

Update of the implementation of the Mental Well-being and Suicide Prevention Plan and Suicide Audit Group

Agenda Item 8

Date	22 July 2014
Author	Peter Fryers, Public Health Intelligence Consultant
Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to :<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Note progress made in the first 6 months of the Mental Well-being and Suicide Prevention Plan;b) Support the continued implementation of the Worcestershire Suicide Audit Group; andc) Request that a future update be brought to the Board as part of the Health Improvement Group annual report.
Background	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. In January 2014 the Health and Well-being Board approved the Worcestershire Mental Well-being and Suicide Prevention Plan and associated action plan.3. In addition to approving the Plan, the Board approved the following recommendations in respect to the Bromsgrove Highway Footbridge:<ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) Close monitoring of attempted suicide and actual suicides across the County be effected through a newly formed Suicide Audit Group, led by the Public Health Intelligence Consultant at Worcestershire County Council;(ii) No further action be taken at the present time at the Bromsgrove Highway Footbridge, since a possible cluster of suicide attempts and suicides is no longer evident, but to keep this under review, should the position change;(iii) Close working with the Samaritans continues.4. This report provides the Board with a 6 month update on the Plan and these actions.

Mental Well-being and Suicide Prevention Plan

Worcestershire Suicide Audit Group

5. The Plan identifies 3 strategic priorities which will inform the work of all partners over the next 3 years, with the overall aim of improving mental well-being and preventing suicide in Worcestershire:

Strategic priority 1: To promote a universal approach to improving mental well-being through the active development of the 5 ways to well-being (Connect, be Active, take Notice, keep Learning, Give). This provides evidence based advice, to empower individuals to take responsibility for their own and their families' mental health;

Strategic priority 2: To raise awareness and early recognition of mental health problems and to promote early intervention and self-help across the life course, including through the recovery journey.

Strategic priority 3: To improve information about suicide, and support for those who are bereaved or affected by it.
6. Following the approval of the Plan it was sent to key partners to share within their organisation and on a wider scale. The Plan was also discussed at a range of meetings including the Mental Health Network and District Well-being Groups.
7. Delivery against the action plan in the first 6 months is going well. Some of the specific areas of work to promote mental well-being have been:
 - Promoting 'Time to Talk' Day within the council with the help of the YMCA
 - Continuing to promote the 5 Ways to Well-Being
 - Being a key member of the Worcester University Suicide Safe Project
 - Supporting the implementation of a Low Level Mental Health in Children and Young People Task and Finish Group in Redditch
 - Delivery of Moodmasters and 2 sessions of Mental Health First Aid in Bromsgrove
8. Progress of this action plan will now be overseen by the Health Improvement Group (HIG) and future updates will be brought to the Board as part of the HIG annual report.
9. The Group met for the first time on the 30 April with representatives as below and considered a presentation on suicide statistics for the County. Terms of reference will be finalised at its June 30 meeting. Membership of the group will continue to be monitored to ensure appropriate partners are involved.
 - County Council
 - Police

- Probation
- Samaritans
- Mental Health
- NHS
- Worcester University.

10. A meeting with the Coroner has taken place to agree methods of obtaining detailed information about verdicts in suicide cases as well as cases pending. Members of the Group will also keep each other informed about incidents, including attempted suicides as they occur in the county.
11. Going forward the Group will focus on analysing this data to explore the circumstances of suicides with a view to identifying any patterns such as demographic group, method and location, which might indicate where additional action is required.
12. In relation to the Bromsgrove Highway Footbridge the local newspaper for the 22 February reported someone 'threatening to jump off the bridge'. The police recorded this incident as a 'concern for safety with a qualifier of mental health'. This was as a result of the individual being seen by a member of the mental health team.
13. To date there have been no other reported incidents by the Police or other partners about this specific location. The Group will continue to monitor this location in line with the rest of its work.
14. A meeting has taken place between County and District officers and members to discuss possible measures such as anti-climb paint.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Background Papers

Health and Wellbeing Board minutes
(<http://public.worcestershire.gov.uk/web/home/DS/Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2Fweb%2Fhome%2FDS%2FDocuments%2FCommittees%2C%20Panels%20and%20Reviews%2FHealth%20and%20Well%2Dbeing%20Board%2FMinutes%202014&FolderCTID=0x01200002FEC5A935DD7249B89E1A0164F7DA72&View={F63EB537-6E56-4C99-B168->

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