

Title of meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board

Subject: Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Plan (Final for sign-off)

Date of meeting: 21st February 2018

Report by: Director of Public Health

Wards affected: Relevant to all wards

Key decision:

Full Council decision: Not required

1. Purpose of report

- To update the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) on the key amendments to Portsmouth's Suicide Prevention Plan since the HWB reviewed the draft Plan at November's HWB.
- To seek HWB sign-off for the final draft of the Suicide Prevention Plan.

2. Recommendations

- HWB approve the final draft of the Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Plan.

3. Background

Suicide is often the end point of a complex history of risk factors and distressing events. Suicide affects children, young people and adults – whether by taking their own life or as a person bereaved by suicide. Whilst death by suicide is highest in middle-aged men (i.e. 40-44 years), suicide is also a leading cause of death (nationally) for young people aged 15-24 years. In Portsmouth around 24 people, about 78% males, take their own lives by suicide each year. This is higher as a rate than the England average.

Suicides are not inevitable. There are many ways in which services, communities, individuals and society as a whole can help to prevent suicides. In Portsmouth, we **aim to reduce the number of suicides in the city by at least 10% over the next three years.** This 10% reduction is in line with the 5 Year Forward View for Mental Health (Independent Mental Health Taskforce for NHS England, 2016), which also recommends that every local area has a multi-agency suicide prevention plan in place. We are expecting a national request for local Plan's to be reviewed (most likely through self-assessment) this year.

By combining the national and local evidence base, seven key areas for action have been identified to support delivery of our aim:

1. Achieve city wide leadership for suicide prevention
2. Reduce the risk of suicide in key high-risk groups
3. Tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups
4. Reduce access to the means of suicide
5. Provide better information and support to those bereaved or affected by suicide
6. Support the media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour
7. Support research and data collection

As well as suicide being preventable, key messages learned from practice and research are that suicide is everyone's business, and that collaborative working is key to successful suicide prevention. In Portsmouth a multi-agency partnership group - *Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Partnership* - has been set up to oversee the development and implementation of the Suicide Prevention Plan. The Partnership includes representatives from Portsmouth City Council, Portsmouth Clinical Commissioning Group, the voluntary sector, community and acute health providers, emergency services, and other partners (see **Appendix 1** of the Suicide Prevention Plan for further detail).

Having all partners committed to contributing time to supporting action, and identifying any supporting resource, is important given that there is no new financial resource to support this Plan.

4. Reasons for recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the final draft of the Suicide Prevention Plan so that it can be published and delivery can commence from March 2018. The Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Partnership (PSPP) will oversee the delivery of the Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Plan and will report to the Health and Wellbeing Board on an annual basis.

5. Equality impact assessment

Preliminary EIA assessment complete.

6. Legal implications

Legal examining the Plan (by 21st February). No legal implications anticipated.

7. Director of Finance's comments

Finance examining the Plan (by 21st February). Public Health can confirm that the Plan can be delivered within existing resources. Opportunities to secure funding to support delivery of the Plan will be sought by Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Partnership over the next three years as any additional funding will benefit delivery and in turn outcomes, but new funding is not essential.

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Signed by:

Appendices: Please refer to the enclosed FINAL DRAFT Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Plan.

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Portsmouth Suicide Prevention Plan (FINAL DRAFT for sign-off)	See attached paper.

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: