

Preventing Suicide Framework



Internal Communications

Staff will communicate with each other; sharing knowledge about service users potential suicide triggers and their vulnerability. We will highlight imminent safety issues on the ATLAS handover dashboard and learn lessons through our incident reporting system. Our teams will work together, learn from and support each other, in reflective practice groups.



Policies

Suicide Harm reduction will be a central precept to the policies within HSU. We recognise the prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences in our client group increases their risk of suicide and will support the creation of Enabled and Psychologically Informed Environments in our Services.



Safety Indicators – Atlas

Our system (ATLAS) will help us to identify if people are at risk of suicide. We will utilise a Suicide screening tool; Mental Health Assessments; and be aware of previous suicide attempts; suicide triggers and suicide vulnerability.



Inter Agency Working

We will develop a job role to represent our mental health specialisms to encourage information sharing with other professionals. Where appropriate our staff will attend mental health meetings with service users.



Clinical Governance

We will have a robust clinical governance process in place and our suicide harm reduction materials and initiatives will be considered by a group of clinically qualified and experienced staff.



Training

We will train our staff to prevent suicide. We will also train them in active listening. We will ensure that staff are trained so that information is 'handed over' appropriately between staff and between shifts. We will ensure that managers will support staff if suicide has occurred.



Support

Within HSU we will encourage people to manage their own medication but recognise that for a minority of people who are in crisis, extra support may be needed. Our services will work with local pharmacies and healthcare providers directly so that we can share good practice to reduce risk of suicide.



Crisis Intervention

Our staff will intervene when service users are in crisis; checking regularly on their welfare and working with the police; health service (A&E) and community mental health services (CPN) to prevent suicide.

Open.
Gentle.
Respectful.
Courageous.
Compassionate.

