



Improving Mental Health and Reducing Suicide Grants Programme **Guidance for Applicants**



BACKGROUND

In May 2020, West Yorkshire & Harrogate Health & Care Partnership invited bids for place based suicide prevention projects as part of their allocated portion of the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership NHSE Suicide Prevention wave funding. North Yorkshire County Council has been allocated funding to run a place based, grass roots community grants programme for the districts of Craven and Harrogate.

North Yorkshire Suicide Prevention Strategic Group

In response to the government's 'Preventing suicide in England' a cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives (2012) and the subsequent 'Preventing suicide in England: three year on annual report (2017)' a Suicide Prevention Strategic Group (SPSG) in North Yorkshire has been established to oversee the implementation and development of this [North Yorkshire Suicide and Self-harm Prevention Strategic Plan 2018-2022](#).

The Suicide Prevention Strategic Group vision...

...is to work together to reduce the numbers of people lost to suicide whilst providing support to those affected by self-harm and suicide in North Yorkshire.

The North Yorkshire picture

Using data from previous suicide audits 2010 – 2017 and suspected data from 2018 to date we are able to define the at-risk population in North Yorkshire in the table below:

2017 – 2020 (to date)	North Yorkshire	Harrogate	Craven
Suspected suicides	256	54	16
Gender	79% male 21% female	72% male 28% female	88% male 12% female
Age of deceased	40-59	30-49	50-59
Employment Status	2017 annual audit showed: 42% of those who died by suicide were in employment 24% were unemployed and 18% were retired	In employment	In employment
Mental Health	2017 annual audit showed Previous mental health issues were identified as a contributory factor in just under half (46%) of incidents with 68% of individuals' suffering from anxiety or depression.	More likely to have suspected or diagnosed mental health issues	More likely to have suspected or diagnosed mental health issues
Method	Most common method hanging/strangulation 2017 annual audit showed just under half (48%) of incidents occurred at the individuals' home address	Most common method hanging/strangulation More likely to take own life in their own home	Most common method hanging/strangulation More likely to take own life in their own home

Our aim...

...is to use the funding available across Harrogate and Craven to support the national target to reduce suicides by 10%. This will enhance existing work underway in the locality Suicide Action Plans to improve access and quality of mental health services and to prevent suicides more broadly in line with Public Health England Guidance.

The Prevention Concordat for better mental health PHE 2017 and the Suicide prevention guidance PHE 2016 provide a clear evidence base for working with communities to build emotional resilience, promote better mental health, and prevent mental health deterioration and suicidal behaviours.

Communities play a crucial role in the prevention of poor mental health and the promotion of good mental health and wellbeing and community engagement and development are therefore part of the core deliverables of what "good" looks like in the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health PHE 2017.

The West Yorkshire & Harrogate Plan is keen to support projects that:

- Are client specific
- That consider rurality and access to services – e.g. innovative digital solutions
- Encourage outdoor activity and the opportunity to meet outside clients home for example gardening, allotments, where people can dig and chat, meet for chat and walk or gentle exercise or social activities
- Provide parenting support - supporting children who have new/emerging mental health needs
- Support for families of children with autism or those who are waiting for diagnosis
- Meeting the needs of different communities i.e. the farming community in the North of Craven and the Broughton Rd/Asian community.

Our outcomes...

...will focus on the development of a range of place based, grass roots community interventions in order to strengthen and build resilience and that make a positive contribution to one, or more, of the following:

- Reducing stigma and discrimination
- Developing mentally healthy communities and workplaces
- Reducing loneliness and social and emotional isolation
- Providing communities with the knowledge and confidence to seek help or help others to prevent self-harm or suicide
- Recognise and reduce common contributory factors and life stressors
- Reducing rates of self-harm (key indicator of suicide risk)
- Reduce the frequency and numbers of suicides in Harrogate & Craven.

GRANTS AVAILABLE

Organisations will be able to bid for grants of between **£500** and **£5,000**.

Closing date for all applications is **midnight 29th October 2021**.

All applications must be made on the application form. Guidance for completing the form is detailed below.

APPLICATION FORM GUIDANCE

Please complete the application form whilst taking account of the guidance below. Please note the word count for each question.

Section One: Tell us about your organisation

Guidance Note 1: Please complete the contact details of the organisation that is applying for the grant, including an appropriate named contact person who we will liaise with throughout the grant application process.

Guidance Note 2: Q6 - Applications are open to a range of organisations including voluntary and community (VCS) groups, (see note 1) social enterprises, schools & colleges, faith groups (see note 2) and employers (see note 3).

Note 1: Any VCS group is eligible to apply however, in this round of funding we are particularly interested in applications from groups and organisations that:

- Consider rurality and access to services
- Encourage outdoor activity or the opportunity to meet outside clients home for example gardening, allotments, where people can dig and chat, meet for chat and walk or gentle exercise or social activities
- Provide parenting support - supporting children who have new/emerging mental health needs
- Support for families of children with autism or those who are waiting for diagnosis
- Meet the needs of specific communities in Harrogate and Craven i.e. the farming community in the North of Craven and the Broughton Rd/Asian community.

Note 2: Faith groups are welcome to apply but activities which evangelise or proselytise religious beliefs will not be eligible.

Note 3: Commercial organisations are welcome to apply however they must be able to demonstrate that the funded activities do not generate any private profit.

Section 2 – Tell us about the grant you are requesting

Please tell us about the level of grant you are requesting, ensuring that the level of detail given correlates with the level of grant that you are requesting (i.e. more detail will be required for a larger grant). Where possible, please cover the following areas:

Guidance Note 3: Q8a –This is where you can tell us about your project and what you are intending to deliver and where. We are keen to see 'place based' projects that are rooted in communities or specific localities (see Note 1). Please include as much detail as you can about your project idea; including:

- Background to the project.
- The range and types of activities you will offer (see guidance note 4).
- The number of sessions/activities you will run.
- The geographic area of benefit and the proposed location(s) for your project.
- How you have identified a need for this project or activity.
- Who will deliver the project – including any partners or sub-contractors. (see note 1 below)
- If there is scope to continue with the project after the funding has ended. (see note 2 below)
- How you will promote the project.

Note 1: We are particularly keen to see small grass roots community groups being involved in the delivery of this programme. We encourage collaborative applications from a lead applicant acting as accountable body on their behalf.

Note 2: If the application is to help you with start-up costs for a new service or activity please let us know if you think there is scope for the project to continue after the period of funding.

Guidance Note 4: Based on the 5 Ways to Well-being: Connect, Be active, Take Notice, Keep Learning, Give (see page 6 of this guidance) - the fund is looking to support a range of community or workplace based activities such as peer support groups, social activities (e.g. sports and outdoor recreation, arts, culture, environmental), Mens Sheds, mindfulness, well-being, activities that improve confidence, resilience and self-esteem, drop in sessions, volunteering.

NB We will NOT fund one off events.

Guidance Note 5: Q9 - In this question, we would like you to demonstrate how you plan to deliver your project in line with the current Coronavirus restrictions in place. This could be – how your usual service has been altered if applicable. Please detail any other further key risk to your projects intended delivery and how you will mitigate these. We will be particularly interested in innovative ideas to engage the audience you are targeting.

Guidance Note 6: Q10 - Please list items of expenditure for this project.

Please note that all funding must be used and claimed by the end of October 2022.

Guidance Note 7: Q10 - **Eligible Expenditure.**

- Reasonable administrative costs are permitted providing the project can demonstrate value for money.
- Volunteer expenses and refreshments are permitted.
- Travel costs are permitted where it is necessary to assist some people from low income backgrounds to participate in activities.
- Materials and small items of capital equipment.
- Promotion and marketing.
- Venue Hire.

Guidance Note 8: Q11 - This should show the total cost of the project for the year the project will operate.

Guidance Note 9: Q12– If the total cost of the project exceeds the grant being requested, please provide details of any additional funding sources. This can include your own funds, earned income and any additional grants or donations you have or intend to apply for.

Applications are particularly welcome from organisations who are able to demonstrate that they can attract longer term external funding beyond the term of this fund.

Guidance Note 10: Q13 - Please state the total amount of grant being requested – minimum of £500 up to a maximum of £5,000.

Section 3: How your project relates to the suicide prevention programme's aims and desired outcomes.

This section will allow you to demonstrate how your proposed project will contribute to the programme aims and outcomes.

Guidance Note 11: Q16 - Please give details regarding how the specific activities you are proposing will meet one or more of the fund's outcomes – clearly linking the activities to the outcomes you selected in Q14.

You should ensure that you have embedded appropriate processes and monitoring systems in place in order to allow for monitoring and possible evaluation. This will include being able to provide management information about participant numbers. You will not be required to share any personal or sensitive data on an individual basis.

You should consider collecting information about:

- Number of individual participants/beneficiaries including age, gender and location.
- Number of sessions delivered.
- Evidence of individual well-being improvement, where appropriate, using Warwick-Edinburgh Well-being Scale or other validated tools.

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

All grants will be managed through a funding agreement.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

All projects will be subject to monitoring and verification that is appropriate to the level of the grant, to ensure that the project has been delivered as anticipated. The details of this will be outlined in your offer of grant; North Yorkshire County Council retains the right to reclaim grant funding should the applicant fail to meet the terms and conditions of the offer of grant.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be made on the Reducing Suicide Grant Application Form.

Applications should be submitted by **midnight on 29th October 2021**. The applications will then be evaluated and determined by a panel comprising representatives from NYCC Stronger Communities and North Yorkshire Public Health.

Applicants will be notified regarding the outcome of their application by **12th November 2021**.

If you would like further information about the Programme or would like to discuss the submission of an application, please contact:

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All completed applications should be submitted to: Amber.Graver@northyorks.gov.uk

The Five Ways to Well-being

Connect	<p>With the people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these as the cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.</p>
Be active	<p>Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Cycle. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.</p>
Take notice	<p>Be curious. Catch sight of the beautiful. Remark on the unusual. Notice the changing seasons. Savour the moment, whether you are walking to work, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you.</p>
Keep learning	<p>Try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Sign up for that course. Take on a different responsibility at work. Fix a bike. Learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you enjoy achieving. Learning new things will make you more confident as well as being fun.</p>
Give	<p>Do something nice for a friend, or a stranger. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out, as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, as linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.</p>