

Haringey Suicide Prevention Group

Terms of Reference

Introduction & Overview.....	2
Purpose of HSPG.....	3
Actions.....	4
Membership.....	5
Meetings, authority & accountability	7
Summary Declaration & ToR.....	8

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HSPG Webpage www.mindharingey.org.uk/suicide-prevention.asp

Mind in Haringey (MiH) www.mindharingey.org.uk/

Introduction & Overview

Suicide destroys lives and devastates families and communities; with almost one million deaths per year globally, suicide is now one of the top twenty causes of death for all ages worldwide. Suicide is often the tragic end point of a complex series of events, vulnerabilities and risk factors. Linked to unemployment, debt and other forms of loss and disadvantage, as well as mental health problems, suicide rates have increased nationally along with the impact of the financial crisis and threats to housing and benefits that certain policy changes in the UK have brought. Related to self-harm among young people, drug or alcohol problems, and to social isolation, ill-health or bereavement among the elderly, we often think of suicide in terms of particular groups considered 'at risk'. But suicide affects anyone. Most who die by suicide were not viewed as at risk, nor were they in contact with mental health services. Suicide is everyone's responsibility. The human costs of suicide are immeasurable, and the ripple effect on society is enormous. Prevention of death by suicide is a national priority under NHS Public Health Outcome 4 (preventable deaths including suicide).

Suicide rates in Haringey are considerably higher than the average for London, and nationally. The suicide audit carried out by Haringey Public Health in 2016 identified basic patterns and trends in the local area. The highest number of deaths by suicide has been of those residing in the more disadvantaged east of the borough. Those particularly at risk include young and middle-aged men in employment, those experiencing various forms of crisis (e.g. relationship, financial, housing or health problems), those with mental health conditions and those with limited or late access to health services. Preventing suicide requires making help accessible to those who do not, or cannot, reach services. Most who died by suicide had no contact with mental health services, perhaps because of the societal attitudes to mental health, isolation, or complex mental and social problems.

Many deaths by suicide are preventable. The new national suicide prevention strategy [Preventing suicide in England](#), was released in 2012. The implementation of this strategy depends crucially on coordinating initiatives at the local level. The Haringey Suicide Prevention Group was established in June 2015 as a focused inter-agency strategic group involving the widest range of stakeholders to play a vital role in championing, prioritising and coordinating suicide prevention, especially now that reduction in the number of people dying by suicide is one of Haringey's Mental Health and Wellbeing Outcomes.

Purpose of HSPG

The **purpose** of the **Haringey suicide prevention group** is:

- to **bring together** those individuals, groups and agencies working to prevent suicide in Haringey, and coordinate activities aimed at reducing deaths by suicide;
- raise the **profile** of the problem of suicide, self-harm and bereavement by suicide within the borough (e.g. through the Health and Wellbeing Board HWBB) and act to leverage positive change in these areas;
- to work with the Director of Public Health to ensure up-to-date data and intelligence on deaths by suicide, groups at-risk, trends, circumstances and specific local issues as an input to prevention planning; and to oversee, monitor and update the local action plan (the Haringey Suicide Prevention Plan) based on local evidence recognising Haringey's diverse and changing population, as well as national guidelines;
- to promote **activities** directly aimed at reducing suicides and supporting those bereaved by suicide;
- to facilitate **coordination** of action and effective partnerships in suicide prevention across sectors, including health, social care, education, the environment, housing, employment, the police and criminal justice system, transport and the voluntary sector (e.g., Health/Mental Health Trusts, GPs, local authorities, police and voluntary groups);
- to encourage **feedback, monitoring and learning** in relation to action on suicide prevention;
- to act as a channel of **communication** for the development of initiatives tailored to local needs, and to share information, ideas and innovations;
- secure **funding** for suicide prevention.

Actions

- HSPG members have been working together since June 2015 to create the **Haringey Suicide Prevention Plan (HSPP)**. In March 2017 the HSPP was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board and approved.
- Meet quarterly to review activities and exchange information from group members representing a wide range of stakeholders.
- Push forward key areas for local action through focused working groups.
- Map current practice and service provision, gather information on all current targeted action (statutory and voluntary) on suicide prevention and identify **gaps, unmet needs and opportunities** for action in Haringey.
- Improve data on suicide and work towards a system for 'real-time' data able to meet the needs of public health planning and ensuring those bereaved by suicide are given timely support.
- Maintain **communication** links with the HWBB via HWB Outcome 3 Group and Mental Health reference Group and raise awareness and advise on the potential for commissioning interventions that can prevent suicide.
- Help **coordinate** and facilitate collaborative projects on suicide prevention.
- Develop services to support for **families and others bereaved by suicide**; and protocols for action in the aftermath of suicide.
- Promote suicide prevention **training and support** (for frontline staff, GPs/health workers, schools/FE colleges, police, A&E staff, *and* for those families, friends and colleagues worried about someone at risk of suicide).
- Track policy developments and best practice from national and other organisations, and learn from the **best practice/experience** of other suicide prevention groups and plans.
- **Link** to regional, cross-borough partnerships, and national networks (e.g., membership of the National Suicide Prevention Alliance).

HSPG Members

- **Statutory**

[BEHMHT](#) (Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust)

[BTP](#) (British Transport Police)

[CAMHS](#) (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, BEH)

[CIC](#) (Children in Care) Haringey / Whittington Trust

[Coroners](#) (North London)

[DWP](#) (Department of Work & Pensions), [Job Centre Plus](#) (Tottenham)

[Haringey CCG](#) (Clinical Commissioning Group)
GP Lead, Enablement Lead, Quality Assurance

[Haringey Council](#)

[Public Health](#)

[HWB](#) (Health and Wellbeing Board)

Local Area Coordinators

GP Leads

[Haringey Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Team](#)

Lea Unit, St Ann's Hospital

[Homes for Haringey](#)

[HYAS](#) (Haringey Young Adults Service)

[IAPT](#) (Improving Access to Psychological Therapies) Whittington Hospital

[Metropolitan Police](#) (North Area BCU)

Metropolitan Police Marine Suicide Prevention Team

Members of Parliament / Councillors

[Catherine West MP](#) (Hornsey & Wood Green)

[David Lammy MP](#) (Tottenham)

Nick da Costa - Liberal Democrat member for Alexandra Ward and Opposition Spokesperson for Mental Health and Wellbeing

[NMUH](#) (North Middlesex University Hospital)

Mental Health Liaison Team & Peer Support Workers

[PHE](#) (Public Health England)

[The Grove Drug Treatment Service](#) (Haringey)

- **Voluntary Sector, non-statutory organisations and individuals**

[Arriva Rail London](#)

[Blenheim CDP](#)

[Bridge Renewal Trust](#) (Haringey)

[CAB Haringey](#) (Citizens Advice Bureau)

[Cardboard Citizens](#) (Homeless charity)

[CCWIBS](#) (Camden, City, Westminster, Islington Bereavement Service)

[Consonant](#) (Migrant Resource Centre)

[Derman](#) (Supporting the Turkish and Kurdish community)

[Grief Encounter](#) (Child bereavement service)

[HAGA](#) (Action on Alcohol)

[HAIL](#) (Learning disabilities support)

[HCC](#) (Highgate Counselling Centre)

[JAMI](#) (Mental health service for the Jewish community)

Local residents bereaved by suicide

Local individual counsellors

[Levertons Independent Funeral Directors](#)

[Maytree](#) (respite centre for the suicidal)

[MIND](#) (Haringey)

[Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen](#)

[Open Door](#) (Youth Counselling Service)

[Poles in Need](#) – (Family support service for the Polish Community in UK)

[Samaritans](#) (North London Samaritans)

[SOBS](#) (Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide)

[Solace Women's Aid](#) (Supporting women and children in London)

[St Mungo's](#) (Homeless charity)

[The Compassionate Friends](#) (Support after the death of a child of any age)

[Tottenham Hotspur Foundation](#)

[Wise Thoughts](#) (LGBTQI+ & BAME Arts Charity based in Haringey)

[YMCA](#)

Potential Members

- Prison and criminal services, probation
- Transport for London
- Fire service
- Ambulance service
- Organisations representing at-risk groups: BME organisations; young people's organisations responsible for a range of services e.g. housing, drug and alcohol, sexual health; older people's services; LGBT-specific services; Trans services;
- People with lived experience; survivors and families
- Researchers

Meetings, authority & accountability

Administrative support to be provided by Mind in Haringey

- **Frequency of meetings**

The group will meet four times a year. Minutes, action points and updates circulated. The Chair, when deemed necessary, may call additional meetings.

The Group will form focused Working Groups as necessary

- **Membership and attendance at meetings**

Membership will include any local organisation whose remit includes activity relevant to suicide prevention or with information pertinent to local deaths by suicide; as well as individuals with interests/expertise in suicide prevention, those bereaved or affected by suicide or with lived experience.

All the member organisations may send a designated official to attend the meetings.

- **Authority / Accountability**

The group's reports will be received by the Mental Health Reference Group (Haringey Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Group) and the Haringey Health and Wellbeing Board (via the Haringey Council Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing), the HWB Outcome 3 Delivery Group, the National Suicide Prevention Alliance. The Group will form focused Working Groups as necessary.

The Haringey Suicide Prevention Group reports to the [Haringey Health and Wellbeing Board](#) (HWB) and is a member of the National Suicide Prevention Alliance - [NSPA](#) , [TASC](#) and the [All Party Parliamentary Group \(APPG\) for Suicide and Self-harm prevention](#).

- **Resources**

Group meetings will be resourced by Mind in Haringey. Responsibility for any additional financial and other resources as may be required to assist in the prevention of suicides will be discussed within the Group.

HSPG Declaration and Summary of Terms of Reference

Declaration

Suicide destroys lives and devastates families and communities. It is now the single biggest cause of death in men aged 15-49 in England and Wales. Suicide is often the tragic end-point of a complex series of events, vulnerabilities and risk factors that are individual and societal. Many suicides are preventable, but given the complexity of the factors involved, only by working together in the community and across organisations will we be able to identify, foster and support life-saving interventions: suicide is everyone's business.

Who are we?

The **Haringey Suicide Prevention Group** is a multi-agency group of organisations (statutory and voluntary) and individuals willing to take action to reduce suicide and support those bereaved or affected by suicide in LB Haringey and who recognise the importance of local action.

The outcomes we aim for

We support the Haringey Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework Outcome that 'fewer people will suffer avoidable harm or die by suicide'; and following the National Suicide Prevention Strategy (and the National Suicide Prevention Alliance) think this will be achieved if we work together to ensure that:

- high-risk groups, and the wider population, are encouraged to seek help when they are experiencing emotional distress;
- people in distress have more options for support and understand what help is on offer;
- it is harder to access the means of suicide;
- there is better information and support for people bereaved or affected by suicide;
- many more organisations send their people on suicide awareness and prevention training;
- there is more collaborative working between agencies with an interest in suicide reduction - to share good practice, learn lessons, carry out joint projects and pool resources;
- there is better data relating to suicide prevention and it is easier to obtain

Purpose

The Haringey Suicide Prevention Group will work to implement the action plans as set out in the Haringey Suicide Prevention Plan (HSPP), as approved by the Haringey HWB in March 2017.

The Group will advise on the implementation of national and local strategies to prevent deaths from suicides and injuries (including poisonings) of undetermined intent among people in Haringey.

The Group will raise awareness of the issue of suicide; help coordinate local action to reduce the death rate from suicide in all age groups in the London Borough of Haringey.

The Group will inform and support practices by different organisations in Haringey aimed at preventing suicide, and providing support to those bereaved by suicide.

The Group will share information on the delivery of recommendations with key healthcare and support organisations.

The Group will disseminate reports and key learning points with regard to the prevention of suicides.