

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Subject Heading:

Draft joint suicide prevention strategy
between Havering and Barking & Dagenham

Board Lead:

Mark Ansell

Report Author and contact details:

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following themes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- Theme 1: Primary prevention to promote and protect the health of the community and reduce health inequalities
- Theme 2: Working together to identify those at risk and intervene early to improve outcomes and reduce demand on more expensive services later on
- Theme 3: Provide the right health and social care/advice in the right place at the right time
- Theme 4: Quality of services and user experience

SUMMARY

A paper was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2017 regarding the development of a local suicide prevention strategy and action plan, which is the result of collaboration between Havering and Barking and Dagenham.

Attached is the draft Suicide Prevention Strategy which has been informed by Public Health England Guidance, the National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England, and engagement with stakeholders (including a workshop held in October 2017).

The key points to note are that:

- whilst rates of suicide in Havering and Barking and Dagenham are lower (better) than London and England, there is no room for complacency: suicide has a long lasting and devastating impact on those affected
- many suicides are preventable
- concerted action across a broad range of factors and by a range of partners is required to prevent suicide

The draft Suicide Prevention Strategy proposes two aims:

1. To reduce rates of suicide across Barking and Dagenham and Havering by one third by 2020/21. This is a highly ambitious aim which, if achieved, will mean that the two boroughs will be the best performing areas in England.
2. To ensure that people who are affected by suicide in our boroughs receive help and support.

The steering group acknowledges that many actions are required to address the issues that contribute to suicide (as summarised in Appendix 3) and the group plans to address these during the lifetime of the strategy. However, the steering group also recognises that there is a need to prioritise which actions to focus on first. The draft document describes seven priority actions (see pages 6 – 7) which have been informed by discussions at steering group meetings, and wider participation at the workshop event.

The Steering Group will oversee delivery of the seven priority actions, and will appoint a lead for each area. The appointed lead will develop a project plan that sets out key milestones over the first eighteen months of the strategy.

The Steering Group will also develop a process to monitor the delivery of the strategy, including a dashboard of indicators.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to

- send comments on the draft strategy to the author by 1 December 2017
- agree that the Chairman may take Chairman's action to sign off the final version of the strategy on behalf of Havering Health and Wellbeing Board (by 31 December 2017)
- agree to receive an annual progress report on the implementation of the strategy's action plan and its impact on suicide rates



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LONDON BOROUGH

REPORT DETAIL

No further detail

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

As this is a joint strategy and action plan, there is a risk that Barking and Dagenham HWB and Havering HWB may have differing views about the strategy and thus the strategy not agreed within the timescale required (i.e. by end 2017).

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No further background papers