

29 March 2021

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NHS ENGLAND WAVE 4 SUICIDE PREVENTION FUNDING

Purpose of the Report

1. Nottinghamshire County Council have successfully bid on behalf of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System (ICS) footprint, for Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme funding from NHS England. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval:
 - a. To procure service(s) to deliver elements of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme across the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System (ICS) footprint.
 - b. To award contract(s) following the procurement exercise.
 - c. To award grant funding if needed to develop or enhance community level initiatives to support suicide prevention.
 - d. For the establishment of one Full Time Band D (subject to any job evaluation outcome) Public Health and Commissioning Manager (Suicide Prevention Programme) post for a period of three years.
 - e. To undertake communications and public awareness campaigns, including World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day from 2021 - 2024.
2. To offer Elected Members the opportunity to engage with suicide awareness training in year 2 or year 3 of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme with a view to becoming community suicide prevention champions.

Information

Background

3. "In England, approximately one person dies every two hours as a result of suicide. Suicide has a significant, lasting and often devastating impact - economically, psychologically and spiritually - on individuals, families, communities, and the wider society. While accurate costs are difficult to quantify, national estimates suggest that each suicide costs the economy in England around £1.67 million."¹

¹ Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy 2019-2023.

National and local context

4. The national all-age suicide prevention strategy 'Preventing suicide in England: A cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives'² was published in 2012, with annual reports reviewing progress and setting out future priorities being published regularly (2014, 2015, 2017 and 2019).
5. The 2017 annual report³ set out a national commitment to reduce the rate of suicide by 10% by 2020/21, against a 2016/17 baseline. The 2019 annual report⁴ reinforced suicide prevention as a national priority, including within the NHS Long Term Plan. This includes a priority to work in partnership with local government to embed their local suicide prevention plans in every community.
6. The NHS Long Term Plan (2019) includes ambitions relating to mental health and suicide prevention, including retaining suicide prevention as a national priority for the next 10 years. NHS England have committed to expand the suicide prevention programme to all areas of the country through the Long Term Plan.
7. The national commitment to reduce the rate of suicide by 10% has been incorporated into the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System (ICS) Mental Health Strategy⁵. The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS Mental Health Strategy sets out clear ambitions to reduce the number of suicide deaths by strengthening and increasing action to prevent suicide and self-harm and ensuring timely access to appropriate services for vulnerable people including those at risk of suicide and self-harm. The ICS Mental Health Board includes representation from Nottinghamshire Adult Social Care and Health. Governance arrangements for the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy Group (SPSG) include reporting into the ICS Mental Health Board and the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board.
8. The Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy⁶ acknowledges the importance of mental health and includes mental wellbeing as an area for impact within the strategic ambition to deliver healthy and sustainable places.
9. In 2019, the Office of National Statistics reported a total of 5,691 deaths by suicide in England and Wales at a rate of 11.0 per 100,000 population⁷. The average suicide rate between 2017 and 2019 per 100,000 population was 12.7 in Nottingham and 9.1 in Nottinghamshire, compared to the England average of 10.1. For Nottinghamshire, this related to 199 deaths by suicide (2017-2019)⁸.

² HM Government and Department of Health. Preventing suicide in England: A cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives. Evidence Brief. 2012

³ HM Government. Preventing suicide in England: Third progress report of the cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives. 2017

⁴ Department of Health and Social Care. Preventing suicide in England: Fourth progress report of the cross government outcomes strategy to save lives. 2019

⁵ Everyone's Different, Everyone's Equal: All Age Integrated Mental Health and Social Care Strategy 2019-2024, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System

⁶ Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022

⁷ Suicides in England and Wales, Office of National Statistics, September 2020

⁸ Public Health Profiles: Suicide Prevention Profile, Public Health England

Funding for Suicide Prevention

10. Led by Nottinghamshire County Council Public Health Team, the Suicide Prevention Strategy Group for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS were successful in obtaining funding from NHS England Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Funding in November 2020. The submission for the funding was reviewed by colleagues from NHS England, Public Health England and a lay member with lived experience who all gave very positive feedback on the submission.
11. The funding received is for £209,161 per annum over three years (2021-22; 2022-23; and 2023-24), allocated on the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS footprint. Bassetlaw has previously received suicide prevention funding as part of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw ICS. Nottinghamshire County Council will continue to work with colleagues in Bassetlaw to support alignment of agendas.

The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme

12. The proposal has four themes aligned with the priorities within the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy (2019-2023). Activities within each of the four themes are evidence based Public Health interventions that are known to support a reduction in suicide rates. Please see Appendix A for further detail on the proposal:
 1. **Competency, compassion, knowledge and skills** focused on training for a range of audiences including primary care and other statutory services, non-statutory services, the voluntary and community sector and community champions. Recognising the influence and connections of Elected Members within our communities, the opportunity for Elected Members to engage in suicide prevention training is also included.
 2. **Communications and public awareness** focusing on developing a recognisable brand and campaign for population and targeted approaches to raising awareness and reducing stigma around suicide. This will include undertaking communication campaigns to align with annual World Suicide Prevention Day (10th September 2021) and World Mental Health Day (10th October 2021).
 3. **Prevention support for high risk groups**, this will include mapping an all age self-harm pathway and resultant improvement to services; targeted delivery of support to people at risk of suicide experiencing challenges that are known triggers/antecedents to suicide e.g. relationships, debt, housing; development of a small grants process to support community groups with small scale but high impact projects.
 4. Further development of **Real Time Surveillance** to identify and commission a data system to enable easier production of routine and bespoke reports, reducing reliance on manual data analysis for real-time reporting of potential suicides. The Real Time Surveillance system monitors Nottinghamshire Police and British Transport Police data on deaths that are suspected to be a result of suicide (pre-coroner's inquest) to identify current suicide rates and trends to inform suicide prevention responses.
13. The programme will be underpinned by a clear evaluation framework, co-production and participation of people with lived experience and multi-agency collaboration with partner organisations and community groups.

14. The programme will link with the wider mental health system through the ICS Mental Health and Social Care Board and exploring opportunities for joint commissioning with the NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group. Working across Adult Social Care and partners the programme will be aligned with the further development of the Mental Health Prevention Concordat within Nottinghamshire that will be reviewed at a Health and Wellbeing Board workshop in the summer.

Governance and management of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme

15. The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy Group will be the lead group with oversight of the Wave 4 programme and report into the ICS Mental Health and Social Care Board and the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Health and Wellbeing Boards.

16. NHS England has confirmed allocation of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Funding, with the funding expected to be transferred to NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG by July 2021. The funding will then be transferred to the County Council. Support will be sought from Legal Services for the agreement with the CCG for the transfer of the funding. There is an expectation from NHS England that local areas undertake work from January 2021 to enable suicide prevention programmes to be operational from the 1st April 2021.

17. A Public Health and Commissioning Manager (Suicide Prevention Programme) post (Band D) will be recruited to. Subject to identification of a suitable candidate the post will be offered as a fixed-term three-year secondment opportunity across the system, with employment hosted by Nottinghamshire County Council. If a suitable secondee is not available, Public Health intend to recruit externally. The post will work to oversee and deliver the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme on behalf of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS and Health and Wellbeing Boards. £41,000 (per annum) of the cost of the post will be funded through the NHSE Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Funding, this will provide 0.68 Full Time Equivalent to be dedicated to the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme. £19,025 (per annum) of the cost of the post will be funded through Public Health Reserves Funding, providing 0.32 Full Time Equivalent to deliver Nottinghamshire County Council suicide prevention activities. The use of Public Health Reserves Funding for suicide prevention activities was approved by Adult Social Care and Health Committee in October 2020⁹.

18. The Public Health and Commissioning Manager (Suicide Prevention Programme) will be responsible for internal and external partnership work to embed suicide prevention across the system. The work plan will incorporate engagement with system partners such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, strategic safeguarding and domestic abuse to ensure work is standardised and embedded across the Health and Social Care system.

Procurement

19. From April 2021 Public Health will work with our local partners, providers and people with lived experience to co-produce our detailed requirements against each of the four themes of our Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme.

⁹ Nottinghamshire ASCH Committee Investing uncommitted Public Health Grant for a Healthier Nottinghamshire, October 2020

20. A procurement exercise is likely to be required to secure provision for the following elements of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme:

- Provision of training for a wide range of front-line professionals, the voluntary and community sector and community champions
- Development of branding for suicide prevention campaigns and communications
- Targeted suicide prevention support for high risk groups
- A database to further enhance our Real Time Surveillance system for monitoring potential suicide deaths

21. The ASCH department will work with Procurement and Legal to devise the most appropriate contract model for these services.

22. Contract(s) will be awarded by Nottinghamshire County Council based on the outcomes of the procurement exercise.

23. A small grants process will be established for community groups and voluntary sector and not-for profit organisations to bid for funding to develop or enhance community level initiatives to support suicide prevention. This will be aligned where possible to existing processes for awarding of small grants within Nottinghamshire County Council.

24. Appendix B sets out the anticipated timescales within the three-year plan.

Other Options Considered

25. No other options to be considered

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

26. To deliver the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme utilising NHS England funding.

27. To contribute to the Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy 2019-2023 aim “to reduce the rate of suicide and self-harm in the Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire population, by proactively improving the population mental health and wellbeing, and by responding to known risks for suicide in the population”¹⁰.

Statutory and Policy Implications

28. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

¹⁰ Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy, 2019-2023

Financial Implications

29. A total of £209,161 per annum over three years (2021-22; 2022-23; and 2023-24), allocated on the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS footprint. The funding will be allocated to NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG on an annual basis and then transferred to Nottinghamshire County Council. The funding confirmation letter from NHSE for 2021-22 has been received.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Adult Social Care and Health Committee:

- 1) Approves the procurement of service(s) to deliver elements of the Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme
- 2) Approves award of contract(s) following the above procurement exercise
- 3) To award grant funding if needed to develop or enhance community level initiatives to support suicide prevention
- 4) Grants approval for the recruitment of a full time Public Health and Commissioning Manager (Suicide Prevention Programme) Post (Band D - subject to any job evaluation outcome) to support development and initiation of the local Wave 4 Suicide Prevention Programme and undertake Nottinghamshire County Council suicide prevention activities.
- 5) Grants approval to undertake communication and public awareness campaigns, including World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day from 2021- 2024.
- 6) Advise whether Elected Members would like to engage with suicide awareness training.

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Constitutional Comments (CEH 26.02.2021)

30. The report falls within the remit of Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (DG 17.03.2021)

31. The funding to be received is £209,161 per annum over three years (2021-22; 2022-23; and 2023-24), with £41k per annum funding a 0.68 FTE Public Health Commissioning Manager (Suicide Prevention Programme) post (Band D), and the balance to procure services to deliver the programme. Public Health reserves will then fund the rest of the post £19,025 (0.32 FTE).

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- HM Government and Department of Health. Preventing suicide in England: A cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives. Evidence Brief. 2012 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/430720/Preventing-Suicide-.pdf
- HM Government. Preventing suicide in England: Third progress report of the cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives. 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/582117/Suicide_report_2016_A.pdf
- Department of Health and Social Care. Preventing suicide in England: Fourth progress report of the cross government outcomes strategy to save lives. 2019 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/772184/national-suicide-prevention-strategy-4th-progress-report.pdf
- NHS Long Term Plan 2019 <https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-long-term-plan/>
- Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022 <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/129223/the-joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy-2018-2022.pdf>
- Everyone's Different, Everyone's Equal: All Age Integrated Mental Health and Social Care Strategy 2019-2024, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System <http://www.nottinghamnortheastccg.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/ICS-Mental-Health-and-Social-Care-Strategy-1.pdf>
- Public Health Profiles: Suicide Prevention Profile, Public Health England <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile-group/mental-health/profile/suicide>
- Suicides in England and Wales, Office of National Statistics, September 2020. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/suicidesintheunitedkingdomreferencetables>
- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Suicide Prevention Strategy (2019-2023).
- Nottinghamshire ASCH Committee Investing uncommitted Public Health Grant for a Healthier Nottinghamshire, October 2020. <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/5430/Committee/514/Default.aspx>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All