



# Tees Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2016/17-2020/21



TEES  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
TASK FORCE



Middlesbrough  
moving forward



Stockton-on-Tees  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



# Tees Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2016/17-2020/21

**Cross Cutting Strategies**

**Monitoring Board**

**Chair**

**Suicide Prevention Coordinator**

**Lead Officers**

**Implementation Date**

**Review Date**

Mental Health Strategy, Tees Crisis Concordat

LA Health and Wellbeing Boards  
(Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees and Redcar & Cleveland)

Edward Kunonga

Katie Bannister

Tina Walker (Redcar & Cleveland); Joe Chidanyika (Middlesbrough),  
Carole Johnson (Hartlepool); Mandy Mackinnon (Stockton-on-Tees)

March 2016

March 2018

## Priority 1: Sustain current funding for the TSPT group and activities

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
1.1 LA leads through partnership collaboration to identify and secure annual resources	Identified funding for TSPT group to implement action plan	Committed Local Authority budgets	Tees LA Leads	In place	Annual	

## Priority 2: Reduce the risk of suicide in key high-risk groups

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
2.1 To re-establish access to local suicide audit data and the early alert system to identify local high risk groups and develop intervention strategies	Increased intelligence to inform local activity/ commissioning	Audit	Tees Suicide Prevention Taskforce (TSPT)	LA leads funding a suicide and drugs related deaths coordinator post for 3 years	31st August 2018	
2.2 To promote available services across all partner agencies	Appropriate and early access to services	SP Networking Events/LA Mental Health Forums	All	Via Training Hub contract	March 2018	
2.3 Explore the roll out of the GP and Primary Care Suicide Prevention awareness e-learning programme (inc. risk assessment and management)	Increased awareness of package	No. of practices completing e-learning modules	NHS England/ CCG's/PHE N/E	NHS England LA leads	March 2018	
2.4 To respond to the recommendations from the Crisis Care Concordat	Effective partnership pathways	Renewal/Sign off data sharing arrangements	CCG Crisis concordat lead	In place	March 2018	
2.5 To explore localised approach for "talking down" for a range of agencies	Increased capacity of trained responders	No's trained	Cleveland Police	Tees Crisis concordat	March 2018	
2.6 To encourage workplace policies that support mental health	Up to date policies are in place	BHAW Award	Workplace Leads	LA Public Health	March 2018	
2.7 Support national, regional and local campaigns to challenge mental health stigma and discrimination and promote mental health	Increased awareness of mental health and reducing stigma	Feedback from TSPT members	TSPT members	PHE Resources	March 2018	
2.8 To understand local need and appropriate response to self-harm and near misses	Reduction in repeats of self-harm. Increased knowledge of self-harm and local interventions. Near miss Audit.	Reduction of Repeat attendance at A&E	TEWV	All partners	March 2018	
2.9 To maintain and strengthen current Tees Training Hub to deliver suicide prevention and mental health promotion programmes	To increase mental health knowledge and skills across a range of settings. To target training to organisations most likely to come into contact with those most at risk of poor mental health To provide equitable access to training within the 4 localities. To maintain training database To host an annual networking event	As set out in contract Regular updates to TSPT	LA Public Health	£50k (Tees) annually	March 2018	



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## Priority 3: Tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
3.1 GP practices to complete the GP audit tool to capture data regarding any potential suicide	Completed GP audit tool will improve the local information pool and identify those at risk	No's of completed audit tools	CCG's/Suicide Prevention Coordinator	CCG's/Suicide Prevention Coordinator	Annual	Red
3.2 To implement and support a range of preventative programmes to reduce the impact of the current economic crisis	No increase in suicides as a result of economic crisis	Evaluation of programmes	All	TSPT/LA/CCG	March 2018	Orange
3.3 To implement and support a range of preventative programmes to support the needs of specific groups, e.g. pregnant mothers, LGBT, Asylum Seekers, etc.	No increase in suicides of targeted groups	GP Audit Tool Local intelligence (TSPT members)	All	TSPT/LA/CCG	March 2018	Orange

## Priority 4: Reduce access to the means of suicide

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
4.1 To identify local hotspots, using suicide prevention audit, early alert system and local agency information e.g. Criminal Justice Service	Identification of hotspots and monitoring of numbers of deaths	Local audit/police data	TSPT/Police	Suicide coordinator	March 2018	Orange
4.2 Adopt the National Samaritans Signage	Increased visibility of Samaritan signage	No's placed	Samaritans	LA Public Health	December 2016	Teal
4.3 Support the ongoing work between the Samaritans, British Transport Police and Network Rail to reduce suicides on the railways	Reduced suicides on railways	Feedback to taskforce	Network Rail	Network Rail	March 2018	Teal
4.4 Work with Pharmacy Leads to support safe prescribing and encourage the return of unused prescribed medication	Safer prescribing, reduction of self-poisoning by prescribed medications	No. of reviews No. of returned medications Local audit	Healthy Living Pharmacies	Local Pharmaceutical Committee	March 2018	Orange
4.5 Encourage local authority planning departments and developers to include suicide in health and safety considerations when designing structures	Safer buildings Hotspot signage at identified local sites, as well as other mainstream areas to normalise signage	Reduction of near misses at hotspots	LA Leads	LA Councils	March 2018	Orange

## Priority 5: Provide better information and support to those bereaved or affected by suicide

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
5.1 Raise awareness of bereavement support provision for children and young people aged 0-5 years with key partners	Timely bereavement support	Increase in the numbers seen	PH Leads	LA/CAMHS transformation investment	March 2018	Teal
5.2 To manage performance of local support services to support those bereaved or affected by suicide	Improved health and wellbeing of clients	Number and outcome of those supported (via contract)	PH Leads	LA Public Health	March 2018	Teal
5.3 To provide information of local, regional and national services/resources for those bereaved or affected by suicide; including how to access	Improved health and wellbeing	Networking events TSPT group	All	Partner websites, briefing papers	March 2018	Teal



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## Priority 6: Support the media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
6.1 To review the taskforce communication strategy	To ensure a consistent and considered approach to respond to media stories/campaigns	Production of a Tees communications strategy	TSPT Comms Lead	LA Comms Depts	Annual	
6.2 To promote the use of the Samaritans media guidelines for reporting suicides and self-harm	All agency communication leads will be made aware of and to follow the guidelines	Reduction in irresponsible reporting An increase in media reports with local support contact details	TSPT Comms Lead	LA Comms Depts	March 2018	
6.3 For partner agencies to provide positive promotional materials that encourage help seeking behaviour; support understanding and recognition of those at risk; how to support someone and where to go for help	Increased positive mental health attitudes in the media	Reduction in irresponsible reporting	TSPT Comms Lead	All	March 2018	

## Priority 7: Support research, data collection and monitoring

Action	Outcome	Measure	Lead	Resource	Timescales	RAG
7.1 To utilise local academics to inform and learn from emerging research	To increase knowledge to support the delivery of the action plan	Roll out of pilot projects informed by research	FUSE/LA Leads	Taskforce	March 2018	
7.2 To explore existing protocol to record and learn from attempted suicides	Robust intelligence to inform delivery	Consistent recording of near misses	TEWV / Suicide/ Drugs related deaths coordinators	Taskforce	March 2018	
7.3 To identify collate and analyse real time suicides	Inform direction and delivery of taskforce action plan	Action Plan adapted according to new data	Suicide and Drugs related deaths coordinator	Taskforce	March 2018	