

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership launches regional suicide prevention portal



West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Suicide Prevention

**Help is available if you
are feeling suicidal, or if
you have lost someone
to suicide.**

#WYSuicidePrevention

www.suicidepreventionwestyorkshire.co.uk

This World Suicide Prevention Day (Friday 10 September) West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership will launch a comprehensive website dedicated to helping people with suicidal thoughts and those concerned for the mental wellbeing of anyone who lives in West Yorkshire.

The [West Yorkshire Suicide Prevention website](#) is an information portal coproduced by a group of organisations including voluntary, NHS and local authorities who are all working to reduce death by suicide in the region.

Key content on the site includes:

- Details of organisations that support people who are feeling suicidal in each area of West Yorkshire – Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield
- Information about the [West Yorkshire Suicide Bereavement Service](#), which offers 1-to-1 and group peer support to anyone who has lost a friend, family member or colleague to suicide
- News and information about suicide prevention partners locally and nationally, including specialist support for men.

Hundreds of health and care organisations, including the NHS and Councils, have come together with a shared ambition to reduce the suicide rate by 10% across West Yorkshire; this is one of the Partnership's 10 big ambitions.

National figures published by the Office of National Statistics on 1 September 2020 show that Yorkshire and the Humber region had the highest suicide rate in England at 12 suicides per 100,000 population over a three-year period between 2017 and 2019. In West Yorkshire and Harrogate, there has been an increase from 10.6 per 100,000 between 2016-18 to 11.88 between 2017 and 2019 (latest available figures).

Jessica Parker, Suicide Prevention Project Manager, for West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership Suicide Prevention Programme said: “Only by working in collaboration with people who live in our communities across West Yorkshire, can we reduce deaths by suicide.

“We want to continue to normalise conversations about mental health and suicide. Asking someone about whether they feel suicidal, will not increase the chances of them taking their own life, indeed it could prevent suicide.

“We hope that this new website will make it clear that there is support available and give the right information about where to go for help.”

The launch of the [West Yorkshire Suicide Prevention website](#) follows the Partnership’s ‘Check-in’ campaign launched in February this year, which aims to reduce suicide among health and care staff and promote a wellbeing culture by normalising the conversation around suicide. West Yorkshire and Harrogate is the third largest partnership of its kind in England. There are approximately 260,000 unpaid carers and well over 110,000 staff across the area. The Check-In campaign is continuing to inspire new action and most importantly, it is supporting open and honest discussions around mental health and suicide to take place in the workplace.

You can follow the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership on Twitter www.twitter.com/WYHpartnership and also join the conversation around World Suicide Prevention Day using #WSPD2021.