

	Health and Wellbeing Board Thursday 14th July 2022
Title	Suicide Prevention Strategy Annual Report
Report of	Director of Public Health and Prevention
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A – Barnet Suicide Prevention Annual Update April 2021 – March 2022
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Summary

The Barnet Suicide Prevention strategy was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2021. The Barnet Suicide Prevention Annual Report April 2021 – March 2022 provides an update on the actions for the first year of the 2021-25 strategy. The report has three sections:

1. Suicide and self-harm statistics
2. Suicide Prevention Programme Update
3. Future plans

Officer's Recommendations

- 1. The board note the progress on implementation of the Barnet Suicide Prevention strategy.**
- 2. The board recognise the trends in data related to suicide and self-harm in the last year.**

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 The report provides an overview of the progress on the actions of the Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan, statistics on suicide and self-harm and the future plans of the Barnet Suicide Prevention partnership to achieve the strategy actions.

- 1.2 The statistics around confirmed suicide and instances of self-harm have been taken from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID). Real time data on suspected lives lost by suicide is provided by the Thrive London Real Time Surveillance System (RTSS). This dataset should be interpreted carefully as it contains both suspected and confirmed suicide and figures are subject to change post-inquest. Both datasets are useful to indicate the rate of suicides and demographics of those who have died by suicide.
- 1.3 The annual report gives an overview of updates from each key theme of the strategy. The action monitoring log can be found in the appendix of the report. This gives an update on each of the actions of the strategy.
- 1.4 The future plans of the suicide prevention strategy details the areas in which we will be focusing for the next year.

2. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 2.1 Not applicable

3. Post decision implementation

- 3.1 For the duration of this strategy, annual reports will be provided to the Board. These updates will give the Board oversight progress towards achieving the strategy.

4. Implications of decision

4.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 4.1.1 The suicide prevention strategy sits under Key area 2 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Starting, Living and Ageing Well).
- 4.1.2 Suicide prevention also features in the past and current actions plans for the Healthy area of the Corporate Plan.

4.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 4.2.1 Actions to implement the Suicide Prevention strategy are funded within existing budgets and staffing of the public health department, other council departments, partner agencies such as NHS, Police, Voluntary and Community sector organisations who are funded from diverse sources and for a wide range of purposes.
- 4.2.2 North Central London Suicide Prevention activities are funded from awarded NHS England Suicide Prevention Wave 1 and Wave 3 funding.

4.3 Legal and Constitutional References

- 4.3.1 Barnet Council Constitution, Article 7 – Committees, Forums, Working Groups and

Partnerships, Health and Wellbeing Board responsibilities:

(2) To agree a Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS) for Barnet taking into account the findings of the JSNA and strategically oversee its implementation to ensure that improved population outcomes are being delivered.

(3) To work together to ensure the best fit between available resources to meet the health and social care needs of the whole population of Barnet, by both improving services for health and social care and helping people to move as close as possible to a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing.

(5) Specific responsibilities for overseeing public health and promoting prevention agenda across the partnership.

4.4 Insight

4.4.1 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment identifies the suicide rate and rate of hospital admissions for self-harm in Barnet and compares this with the national and London rate.

4.4.2 The Barnet Suicide Prevention annual report monitors and evaluates local data on rates of suicide and self-harm using various datasets to ensure we have an accurate picture.

4.5 Social Value

4.5.1 The stated aim of the Suicide Prevention Strategy is to reduce year on year the number of Barnet residents lost to suicide. The cross-cutting strategic actions fall within the prevention and healthy themes of the social value framework.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 The Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy 2021-2025 requires collective effort across the multi-agency Barnet Suicide Prevention Partnership (BSPP) to reduce the number of lives lost to suicide in Barnet. If the council or partners do not engage with the strategy and progress their actions, it may lead to poor overall delivery of the 2021-23 Action Plan. Poor engagement may also lead to failure to agree a 2023-2025 Action Plan. This could have a detrimental impact on local suicide and self-harm prevention.

4.6.2 The following controls and mitigations are in place:

4.6.2.1 The multi-agency Barnet Suicide Prevention Partnership was consulted throughout initial strategy development and co-owns the strategy and action plans. Plans have been adapted in response to feedback.

4.6.2.2 The Barnet Suicide Prevention Partnership meets regularly to re-engage partners, align activities, and implement changes based on new insights.

4.6.2.3 The strategy includes by design a requirement for all partners to re-engage in 2023 to assess progress, re-prioritise and agree the Action Plan for 2023-2025.

4.6.2.4 The Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board and included in Barnet's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Partners' progress against the action plan is reported annually to the Health and Wellbeing Board and to the Health Overview Scrutiny Committee if requested.

4.6.2.5 Barnet's Council's Suicide Prevention activities are supported by the North Central London Suicide Prevention Strategy Group and its activities.

4.7 Equalities and Diversity

4.7.1 A whole systems approach to suicide prevention has been taken. Particular vulnerable groups have been identified through national evidence and local insight. Actions have been put in place to focus on certain communities and individuals with protected characteristics or who may be at a higher risk of suicide.

4.8 Corporate Parenting

4.8.1 The Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy is an all-age strategy which now includes close collaboration with range of partners with both adult and child focus. Investigations are currently underway to see whether approaches suicide prevention for care leavers piloted in other parts of NCL in response to a Camden coroners report in 2019 can be extended to Barnet using time-limited funding from the Wave 3 Suicide Prevention Funding.

4.9 Consultation and Engagement

4.9.1 Not applicable for this report.

4.10 Environmental Impact

4.10.1 There are no direct environmental implications from noting the recommendations.

5. Background papers

Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy July 2021

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Health & Wellbeing Board, 15/07/2021 09:30 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Barnet Suicide Prevention Strategy update December 2021

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Health & Wellbeing Board, 09/12/2021 09:30 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)