

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Report

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| <b>Committee:</b>   | Health and Wellbeing Board |
| <b>Date:</b>        | 25 June 2015               |
| <b>Title:</b>       | Suicide Prevention Plan    |
| <b>Reference:</b>   | 6762                       |
| <b>Report From:</b> | Director of Public Health  |

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to present the Hampshire Suicide Prevention Plan to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval.

### 2. Contextual information

2.1. Hampshire's rate of suicides is 8 per 100,000 which is comparable to the England rate of 8.0 per 100,000. The suicide audit for Hampshire highlights key issues for preventing suicide locally.

2.2. This suicide prevention plan outlines the key actions to reduce the risk on suicide in the residents of Hampshire. The report action plan covers the following areas.

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

2.3. A workshop was held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 to bring partners together to agree a plan to tackling suicide. This had representation from statutory agencies, council departments, voluntary sector, bereaved families and transport companies.

2.4. This plan will be reported back to the Health and Wellbeing Board by the end of 2016 with an interim report on the action plan prior to this.

### 3. Finance

3.1. There are no financial implications from this paper.

**4. Consultation and Equalities**

- 4.1. We have consulted with partner agencies through networks and meetings.
- 4.2. The plan focuses on the most at risk groups who were engaged with as part of the development process. This includes farming organisations, lesbian and gay support groups, transgender groups and prison staff.

**5. Recommendation**

- 5.1. To approve the suicide prevention plan for Hampshire.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b> | Yes |
| <b>Maximising well-being:</b>                   | Yes |
| <b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>          | Yes |

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

**The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)**

Document

Location

none

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:**

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- a) There will be a low positive impact for those considered most at risk/vulnerable to suicide. It is predicted that any difference made as a result of this Plan will have a low positive impact on these groups. It is anticipated that many of the actions will take place "behind the scenes" and therefore people in these population groups will not be aware of the changes taking place but will, nonetheless, benefit from them. Examples of these changes include safer transport routes (bridges, railway lines), increased awareness amongst frontline workers of the signs and symptoms of suicide etc.
- b) There will be no changes in the impact (positive or negative) to people who fall within the other protected characteristics.
- c) Monitoring the actions to ensure they provide a positive impact on these population groups, is an integral part of the performance management of this Plan.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. This work aims to positively impact on Police time (both Hampshire Constabulary and the British Transport Police) due to the reduced number of suicides.

**3. Climate Change:**

- a) No impact