

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

SUICIDE PREVENTION JSNA INSIGHTS PACK

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1 The objectives of this report are to:

- Inform Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) members that a joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA) insights pack on suicide prevention has been published.
- To identify key issues from the JSNA document.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The purpose of the JSNA suicide prevention insights pack is to provide an evidence base to help understand the epidemiology surrounding suicide in respect of:

- Prevalence of suicide
- Risk factors associated with suicide
- Prevention and intervention strategies

2.2 The JSNA suicide prevention insights pack is published on the [council's website](#) and has previously been discussed at various fora, including North Lincolnshire's Population Health and Prevention Partnership.

2.3 Suicide is not inevitable, and each suicide is a tragedy, which causes devastating and permanent impacts on families, friends and broader communities. It is estimated that annually 800,000 people across the world die by suicide, with 5,583 people taking their own life in England and Wales in 2021.

2.4 The North Lincolnshire vision is to work towards zero deaths caused by suicide. While the registered suicides show a decrease since 2018, the real time surveillance data is showing that potentially the number of suicides is increasing. The difference in reporting is due to time lag between published data and locally collected data.

The real time surveillance data is still subject to the coroner's verdict. North Lincolnshire has one of the highest delays in terms of time taken to register a death.

3.0 KEY FINDINGS FROM THE INSIGHTS PACK

The key findings from the insights pack are as follows:

3.1 Prevalence

- Three quarters of suicides are men, both nationally and locally.
- North Lincolnshire's suicide rate is currently lower than the England level, also the second lowest compared to Humber and North Yorkshire local authorities.
- Between 2019 and 2021, there were 43 suicides registered in North Lincolnshire, with a rate of 9.3 per 100,000 people. For this 3-year period North Lincolnshire was below the England average of 10.4 suicides per 100,000, although this is the first time North Lincolnshire has been below the England average since the 2015-17 period.

3.2 Risk Factors

- Hanging remains the most common method of suspected suicide, with 67% of suspected suicides taking place at home.
- According to a 2020 report published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), generally the highest rates of deaths come from the most deprived areas. Although, the gap between the most and least deprived areas can most commonly be seen among those in the working age group. Middle aged men in their 40's and 50's have had the highest rates of suicide of any age and gender in the past 10 years. For men of 43 years of age, the suicide rate in the most deprived areas is 2.7 times higher than that of the least deprived (36.6 to 13.5 per 100,000).
- Locally, 22 risk factors were identified from the real time surveillance data received between 2020 and June 2023. With loneliness, family/relationship issues, long-term health conditions and a history of self-harm being the most common risk factors identified.

3.3 Prevention

Public Health led suicide prevention work in North Lincolnshire Includes:

- **Suicide Prevention Steering groups:** North Lincolnshire has a well established Suicide Prevention Steering group which meets regularly. The multi-agency groups lead the suicide prevention action plans and agenda across respective areas.
- **Suspected Suicide Learning Panel (SSLP):** The SSLP is an important element of the North Lincolnshire Suicide Prevention Strategy. The panel explores the circumstances surrounding suspected suicides where common themes may exist and to learn from these circumstances with the aim of preventing further suicides.

- **Real Time surveillance:** Real-time surveillance data started in 2017 and has improved North Lincolnshire's ability to tackle suicide, allowing for trends and clusters to be seen in a timelier manner. Although RTS are unconfirmed suicide (only the coroner can deem cause of death, which can take a long time) the data can be used to help identify trends that can inform the direction of suicide prevention work and minimize the risk of contagion.
- **Contagion Action Plans (CAP):** These plans are instigated if there is a potential or possible risk of suicide contagion.
- **Suicide Prevention Training:** Alongside LivingWorks SafeTALK and ASIST the local authority provides suicide prevention training.

4.0 OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 **Option 1:** To note the content of the JSNA Insight Pack.

5.0 ANALYSIS OF OPTION

5.1 Suicide prevention is everyone's business. Therefore, collating all the relevant information and knowledge together into the insights pack helps provide consistent information which agencies can use to develop evidence-based approaches to help reduce suicides in North Lincolnshire .

6.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

6.1 None

7.0 OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.

7.1 None

8.0 OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

8.1 Not relevant for this report.

9.0 OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

9.1 Not relevant for this report.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the HWB approve option 1.

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