

Summary Sheet

Council Report

Health and Wellbeing Board – 5th July 2017

Title

Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm Action Plan Update 2016/18

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

It is a priority within the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Strategy, 2015 – 2018.

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

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Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

This paper is an annual progress report on the actions detailed in the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Action Plan for 2016/2018.

Recommendations

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1.1 Accepts and endorses the report on actions taken by the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group since the update to the Board in May 2016.

1.2 Endorses the areas for future activity, including a commitment to continue Rotherham's early alert surveillance work, bereavement support and the social marketing campaign work.

1.3 Receives an update report on the work of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group once a year and exception reports as appropriate.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1- Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Action Plan 2016/2018.

Background Papers

Department of Health, Statistical update on suicide February 2015 (2015),

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/405411/Statistical_update_on_suicide_acc.pdf

HM Government (2015) Crisis Care Concordat:
<http://www.crisiscareconcordat.org.uk/>

HM Government (2015), Preventing suicide in England: Two years on Second annual report on the cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives,
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/405407/Annual_Report_acc.pdf

HM Government (2012), Preventing suicide in England: A cross government strategy to save lives. London: Department of Health;
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-strategy-for-england>

NHS England Mental Health Taskforce. The five year forward view for mental health. NHS England; 2016. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Mental-Health-Taskforce-FYFV-final.pdf>

Public Health England (PHE), (2016) Local suicide prevention planning National Suicide Prevention Alliance Supported by A practice resource,
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585411/PHE_local_suicide_prevention_planning_practice_resource.pdf

The National Mental Health Intelligence Network (NMHIN) and Public Mental Health Team launched the Suicide Prevention Profile on the Fingertips website in March 2015. This provides the latest data on suicides for local areas.
<http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile-group/mental-health/profile/suicide>.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel
Public Health Directorate Leadership Team.

Council Approval Required
No.

Exempt from the Press and Public
No.

Title (Main Report)

Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm Action Plan Update 2016/2018.

1. Recommendations

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1.1 Accepts and endorses the report on actions taken by the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group for 2016/2018.

1.2 Endorses the areas for future activity, including a commitment to continue Rotherham's early alert surveillance work, bereavement support and the social marketing campaign work.

1.3 Receives an update report on the work of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group once a year and exception reports as appropriate.

2. Background

2.1 The delivery of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Action Plan is an action within the Rotherham Health and Well Being Strategy.

2.2 Suicides are not inevitable. They are often the end point of a complex history of risk factors and distressing events; the prevention of suicide has to address this complexity. This can only be done by working collaboratively across all sectors within Rotherham.

2.3 The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Suicide and Self-harm published an "Inquiry into Local Suicide Prevention Plans in England" January 2015. The APPG considered that there were three main elements that are essential to the successful local implementation of the national strategy. All Local Authorities must have in place:

- a) Suicide audit work in order to understand local suicide risk.
- b) A suicide prevention plan in order to identify the initiatives required to address local suicide risk.
- c) A multi-agency suicide prevention group to involve all relevant statutory agencies and voluntary organisations in implementing the local plan.

2.4 Suicide prevention is a Public Health Outcome Framework indicator (PHOF).

2.5 The need to develop local suicide prevention strategies and action plans that engage a wide network of stakeholders in reducing suicide is set out in two Government documents: the government's national strategy for England, Preventing suicide in England: a cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives and the Mental Health Taskforce's report to NHS England, The five year forward view for mental health.

3. Key Issues

The Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group are able to report the following actions based on the six national areas for action as identified in the national strategy for England, (HM, 2012, *Preventing suicide in England: a cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives*) and an additional two which are Rotherham specific.

3.1 Increase local level of understanding suicide and establish reporting mechanisms to strategic partners

Actions include:

- The Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group meets quarterly to review progress on the action plan, receive suicide audit data and recommend any necessary response, for example, for high risk groups.

- Rotherham has an early alert approach to suspected suicides which means a response is made as soon as notification is received. South Yorkshire Police (SYP) Vulnerable Persons Unit, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG), RDaSH and Public Health to continue to provide this response. Suicide data received in real time enables an immediate response. Other services are notified as appropriate for example Adult Care and Housing.

3.2 Reduce risk in high risk groups

Actions include:

- Partner organisations of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) signed up to the Rotherham Suicide and Self-harm Community Response Plan in September 2015. The flowchart has been updated and amendments are being made to the guidance document. The process for activating the plan is the responsibility of Early Help, RMBC.
- The My Mind Matters Website has been reviewed and updated with input from the Youth Cabinet.
- All Rotherham schools in May 2017 received an updated Critical Incident Prompt sheet.
- The Top Tips on suicide prevention for General Practitioners has been updated to include risk factors and at risk groups in Rotherham.
- The campaign to target men, 'Breaking the silence on suicide' was launched in July 2016. Resources have been distributed across the borough with advertisements placed in local papers in December 2016.
- Suicide prevention training was provided in May 2017 by Public Health Specialist to Crossroads and Rotherham Alzheimer's Society staff.

3.3 Tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups

Actions include:

- In June 2017 there were 50 workplaces engaged with the Workplace Wellbeing Charter.
- 6 Rotherham schools have been piloting a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing. The schools commenced with this work in September 2016. Lessons learnt will be shared with other schools in the autumn term 2017.

3.4 Reduce access to means

Actions include:

- CARE about suicide training for frontline staff advises workers to be vigilant regarding access to means.
- A visit was made by Public Health Specialist and an Officer from the VPU (SYP) to one frequently used site to talk to staff about training and safety of the area.

3.5 Better information and support to those bereaved by suicide

Actions include:

- The Children and Young People's Bereavement pathway continues to be received very positively by families.
- Families are visited within 48-72 hours of the suspected suicide by Officers from the Vulnerable Persons Unit (South Yorkshire Police – SYP). Each family offered the Help is at Hand resource.

- Samaritans launched their bereavement support project in January 2017. Families are referred to this service by Officers from the VPU after their visit.

3.6 Support media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour

Actions include:

- Local media has promoted helpful contact details for the general public when writing about suicide.
- A 12 month marketing campaign was developed to launch the men's suicide prevention campaign with good coverage in the local press at the time of the launch.

3.7 Data collection and monitoring

Actions include:

- South Yorkshire Police (SYP) Vulnerable Persons Unit, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG), RDaSH and Public Health to continue to respond to suspected suicides as soon as notification is received through an early alert approach.

3.8 Workforce Development

Actions include:

- 4 SafeTalk courses ran in March 2017 resulting in 100 frontline staff being trained to identify those at risk, ask about suicide and signpost to appropriate help.
- WV Area Assembly identified £8000 for suicide prevention work in the Maltby Hellaby and Wickersley wards. This work includes 1 ASIST course, 1 SafeTalk course, 1 Adult and 1 Youth Mental Health First Aid.
- Public Health Specialist delivered suicide prevention training to South Yorkshire Town Pastors in July 2016.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

N/A

5. Consultation

5.1 Young people, including members of the Youth Cabinet and Looked after Children's Council were involved in the process to develop a mental health awareness campaign for young people.

5.2 In 2016, RMBC Public Health consulted partners, stakeholders and the general public, on the priorities for the Public Health Grant. The findings from this consultation showed that people living and working in Rotherham felt that children's mental health and the prevention of suicide were amongst the most important areas to support. People attending the Rotherham Show in September 2016 ranked mental health and suicide prevention as their top priority.

5.3 Partners of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group finalised their action plan based on local and national information and guidance on suicide prevention.

6. Timetable and Accountability

6.1 The Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Action Plan covers delivery until December 2018.

6.2 Reviews of progress will take place at the quarterly meetings of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group.

6.3 An annual update report will be given to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWbB).

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

The report will have financial implications:

7.1 Workforce Development

- In future there will be a charge for frontline staff attending the SafeTalk and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) suicide prevention courses.
- NHS funding has secured the purchase of manuals for 4 adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and 4 Youth MHFA courses in 2017/18.

7.2 Reduce risk in high risk groups

The Rotherham social marketing campaign for men was funded by Public Health, RMBC. The young people's mental health campaign received funding from NHS England for 2017. No further funding has been identified for either of these campaigns or any future initiatives for other at risk groups.

7.3 Reduce access to means and Data collection and monitoring

To continue with the early alert suicide surveillance work. Estimated costs include Officer time from SYP Vulnerable Persons Unit, RDaSH, RCCG and Rotherham Public Health.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 N/A.

9. Human Resources Implications

9.1 Suicide prevention is a partnership approach requiring commitment from Officers from all Health and Well Being Board members. In particular Officer time from Partner organisations to support the early alert approach to suicides and support for those bereaved by suicide.

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

10.1 The needs of children, young people and vulnerable adults are addressed within the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Action Plan. The early alert work monitors changes which are then reported to the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group and appropriate action taken.

11 Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 These are addressed within the action plan and the early alert work monitors changes which are then reported to the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Group and appropriate action taken.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 Suicide prevention is a partnership approach requiring commitment from Officers from all Health and Well Being Board members.

12.2 Support for adults bereaved by suicide is being funded by Rotherham Samaritans. The VPU (SYP) refers adults into this provision.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 In 2013-15 there were 96 suicides in Rotherham (aged 10+). The suicide rate] of 14.2 per 100,000 is higher than both the England rate (10.1) and the Yorkshire and Humber regional rate (10.7).

13.2 Families and communities bereaved by suicide are at higher risk of subsequent suicides than the general population. Postvention work in this area is an important in suicide prevention work. At present a specific project to support adults bereaved by suicide is funded by Rotherham Samaritans.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

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