

Appendix 2

Brighton & Hove Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2024 – 2027

Progress Report

February 2025

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2 Strategic context

The aim of this report is to provide a detail update on progress against the three-year [Brighton and Hove Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2024 – 2027](#). It was signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2023. It identifies actions taken, current risks and planned next steps.

Reducing deaths by suicide is a national, regional and local priority. Key strategy documents are outlined below

2.1 National Suicide Prevention Strategy

A five-year [national suicide prevention strategy](#) was published by UK Government which identified the need for collaborative action across NHS, local government, the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, employers, local communities and individuals. It seeks to make suicide prevention everyone's business with 3 over-arching aims:

- To reduce the suicide rate over the next 5 years
- To improve support for people who self-harm
- To improve support for people bereaved by suicide

The strategy aims to bring everyone together through 8 action areas

1. Improve data and evidence to ensure that effective, evidence-informed, timely interventions continue to be adapted.
2. Provide tailored, targeted support to priority groups, including those at higher risk.
3. Address common risk factors linked to suicide at a population level by providing early intervention and tailored support.
4. Promote online safety and responsible media content to reduce harms, improve support and signposting, and provide helpful messages about suicide and self-harm
5. Provide effective crisis support across sectors for those who reach crisis point
6. Reduce access to means and methods of suicide where this is appropriate and necessary as an intervention to prevent suicides
7. Provide effective bereavement support to those affected by suicide
8. Make suicide prevention everybody's business so that we can maximise our collective impact and support to prevent suicides

2.2 Sussex Suicide Prevention Strategy

The [Sussex Suicide Prevention Strategy 2024 - 2027](#) was developed by the Sussex suicide prevention steering group, in alignment with the evidence and priorities within the national suicide prevention strategy. The strategy was published in November 2023, alongside three action plans in Brighton & Hove, East Sussex and West Sussex.

The Sussex suicide prevention strategy has 6 priority actions:

1. **Working with Sussex-wide partners** to strengthen collaboration, system wide ownership and commitment
2. **Suicide response / postvention** to develop system capacity to identify and rapidly support those affected by suicide within days of an incident
3. **Suicide prevention training** to increase the confidence, skills and practice of workforces in listening and responding to those experiencing or at risk of suicidal ideation and/or suicidal behaviours

4. **Communications** alignment across Sussex to ensure that messaging and campaigns relating to suicide prevention are co-ordinated and harnessed to maximise impact, avoid duplication and deliver value for money.
5. **Lived Experience** involvement in the design and delivery of suicide prevention activity through a meaningful and sustainable approach
6. **Self-harm prevention** with a focus on minimising the impact of self-harm in children and young people aged up to 25 years.

2.3 Brighton & Hove Suicide Prevention Action Plan

The [Brighton and Hove Suicide Prevention Action plan 2024 – 2027](#) was approved by Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2023. It has 25 actions including 5 priority actions:

1. **Lived experience.** Explore options so that the voices of people with lived experience are embedded in suicide prevention
2. **Suicide audit.** Undertake an audit of deaths by suicide through review of the Coroner's records in Brighton & Hove
3. **Workforce suicide awareness and prevention training.** Develop workforce programme of tailored suicide awareness and prevention training, including General Practice and people working with priority groups in the national strategy
4. **Self-Harm collaboration.** Strengthen the city-wide strategic approach to supporting people who self-harm, with particular focus on children and young people
5. **Systematic response to incidents.** Develop a city-wide response to suspected suicide notifications, reducing contagion and providing support to those bereaved by suicide25 actions including 5 priorities

Suicide prevention activity in the city is overseen by the multi-agency Brighton & Hove Suicide Prevention Steering Group who provide oversight of the action plan; liaise with Sussex initiatives; identify emerging themes; and share learning.

The Brighton & Hove Suicide Prevention Partnership Group reports to the steering group and is open to local organisations with an interest in suicide prevention. It aims to share expertise, information and good practice; shape strategic activity and promote local, regional, and national resources across the city.

3 Data and intelligence

3.1 Suicide rate in Brighton & Hove and England

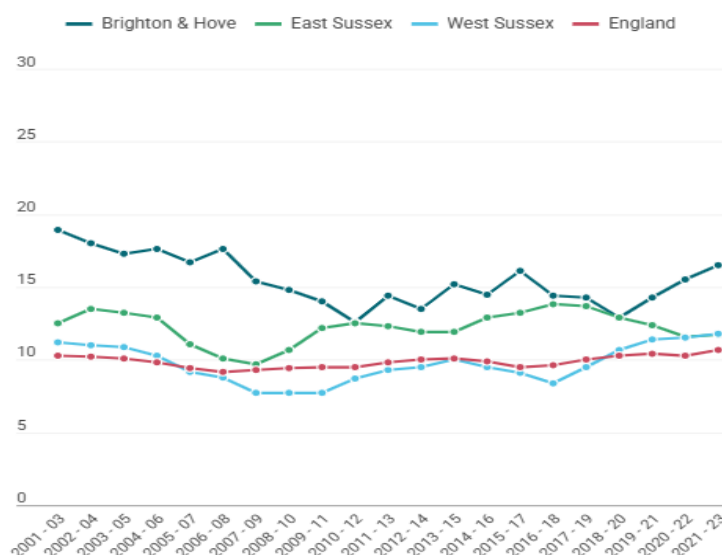
Suicide is defined by the Office of National Statistics as all deaths from intentional self-harm for persons aged 10 years and over, and all deaths caused by injury or poisoning where the intent was undetermined for those aged 15 years and over. Deaths by suicide cannot be registered until a Coroner inquest is completed, resulting in a delay between the date of death and the date of registration.

In Brighton & Hove, there were on average 43 deaths by suicide per year between 2021 and 2023 (Figure 1). Brighton & Hove has statistically significantly higher rates of death by suicide compared to England (16.5 per 100,000) and had the sixth highest rate in the country between 2021 and 2023.

Figure 1: Suicide and undetermined injury deaths in Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex and England, 2001-2003 to 2021-2023

**Suicide and undetermined injury deaths,
all people aged 10 years +, Sussex UTLAs and England**

Age standardised rate per 100,000 population



Source: Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care

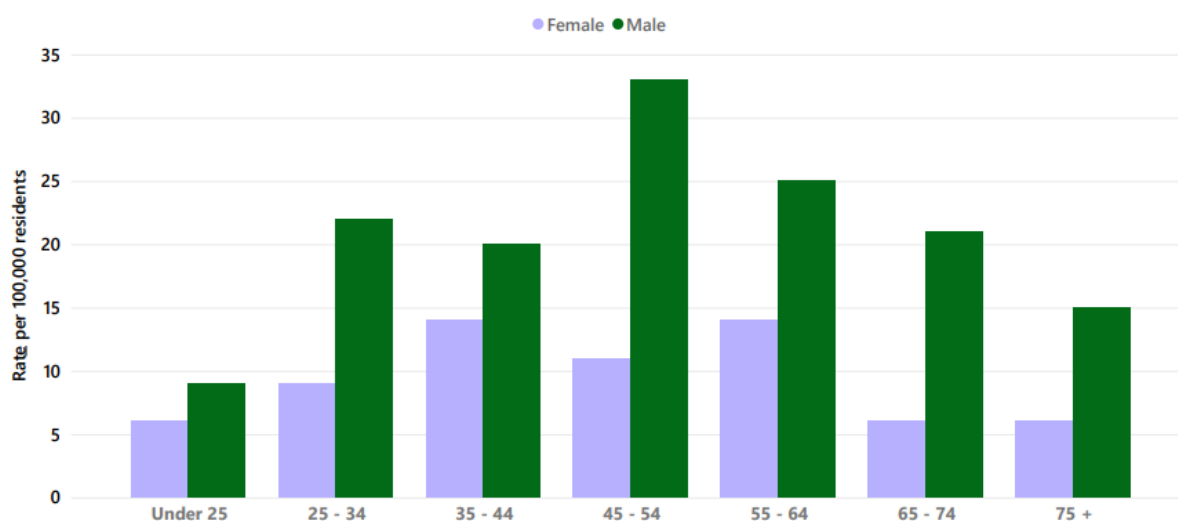
**Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, Suicide Prevention Profile
Suicide Prevention | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care**

Data on deaths by suicide is based on the death certificate or information provided by a Coroner. This means that sex may not reflect an individual's gender identity.

At a national level, men are three times more likely to die by suicide than women. In Brighton & Hove, the suicide rate for male residents is statistically similar to England (20.5 per 100,000 compared to 16.4 per 100,000 in England). However, for female residents, the suicide rate has increased since 2017-19 and is now the highest rate in England as of 2021-2023 (12.6 per 100,000 compared to 5.4 per 100,000 in England). In terms of the age distribution of deaths by suicide in Brighton & Hove, this is similar to England. Figure 2 shows the highest death rate by age-group and sex in the city is men aged 45-54 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Suicide and undetermined injury death rate by age-group and sex. Brighton and Hove 2012 to 2021

Suicide and undetermined injury age specific rates by sex, per 100,000, Brighton & Hove, 2014 - 2023 (10yr aggregate data), based on date of death registration



Source: [Primary Care Mortality Database - NHS Digital](#)

Source: NHS Digital. Primary Care Mortality Database [Primary Care Mortality Database \(digital.nhs.uk\)](#)

3.2 Self-harm hospital admissions in Brighton & Hove and England

Self-harm is defined as intentional injury to the body, often to express deep emotional feelings such as low self-esteem or coping with traumatic events. Around half of all people who die by suicide have a history of self-harm. Most self-harm occurs in the community and does not lead to hospital attendance or admission, however hospital admission data can be used to identify trends and patterns.

At a national and local level, self-harm is more common in young people aged 10 to 24 years old. Since the publication of the B&H suicide prevention action plan, the national self-harm rates have been updated for 2022/23. Figure 3 shows in 2022/23, there were 280 hospital admissions as a result of self-harm in 10 to 24 year olds in Brighton & Hove, and the rates are statistically significantly higher than England (486 per 100,00 compared to 319 per 100,000 in England). The ONS definition of this indicator changed in 2022/23 and is thought to explain the downward trend in England and Brighton & Hove.

Figure 3: Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm, ages 10-24, directly age standardised rate per 100,000, Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex and England, 2010/11 to 2022/23

**Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm,
all people aged 10-24 years, Sussex UTLAs and England**
Age standardised rate per 100,000 population



Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, CYP Mental Health and Wellbeing Profile [Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#)

3.3 Communities at increased risk of suicide in Brighton & Hove

As outlined in the B&H suicide prevention action plan, the national strategy identifies the following priority groups and population risk factors, based on data, stakeholder engagement and expert views.

Communities at increased risk

- children and young people
- middle-aged men
- people who have self-harmed
- people with mental health conditions
- people in contact with justice system
- autistic people
- pregnant women and new mothers.

Population risk factors

- physical illness
- financial difficulty & economic adversity
- harmful gambling
- alcohol and drug use
- social isolation and loneliness
- domestic abuse

The national strategy also calls for better understanding of suicide in the following groups:

- occupational groups
- autistic people
- people affected by domestic abuse
- people experiencing harmful gambling
- black and racially minoritised groups including Gypsy, Roma or Traveller communities
- refugees and asylum seekers
- people who are LGBTQ+

In Brighton & Hove, some communities with higher risk of suicide are proportionately larger, including:

- people with mental health needs
- children and young people
- people with care experience
- autistic people

- people who use drugs and/or alcohol
- people experiencing homelessness
- people with multiple compound needs
- people who are LGBTQ+
- black and racially minoritised groups
- people in deprived neighbourhoods

4 Progress to date on the action plan

4.1 Action Area 1: Improve data and evidence

#	Theme	B&H Action	Outcome	Progress to date	Next steps
1.1	Lived Experience Sussex collaboration	Explore options so that the voices of people with lived experience are embedded in suicide prevention.	Voices of people with lived experience are better embedded in suicide prevention work in the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mapped lived experience networks for mental health and suicide prevention in Brighton & Hove, Sussex, and the UK in July 2024 ▪ Sussex Suicide Prevention Lived Experience Groups set up by Grassroots Suicide Prevention and Possability People in February 2024 ▪ Sussex suicide prevention conference in November 2024 included presentations from people with lived experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify opportunities for embedding the voices of those with lived experience in 2025 ▪ Involve people with lived experience to be in the development of suicide prevention training content for General Practice in 2025/26 ▪ Involve people with lived experience in the mental health and substance use pathways project through Common Ambition in 2025 ▪ Community engagement and development to be part of the B&H mental health support service from October 2025
1.2	Suicide Audit	Undertake an audit of suicides through review of the coroner's records in Brighton & Hove	Learning used to improve our prevention approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data collected from Coroner's records of 121 people who died by suicide in Brighton & Hove between 2021 and 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue data analysis of themes and trends from suicide audit data in 2025 ▪ Hold a workshop with stakeholders in spring 2025 to discuss findings and identify recommendations ▪ Incorporate recommendations into action plan
1.3	Sussex Suicide and Self-Harm dashboard Sussex collaboration	Develop an all-ages Sussex dashboard using Real Time Surveillance and other datasets	Sussex and Brighton & Hove response is more evidence based in terms of identifying trends and emerging issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created a Pan-Sussex Real Time Surveillance Dashboard which is regularly reviewed by a monthly multi-agency Pan-Sussex group to identify local and regional trends related to deaths by suspected suicide for all age groups, including locations, methods and risk factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop dashboard and regularly review emerging trends to inform strategic response across Sussex in 2025/26
1.4	Understand needs of local population	Use learning to shape suicide prevention activity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe & Well at School Survey • Health Counts • SEND, learning disabilities and neurodiversity JSNA 	Use findings to inform support to local high-risk communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safe and Well at Schools Survey (SAWSS) completed by over 13,000 pupils (43 primary schools and 10 secondary schools). Thematic analysis on a range of topics including suicide prevention has been presented to over 20 strategic & operational groups and has informed a Young Carers guide for schools and a refreshed guide for schools on supporting trans & non-binary pupils • Health Counts survey completed by over 16,000 residents about a range of health topics, including mental health and suicide prevention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to identify opportunities to use SAWSS results to influence strategic and operational activity in 2025 • Health Counts thematic analysis in 2025 will inform strategic decision-making on a range of health and wellbeing services.

4.2 Action Area 2: Provide tailored, targeted support to priority groups

#	Theme	B&H Action	Outcome	Progress to date	Next steps
2.1	Workforce suicide prevention training Sussex collaboration	Develop tailored suicide prevention training for workforces. To include primary care, and people working with priority groups	Frontline staff have more confidence and skills to talk about suicide in line with their job role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioned the development and delivery of bespoke training for clinical and non-clinical staff working in General Practice in Brighton & Hove to be delivered until March 2026 Suicide awareness training delivered to professionals working in youth sector, seafront teams, and Sussex Police resulting in improved confidence and skills in talking about suicide and responding to incidents. Wider trauma-informed training for supporting asylum seeker and refugees delivered in 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll out training programme for General Practice staff in 2025/26 Commission and rollout suicide awareness and prevention training for wider workforces in 2025 Roll out training to support people with complex emotional relational needs in 2025 Deliver suicide prevention training through B&H mental health support service from October 2025
2.2	Community mental health transformation programme Sussex collaboration	Increase accessibility of community mental health services for adults in line with the national requirements of the programme.	Improved access to mental health services, improved patient outcomes and experiences and increased staff satisfaction and retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed Neighbourhood Mental Health teams in Sussex including 3 teams in B&H, bringing together primary care, mental health and VCSE services in alignment with Integrated Community Teams Launched the Sussex VCSE Mental Health Network in August 2024 bringing together voluntary organisations supporting people with mental health needs in Sussex Launched the Sussex Men's Mental Health Community of Interest group in February 2024 to explore how to better support men to access support Mental Health Services Communications Working Group created a toolkit in February 2024 with consistent messaging for how people can access mental health support in Sussex, informed by people with lived experience.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Neighbourhood Mental Health teams in B&H and Sussex throughout 2025/26 Mobilisation of mental health support services from October 2025 including new community engagement and development programme to inform delivery of Neighbourhood Mental Health Teams
2.3	People in contact with secondary mental health services Sussex collaboration	Review the SPFT Suicide Prevention Strategy and align with city and Sussex activity	People of all ages in contact with secondary mental health services are better supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust are developing a suicide prevention action plan as part of their Trust Strategy. It will be aligned with the Sussex Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPFT plan to be published in 2025

5	2.4	Recommission mental health support service for adults Sussex collaboration	Target support for local communities at increased risk of poor mental health and suicide.	Support to priority groups includes tailored suicide prevention activity. More people report an improvement in health & wellbeing, particularly in more vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency steering group developed a new service specification in 2024 with a greater focus on tailored mental health promotion, community engagement and psychosocial support for people with mental health needs or at risk of suicide and people in marginalised communities Approval given by BHCC and NHS Sussex ICB to re-procure the service over a 7 year contract (BHCC Cabinet paper) Tender published in November 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate tender bids in March 2025 and award contract in May 2025 New service in place by October 2025 with performance indicators agreed with Provider Performance to be monitored through quarterly contract review meetings for the duration of the seven year contract
	2.5	Self-harm Sussex collaboration	Strengthen the city-wide strategic approach to supporting people who self-harm, focussing on children and young people	Stronger city response and opportunities identified for more joined-up support across Sussex for people who self-harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created a multi-agency steering group to develop a Pan-Sussex dashboard on self-harm hospital attendances and admissions for all ages and 10-24 year olds Sussex Self Harm Learning Network Conference in November 2024, attended by over 100 professionals and community members to increase awareness of self-harm and support available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop Sussex self-harm dashboard and review emerging trends of hospital admissions to inform strategic response at a Sussex and local level in 2025 Update Sussex self-harm guidance for schools and colleges with input from SPFT Review feedback from Self Harm Learning Network conference to inform future direction
	2.6	Children and Young Person's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Development Programme Sussex collaboration	Improving timely access to effective support for children, young people and families	Improved access to mental health services, improved outcomes and experiences for children and young people and their families. Increased staff satisfaction and retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priorities agreed, task and finish groups set up. Programme is taking a whole system pathway approach utilising the Thrive Framework. Workstreams include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting Advice and Help – this includes communications, how to access support and early intervention services; Children and Young People's Mental Health Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) pathway Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Service Development; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree delivery plans for 25/26 and 26/27. Clear measures of success will be agreed including metrics to measure impact

4.3 Action Area 3: Address common risk factors through tailored support.

#	Theme	Action	Outcome	Progress	Next steps
3.1	Substance use and mental health pathways	Map and review pathways of support for people with co-occurring mental health and substance use needs for all ages	People with both mental health and substance use needs are better supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapped existing substance use support pathways and mental health support pathways in the city • Reviewed national guidelines, best practice and local joint working protocols • Gathered insight from 130 professionals working in substance use and mental health services in the city and people with lived experience on the strengths, challenges and opportunities in supporting residents with mental health and substance use needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver an event for professionals supporting people with mental health and drug & alcohol services to review findings from mapping, best practice and local insight to identify recommendations in spring 2025 • Combatting Drugs Partnership to consider how to implement the recommendations in 2025
3.2	Mental Health & Debt	Review existing programme and make recommendations for future activity	Workforce have better skills to support people with mental health and debt issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of project report published in March 2024 with recommendations to identify further funding opportunities to coordinate mental health and debt activities and shared with mental health and debt network of over 300 local professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A no further funding identified
3.3	Physical activity and mental health	Provide insight to the Let's Get Moving Partnership on mental health and suicide prevention, and empower partners to signpost to share advice, comms and local services	People accessing physical activity groups are better supported to access mental health and wellbeing services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared key messages related to mental health and suicide prevention activity and local support available with Lets Get Moving Partnership subgroup for older adults, and discussed how to improve collaborative ways of working to ensure people accessing physical activity sessions are aware of how to access the right mental health support at the right time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend children & young people subgroup and sports clubs subgroup of the Lets Get Moving Partnership in 2025 to promote key mental health and suicide prevention messages to enable greater collaboration and improve awareness of local mental health and wellbeing support

4.4 Action Area 4: Promote online safety and responsible media content

#	Theme	Action	Outcome	Progress	Next steps
4.1	Educate and inform the public about safe use of online platforms Sussex collaboration	Promote the Samaritans' guidance on safe internet use with parents, carers, professionals and the public.	The public is educated and equipped with knowledge and skills for healthy and safe usage of online platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoted internet safety resources to local schools and colleges including Samaritans guidance and the R;pple web search intervention tool through Schools Mental Health Service Promoted internet safety resources to the public through Children's Mental Health Week. This included Samaritans guidance and Internet Matters resource for parents and carers with tailored advice for different age groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review opportunities for promotion of internet safety resources to different groups and communities through the development of our local suicide prevention communications approach throughout 2025
4.2	Reach and engage with groups at increased risk at all ages Sussex collaboration	Review our communications approach to targeting groups at greater risk of suicide, promoting prevention campaigns and signposting to local support.	High-quality signposting and support are prevalent in an accessible way for people who might need support for suicidal ideation and self-harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapped organisations in Brighton & Hove supporting different groups and communities at an increased risk of suicide Mapped local and national awareness days and campaigns related to mental health and suicide prevention to identify opportunities to engage with groups at increased risk of suicide through tailored messaging Input into Sussex suicide prevention communications subgroup to align communication approaches, messages and signposting in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove Sussex Mental Health Services Communications Working Group developed a toolkit with consistent mental health signposting information for Sussex in December 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update public-facing Council webpages on mental health and crisis support to ensure consistent messaging in Sussex in 2025 Set up local subgroup to agree a strategic approach to promote local and national campaigns over the next year in spring 2025 Sussex communications group to continue to align campaigns across Sussex to maximise reach, engagement and impact Mobilise delivery of local communications and campaigns through B&H mental health support services in 2025
4.3	Support and monitor local media approach to suicide reporting Sussex collaboration	Monitor and respond as needed to local media coverage of suicide, including engaging with local media outlets to ensure reporting is in line with Samaritans guidance	Improved media reporting on suicide and self-harm in line with Samaritans guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sussex suicide prevention communications subgroup set up to explore approach to engagement with local media organisations in relation to the appropriate portrayal of suicide-related content in line with Samaritans guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree Sussex-wide approach to engaging with local media organisations in 2025 Monitor local media reporting of suicide-related topics in Brighton & Hove throughout 2025/26

4.5 Action Area 5: Provide effective crisis support across sectors

#	Theme	Action	Output	Progress	Next steps
5.1	Crisis Support Sussex collaboration	Improve accessibility and signposting to timely and effective support and information for anyone experiencing suicidal crisis.	Improved access and delivery of mental health crisis services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staying Well crisis café services in Brighton, Crawley and Worthing moved from appointment-based to a walk-in service, reducing A&E attendance and improving patient experience during 2023/24 New model for SPFT Blue Light Triage for emergency services developed across Sussex in 2024 to provide rapid advice and guidance Continued promotion of Text SUSSEX to 85258 as an alternative method of accessing crisis support via text message 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transform Staying Well crisis café services in Eastbourne and Hastings to be open access, and develop a digital offer for all five Staying Well services in 2025 Roll out Mental Health Response Vehicles in Sussex to provide assessments in the community in 2025/26 Review NHS 111 mental health line and Text SUSSEX to 85258 models in 2025/26 to improve access to crisis support Develop simplified guidance for seafront staff on where to go in a mental health crisis in Sussex in 2025
5.2	Pilot an education-based Children and Young People's multi-agency meeting	Pilot a Multi-Agency Triage meeting to reduce risk in young people who have been to A&E for attempted suicide or high levels of self-harm	Children and young people at high risk of self-harm and suicidal ideation are better supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot began in September 2023 with 3 schools bringing together professionals to discuss cases of young people in school at greatest risk of mental health crisis. This has now broadened to all schools and colleges. March 2024 to March 2025 61 have been discussed and the high-risk cases tend to be reviewed on a 2-4 weekly basis, which has led to greater information sharing between organisations and rapid support to be put in place. Since July 2024 it has been agreed that over the school holidays referrals can be received from Social Care, Police and other partner agencies for discussion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue with MAMHET meetings in 2025/26 and pilot involvement of social care and Police at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to bring cases. Evaluation of MAMHET in 2025

4.6 Action Area 6: Reduce access to means and methods of suicide

#	Theme	Action	Output	Progress	Next steps
6.1	Benzodiazepines	Contribute to the Brighton & Hove benzodiazepines prescribing programme and apply learning	Safer benzodiazepines prescribing in the city	Project to commence in 2025	
6.2	Coastal suicide prevention	Contribute to the Sussex Coastal Suicide Prevention group and apply learning to the city	Response along Brighton & Hove coasts are informed by the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed an audit of the location and condition of safety signs, Samaritans crisis signs and fencing along the Brighton and Hove coast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Samaritans crisis signs in 2025 Recommendations for safety signs to be reviewed by Seafront Team

	Sussex collaboration	including a review of local signs and fences.	evidence from Sussex and national learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Public Health, Samaritans and Seafront Team have reviewed the location of Samaritans crisis signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recommendations for fencing to be reviewed by City Services
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4.7 Action Area 7: Provide effective suicide bereavement support

#	Theme	Action	Output	Progress	Next steps
7.1	Systematic response to incidents	Develop a city-wide response to suspected suicide notifications, reducing contagion and providing support to those bereaved by suicide	Improved identification and support provided to those affected by incidents with agreed process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency responses mounted to incidents of suspected suicide in Brighton & Hove which suggested a greater risk and complexity, in order to identify those affected by suicide and offer support, and identify multi-agency learning opportunities Strengthened join up with rail organisations Strengthened join up with university of Sussex and university of Brighton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map local response to incidents and develop a proposal to address gaps in 2025 Sussex Real Time Surveillance system workshop to be held in spring 2025 by Public Health and Sussex Police to improve how partners work together in responding to deaths by suicide and support those impacted.
7.2	Support to those bereaved by suicide Sussex collaboration	Review need for suicide bereavement support for all ages in Brighton & Hove and Sussex	Suicide Bereavement support services better address need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suicide bereavement support provided to 22 people in B&H from January to September 2024 Sussex-wide paper went to ICB Exec in September 2024 and MHLDA in November 2024 highlighting the need for funding and risks if services are discontinued Literature review and stakeholder interviews undertaken in summer 2024 as part of Sussex recommissioning process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission suicide bereavement services for 2025/26 Continue to highlight the risk of terminating suicide bereavement services Use needs assessment findings to inform future commissioning
7.3	Toolkit in the Event of an Unexpected Death	Embed the use of the Toolkit in the Event of an Unexpected Death in schools	Schools and their staff feel better prepared and have a greater suicide awareness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toolkit has been widely adopted by schools across B&H and Sussex in responding to sudden deaths in children and young people in 2024 Toolkit disseminated to youth workers in 15 organisations in B&H in 2024 as part of bespoke suicide awareness training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toolkit under review to assess suitability for adapting into a version for youth workers to respond in the event of an unexpected death in 2025
7.4	Support for Primary Care staff	Offer After Death Reviews to support Primary Care staff following the suicide of a patient and identify learning opportunities	More staff working in Primary Care affected by suicide are supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2024 contact was made with 13 GP practices after the death of 20 patients by suicide in Brighton & Hove, resulting in 2 After Death Reviews to offer condolences, share bereavement support and provide a contact for peer support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Sussex Suicide Postvention Support Pack for General Practice based on resource made in Derbyshire, endorsed by Royal College of GPs in 2025
7.5	Support for suicide response and prevention workforces Sussex collaboration	Participate in NHS Sussex project providing supervision for workforces operating in suicide response and prevention	Improved wellbeing reported by staff in non-frontline roles working on suicide prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piloted reflective practice groups with teams in Sussex involved in non-frontline suicide prevention and response from September 2024, including 2 teams in B&H Consulted wider workforces in Sussex involved in suicide prevention in November 2024 to inform the commission of tailored wellbeing resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of reflective practice groups in 2025 Commission wellbeing training and resources in spring 2025 for wider organisations in Sussex involved in suicide prevention

4.8 Action Area 8: Make suicide prevention everybody’s business

#	Theme	Action	Output	Progress	Next steps
8.1	Working with wider partners Sussex collaboration	Bringing together the wider partners involved in suicide prevention	Local partners meet regularly to share good practice and local delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sussex suicide prevention conference in November 2024 with over 200 professionals• Suicide prevention partnership group met regularly in 2024 supported by a new multiagency development subgroup to shape future direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop Sussex suicide prevention conference in 2025• Strengthen ways of working in the B&H partnership group in 2025/26

