Authority at this time other than minimal resources such as room bookings for Suicide Prevention events. Potential savings to the system from prevention of suicide, early intervention and access to appropriate support services and ensuring pathways are in place to support those who have been affected by suicide, which can have significant negative impact on their quality of life.

5. Background

5.1 Initial Consultation

During the summer of 2016, a consultation was completed with a wide range of stakeholders and service users, public, private and third sector organisations which culminated in a suicide prevention network event in September 2016. This gave us a large amount of insight as to what was going on locally and information about what was required.

5.2 Drafting the documents

A small core group was formed with representatives from a range of organisations in both areas. They have met several times and drafted a strategy and action plan that reflects the findings from the consultation. The strategy is a brief overarching document, the action plan will be developed further by the into two local groups and will contain a lot more detail.

5.3 The group has also proposed how Suicide Prevention will be progressed:

- **Core Steering Group**

A task and finish group with representation from a range of organisations in both areas. Chaired by independent chair and vice-chairs from the 2 Local Authorities. The group will oversee delivery of the strategy and annual network event. It will also be responsible for reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Boards and submitting other reports as required. It will meet formally once per year.

- **Local Action Groups**

Two Action Groups will be convened to develop local action plans in more detail, identify solutions and begin implementation. These groups will be chaired by Gordon Kochane (Shropshire) and Clare Harland (Telford and Wrekin). First meeting in Shropshire will be Wednesday 7th June.

- **Suicide Prevention Network**

An annual event bringing together a wide range of stakeholders and service users to review local Suicide Prevention activities and prioritise activities going forward

6. Additional Information

6.1 Suicide prevention is a key target in the NHS England Five Year Forward.

7. Conclusions

7.1 Although the suicide rate in Shropshire is not significantly different to that of the England average, there were still 81 deaths recorded as suicide in Shropshire between 2013 and 2015 that could have been prevented. Emerging evidence on risk factors to suicide has indicated indicators and interventions that through the support of a multi-agency focused approach, should help us to achieve the Network's vision to prevent all deaths from suicide in Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Draft Suicide Prevention Strategy
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Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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TBA

Local Member

Appendices
