

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Derek Ward, Director of Public Health

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	9 March 2021
Subject:	Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan

Summary:

This report informs the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board of the Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan, and the progress being made towards the implementation of the Suicide Prevention Action Plan to date.

Actions Required:

Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Note and discuss the contents of the report and the appendix
- Continue to support the work Public Health division are leading on for Suicide Prevention

1. Background

This report informs the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board of the Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan, and the progress being made towards the implementation of suicide prevention action plan to date. The Adult Care Specialists Team lead on a number of workstreams that support the mental health agenda. However this report focuses on the area of work that the Public Health Division are leading on, which are the steps being taken to reduce the number of suicides among Lincolnshire residents.

The Suicide Prevention Strategy 2020/23 and Action Plan 2020/21 were published in October 2020 and can be found on the [Lincolnshire Research Observatory](#). The Suicide Prevention Action Plan covers the period from October 2020 to September 2021.

The Strategy and Action Plan have been produced in collaboration with the Suicide Prevention Steering Group (SPSG), which is a system-wide, multi-agency partnership consisting of statutory and non-statutory organisations, which are interested in and are involved in reducing suicides among Lincolnshire residents. The Action Plan is currently being worked through with the SPSG members and the latest progress report can be found in Appendix A.

Progress on delivery of the suicide prevention action plan

- Under 1.1 of the action plan, an engagement session with people with lived experience, took place on Friday 8 January 2021 to obtain feedback around supporting males around mental health and suicide prevention. The feedback has been used to feed into the Community Suicide Prevention Innovation Fund Market engagement event on 12 January 2021
- Under 1.3 of the action plan, Lincolnshire County Council now has a contract with an organisation called Harmless/The Tomorrow Project to provide a low level Suicide Bereavement Support Service in Lincolnshire. The contract started on 21 December 2020 and lasts for 6 months until 21 June 2021
- Under 2.1 of the action plan, work is well underway to use the transformation funding from NHS England and Improvement to reduce male suicides and support males that self-harm. Engagement with people with lived experience has taken place to understand how males like to be helped and supported. The Community Suicide Prevention Innovation Fund has been confirmed and engagement with the market has taken place to make organisations aware of this funding and what the money can be spent on. There is a lot of interest in this funding within the community and it is positive that there will be further support out in the community for males to access in the new financial year
- Under 4.2 of the action plan, information on any deaths that are suspected suicides are sent through to Public Health Intelligence Team from Lincolnshire Police on a weekly basis and these are uploaded to a master database and mapped. However, due to resources being redeployed to Covid-19 work, this task is behind schedule and no detailed analysis has been conducted from the data received. We are exploring options for the Real Time Surveillance work to be managed by a third party.

Impact of Covid-19 on delivery of the action plan

Broadly the progress on the Action Plan has been good despite the pandemic. The majority of the actions are on track. The two actions, which are **Red**, are:

1.2. Identify/develop clear pathways of support for both individuals and professionals and

4.2. Develop Real Time Surveillance

Both of these actions have suffered from re-deployment of staff to Covid-19 response. Hence, their delivery dates need to be adjusted, and in the case of the latter, we are planning to contract it out for a short period of time.

The one action, which is **Yellow**, is:

4.1. Explore alternative data sources to gather intelligence to aid prevention of suicidal behaviours

This is due to current time commitment of Intelligence Teams across the system on Covid-19 response and as a result the delivery date may need to change.

2. Conclusion

Work around Suicide Prevention has been moving at pace during 2020 due to Covid-19 and the impact that this has had on the mental health of Lincolnshire residents. Lincolnshire is in a very good position moving forward, with different funding streams available for Lincolnshire to bid for as a system to support people with their mental wellbeing, which includes Suicide Prevention funding.

3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The Council and Clinical Commissioning Group must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Suicide Prevention work sits under the Mental Health (Adults) priority area of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Within the action plan for the Mental Health (Adults), one of the key deliverables is to "Implement a Suicide Prevention Programme," this Strategy and Action Plan sets out the programme of work around Suicide Prevention. There is also a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Suicide, which depending on Covid-19, looking to start to review the topic from May/June 2021 and the new Strategy and Action Plan will be featured within the update.

4. Consultation

The Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan has not undergone formal consultation; however it has been co-produced with partners across the system through the Suicide Prevention Steering Group (SPSG).

Since 12 February 2020, the draft Strategy has been going through the agreed governance route for sign off. Public Health colleagues have attended the following meetings and comments have been collated. Partners were asked to endorse the Strategy and agree to continue work on the Action Plan:

- Wednesday 12 February 2020 – Lincolnshire Corporate Leadership Team
- Tuesday 25 February 2020 – Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism Board
- Monday 9 March 2020 – Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board
- Thursday 12 March 2020 – Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Wednesday 21 July 2020 – Lincolnshire Corporate Leadership Team

(Please note the Health and Wellbeing Board was due to take place on 24 March, however this was cancelled due to COVID-19 guidance).

5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2020/21 Progress Report Oct 20-Jan 21

6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Shabana Edinboro, who can be contacted on 07876 395710 or shabana.edinboro@lincolnshire.gov.uk