



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Understanding: The Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Delivery Plan for Wales 2025-2028

Year One Activity

Annual Update 2025-2026 – Progress Against Actions

The following tables provide an update on activity against each action within the Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Delivery Plan. Against each action we have provided a ‘traffic light’ assessment on progress and planned next steps. For each action, we have defined progress as the following:

- Green:** On track and progressing as planned.
- Amber:** There are emerging issues or risks that are being actively managed but that could result in small delays to planned timescales.
- Red:** Not on track to meet planned timescales. Further work needed to mitigate delays or to redefine activities and timescales.

Objective 1: Listening & Learning

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Better understand self-harm (inc. suicide attempts).	Map sources of self-harm data in Wales.	End of year one.	Progress has been made in mapping sources of self-harm data in Wales. The Welsh Government-funded Research Officer at the National Centre for Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Research (NCSR; Swansea University) was appointed in November 2025.	AMBER	An analysis of mapped data resources will be carried out by the Welsh Government funded Research Officer and is expected to be completed in February 2027.
	Establish a protocol for consistently identifying and recording self-harm incidents through coding and training. This will include differentiating between self-harm and suicide attempts.	End of year three.	This has not yet commenced.	AMBER	Welsh Government and the Suicide and Self-harm Programme team (SSHP) in NHS Wales Performance and Improvement (NHSPI) to meet and clarify expectations and outputs.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Better understand self-harm (inc. suicide attempts). (Cont'd)	Review processes for collating and interpreting data and evidence for self-harm.	End of year three.	A Data, Evidence and Surveillance (DES) advisory group has been established by the NCSR, bringing together academics, policy leads, and key delivery partners to collate suicide and self-harm data and evidence, facilitate knowledge exchange and ensure meaningful translation in policy and practice. Meetings have been taking place quarterly in 2026. The NCSR co-host the recently established Suicide Prevention, Self-harm, Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Evidence Network. The Network brings together people with lived experience, practitioners, academics and partners to share learning, build knowledge, and take coordinated, evidence-based action.	GREEN	DES meetings to continue to occur quarterly. The NCSR will promote the Suicide Prevention, Self-harm, Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Evidence Network to all researchers (including early and mid-career researchers) to enhance capacity building within the field. The Research Network will continue to meet biannually. The NCSR will continue to work with Decipher (Cardiff University) on introducing self-harm questions into the School Health Research Network (SHRN) survey in Autumn 2027.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Better understand suicide.	Map how additional data can be gathered and included within Real Time Suspected Suicide Surveillance (RTSSS) around: • Ethnicity • Gender identity • Those who have been bereaved by suicide • Language Spoken/Preferred Language • Immigration Status • Learning Disability.	End of year one.	Ethnicity, Gender Identity, Language Spoken/Preferred Language, Immigration Status: • These data items are not available to RTSSS (ethnicity & gender identity is collected via Police but data quality is unknown). • Potentially available via SAIL Databank so could be explored when RTSSS data is in SAIL and governance arrangements are in place. • Will need confirmation from police forces that the data can be utilised for research purposes. Requires amendments of original data sharing agreements. Those who have been bereaved by suicide: • This is still being explored. Learning Disability: • Data on Learning Disability is already collected, however due to small numbers it may not be appropriate to report on in a public document but would be included in (non-public) Monthly Operational Group reports.	AMBER	For Ethnicity, Gender Identity, Language Spoken/Preferred Language, Immigration Status: • Seek necessary approvals so that RTSSS data can be used for research purposes and plan for RTSSS data to be included in SAIL. Timescale 12-18 months. • Once RTSSS data are included in SAIL, these areas may be able to be explored further. Those who have been bereaved by suicide: • Continue to explore.
	Where possible, include new data elements within the RTSSS reporting.	End of year three.	RTSSS reporting is of suspected suicide surveillance data. New data elements are likely to be available via SAIL as part of research projects only and may not be available for surveillance purposes.		New data elements may not be available for RTSSS reporting of suspected suicide surveillance, unless more real time data sources become available (e.g. primary care data).

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Better understand suicide. (Cont'd)	Establish infrastructure to link data sources (e.g. the RTSSS and SAIL) which will provide more comprehensive data relating to deaths by suicide.	End of year two.	A PhD student has been appointed to support this, working across NCSR and Public Health Wales (PHW).	GREEN	Clarify the governance process and the timescales required to obtain approvals.
	Explore the possibility of all Mental Health teams within Health Boards notifying RTSSS of suspected suicides by in patients or those recently discharged.	End of year two.	Explored whether data on in-patients or those recently discharged, with the level of information required for RTSSS, is available from a central source.	GREEN	PHW to explore this directly with health boards.
Improve the processes for information to be shared, analysed and used to inform policies and services.	Establish terms of reference for the NCSR which set out the relationships with other structure/ organisations.	End of year one.	Terms of reference for the relationship between Welsh Government and NCSR complete. A Data, Evidence and Surveillance (DES) advisory group has been established by the NCSR. The NCSR co-host the recently established Suicide Prevention, Self-harm, Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Evidence Network.	GREEN	DES meetings to continue to occur quarterly. The NCSR will promote the Suicide Prevention, Self-harm, Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Evidence Network to all researchers (including early and mid-career researchers) to enhance capacity building within the field. The Research Network will continue to meet biannually.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve the processes for information to be shared, analysed and used to inform policies and services. (Cont'd)	Establish a formal relationship between the NCSR as an advisory body to the Welsh Government.	End of year one.	Terms of reference for the relationship between Welsh Government and NCSR complete. The NCSR submitted its first annual report to Welsh Government (Suicide Prevention and Self-harm; SPSH team) in March 2026. This report provided a summary of data on the epidemiology of suicide and self-harm in Wales, key messages and advice, policy briefings and an update on the NCSR's performance against its assigned deliverables in Year One of the Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Delivery Plan 2025–2028.	GREEN	The SPSH Team in Welsh Government will schedule a meeting with the NCSR to discuss policy-relevant research priorities for Year 2 of the strategy. The SPSH Team will discuss with the NCSR the drafting and review process for the annual report moving forward.
	Publish a closure report outlining the achievements against the Talk to me 2, Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention Strategy for Wales 2015 to 2022 to set the baseline for the new strategy.	End of year one.	Published. See www.gov.wales/together-mental-health-and-talk-me-2-strategies-closure-report	GREEN	
	Develop a reporting framework and procedure linked with the Strategy Board and Ministerial Assurance Board.	End of year one.	Terms of Reference (ToR) agreed with Ministerial Board. Implementation Group established. Monitoring and reporting framework being developed.	AMBER	The Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Implementation Group ToR will be updated and work will continue to develop the monitoring and reporting framework.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve the processes for information to be shared, analysed and used to inform policies and services. (Cont'd)	Create and publish an outcomes framework.	End of year one.	Published. See www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2025-07/suicide-prevention-self-harm-strategy-outcomes-framework.pdf	GREEN	The outcomes framework will be used to inform the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Strategy 2025–2035. A Research Officer was appointed to the SPSH Team in February 2026 to develop this.
	Develop a Lived Experience Framework.	End of year one.	The SSHP in NHSPI have consulted on the development of a lived experience framework with people with lived experience through a series of workshops. A new Project Manager has been appointed to strengthen and progress the lived experience work. Work is being aligned with wider engagement activity across the Strategic Programme for Mental Health, Patient Safety Programme, Crisis Care, and the NHSPI reward and remuneration interim policy to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach.	AMBER	A draft of the Framework will be available in 2026-27 Yr 2.
	Develop Communities of Practice.	End of year three.	NHSPI has facilitated the establishment of a self-sustaining Community of Practice (CoP) for Universities and Further Education Colleges to support student and staff wellbeing and responses to suicide events, linking with Medr.	GREEN	Similar approaches will be adopted for other workforces, in particular those working with groups with co-occurring/intersecting associated factors such as criminal justice/Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)/substance use. A CoP for Pupil Referral Units (PRU) will also be developed in Year 2.

Objective 2: Preventing

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Inform and influence Welsh Government policies and programmes.	Scope opportunities to incorporate suicide and self-harm awareness into Welsh Government Staff Training.	End of year one.	Focussing on suicide awareness in the first phase due to availability of resources. A resource playlist for Welsh Government staff has been developed which includes e-learning and wider information resources. This is awaiting publication. Scoping work began around opportunities for Lunch & Learns around risk factors and supportive conversations in year one. Advice on BSI Standard 'Suicide and the workplace – Intervention, prevention and support for people affected by suicide' (BS 30480:2025) in NCSR Annual Report received.	GREEN	Publication of playlist and monitoring of completion. Discussion meeting around suicide awareness with HR case advisory team & Mental Health Allies. Hold and promote lunch & learns for interested staff. Progress work around self-harm awareness training and resources. Internal discussions around BSI Standard. Input into the drafting of the Welsh Government staff Wellbeing Strategy.
	Scope current training received by external facing staff, review any gaps and develop bespoke training where necessary.	End of year one.	Ongoing – a variety of engagement methods are underway to collect and collate this information.	AMBER	Continuing to collect the information and work with colleagues to develop or signpost to bespoke training if necessary. Targeted exploration with Rural Payments Wales.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Inform and influence Welsh Government policies and programmes. (Cont'd)	Establish processes for the inclusion of suicide and self-harm consideration into public bodies' assessment of mental health impacts through the Health Impact Assessment (HIA).	End of year one.	The HIA Regulations have now been published.	AMBER	Work collaboratively with PHW on the production of additional guidance to provide more direction in terms of how to consider suicide and self-harm.
Promote helpful media reporting and limit access to misinformation.	Review media guidelines for suicide and self-harm reporting.	End of year three.	Discussions have already taken place with Samaritans Cymru regarding the process of monitoring the reporting of suicide and self-harm within Welsh media, in line with Samaritans media guidelines.	GREEN	A review of existing guidelines to be undertaken to establish what further work could be done to address problematic reporting. Welsh Government to identify opportunities to engage with the Wales Public Interest Journalism Working Group with regard to promoting safer reporting of suicide and the role of media in suicide prevention.
	Develop an established escalation protocol for those concerned about how suicide and self-harm has been reported in the media.	End of year three.	An escalation process has been agreed in principle with Samaritans and their Media Advisory Team.	GREEN	Next steps are to confirm details around 'managing expectations' of the process before circulating to relevant colleagues/key partners.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Enhance our responses through embedded suicide prevention protocols and enhanced delivery mechanisms.	Embed identified leadership within the public sector for suicide prevention and self-harm.	End of year three.	The Welsh Government and NCSR have met with Regional Partnership Board (RPB) leads presenting the National Strategy and the need to strengthen links between national, regional, and local levels, and supporting implementation of the new strategy.	GREEN	Ongoing liaison with RPBs to embed suicide prevention and self-harm into regional partnership strategies and functions.
	Develop National protocols for responses to specific locations or public spaces of concern for suicide and self-harm.	End of year one.	Final draft submitted to Welsh Government following consultation.	AMBER	Final comments to be incorporated into drafts in preparation for publication likely 2026-27 Yr 2 given lead-in times.
	Develop National protocols for responses to emerging lethal methods for suicide and self-harm.	End of year one.	The Suicide and Self-harm Programme team developed an SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation) around a process for emerging lethal methods. Development of Welsh protocols is on hold whilst understanding of the UK position and progress in this area, and therefore the impact on Wales, is increasing. Ongoing engagement through the UK and Ireland Roundtable continues.	AMBER	Welsh Government will become a member of the UK Concerning Suicide Methods group which convenes central (non-devolved) Government departments who contribute to the management or risks surrounding emerging methods. Welsh and UK Government (Department of Health and Social Care) have committed to meet more regularly to discuss issues which affect both nations and to share updates and best practice.

Objective 3: Empowering

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve the accessibility of universal suicide and self-harm awareness and support information and resources.	Map existing available resources and scope opportunities to enhance accessibility.	Ongoing.	Appointed a new Project Manager who will be leading on mapping exercises within NHSPI. Initial mapping process of resources across regions has commenced.	GREEN	Produce a first draft of a mapping report for 2026-27 Yr 2.
	Develop and maintain training and support products for settings which are universally accessible and equip people with the skills and knowledge to confidently offer support and signpost to services.	Ongoing.	Ongoing – reliant on outcome of mapping above.	GREEN	Analysing outcome of mapping of available resources to ascertain if this action is still required or needs amending. E.g. if resources around suicide and self-harm awareness and support are publicly available and accessible throughout Wales, then promotion of these resources would be required as an action.
	Develop a bilingual Basic Awareness Module for Self-harm.	End of year one.	The Basic Awareness Module has been developed through multi-agency task and finish group chaired by Professor Ann John and included Traumatic Stress Wales and Time to Change Wales. People with lived experience have been engaged throughout. Consultation on the module closed end of March 2026, and the responses are currently being analysed.	AMBER	Expecting digital upload in 2026-27 Yr 2.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve the accessibility of universal suicide and self-harm awareness and support information and resources. (Cont'd)	Ensure the basic Suicide and Self-harm awareness modules are available and promoted for universal access and are suitable for the public, considering accessibility, language provision and other specific needs.	End of year one.	Accessibility requirements set out in legislation. Work to date has not been targeted at the general public so further discussions needed about audience. Accessibility and interactive elements of the Basic Awareness modules being developed with the digital suppliers.	AMBER	Basic Awareness (suicide) module has been updated and is expected to be live imminently, and Self-harm module to be developed for upload in 2026-27 Yr 2. These will then be actively promoted across all channels of communication.
	Scope opportunities to increase public listening and compassion skills through training and resources.	End of year two.	Not yet started.	AMBER	Further advice required with regards to balancing risk and opportunity linked with communication on suicide and self-harm.
	Promotion of consistent person-centred and universally accessed safety planning and support materials.	Ongoing.	Service specification with procurement. Linking with Patient Safety Programme Patient Centred Safety Planning work. Identification of digital supplier and initiation of digital development. This activity was postponed from March until the end of the pre-election period.	AMBER	This activity was postponed from March until the end of the pre-election period.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Increase knowledge and awareness of suicide and self-harm across Wales.	Develop and implement a communication and engagement plan, including scoping the potential of a bilingual national awareness campaign for suicide and self-harm in Wales.	End of year three.	Advice received from the NCSR as part of their first annual report to inform next steps. Communications and engagement plan for internal Welsh Government staff has been completed.	GREEN	Conduct a rapid evidence review on the efficacy of public campaigns in suicide prevention, including those which promote a listening culture/listening skills. Develop initial draft of communications strategy based on evidence and views of those with lived experience.
	Identify opportunities to raise awareness of self-harm and suicide in residential and social settings.	Ongoing.	Currently at scoping stage.	AMBER	Further scoping to more closely define residential and social settings.

Objective 4: Supporting

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve access to and delivery of Mental Health Services across Wales for those who present with and seek support for self-harm and suicidal ideation.	Ensure the Patient Safety Programme meets the needs of those at risk of suicide or self-harm focusing on activities such as: • Guidance for mental health in-patient discharge. • Creating consistent person-centred and universally accessed safety planning. • Reviewing risk formulation for inpatient services. • Minimising harm associated with the use of ligatures.	End of year three.	Anti-ligature policy, practice and training produced and disseminated. Safe discharge standards have been produced and disseminated. A Community of Practice around person-centred safety planning has been established and is taking the lead on ensuring people who have contact with mental health services are offered the opportunity to coproduce their own safety plan.	GREEN	Arrange a joint review of objectives across the Patient Safety Programme and SSHP to plan for 2026-27. Extend the focus to include community safety.
	Review the current model of crisis support across Wales including the scoping of current interventions and access to support for those at risk of suicide or self-harm.	End of year one.	Model devised with Health Boards, Local Authorities, police and people with lived experience through a series of design workshops. Outline shared with partners.	AMBER	Outline model shared with NHSPI Managing Director (with a specific focus on bed model). Further work planned with Health Boards and partners on the implementation, starting in 2026-27 Yr 2.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Improve access to and delivery of Mental Health Services across Wales for those who present with and seek support for self-harm and suicidal ideation. (Cont'd)	Ensure support for Suicide Prevention and Self-harm is included in the offer for talking therapies.	End of year one.	This action is reflected within the Psychological Interventions Programme Board work plan, including a focus on expanding access to guided digital psychological interventions for individuals presenting with suicide risk and self-harm. Access to Psychological Therapies has been included within the Self-Harm Quality Statement.	GREEN	
	Collaborate on the Strategic Mental Health Workforce Plan.	End of year one.	SPSH policy colleagues were stakeholders in a series of workshop-style events aimed at exploring how to embed lived experience within the mental health workforce.		SPSH policy colleagues at Welsh Government will continue to collaborate on Health Education and Improvement Wales' (HEIW) priorities relating to the Strategic Mental Health Workforce Plan.
Enhance the offer of support in other services including primary care mental health, urgent and emergency care, and third sector services.	Map existing service provision for self-harm and suicidal ideation in Wales.	End of year one.	This has not started and therefore will not be completed in year one. A new Project Manager who will be leading on mapping and stakeholder engagement has been appointed to lead on this work.	RED	Welsh Government and the SSHP in NHSPI to meet and clarify scope.
	Increase our understanding and better communicate the needs of those who seek to engage with services for support around suicide and self-harm, as well as the needs of the workforce who deliver these services.	Ongoing.	An advert for a Public Health Registrar to undertake a Health Needs Assessment on self-harm has been disseminated. SSHP within NHSPI has linked with the team providing rapid response support for suicide incidents, as well as the safeguarding team in Mid and West Wales, to gain a better understanding of the level of vicarious trauma experienced by staff.	GREEN	Identify need in relation to vicarious trauma.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Enhance the offer of support in other services including primary care mental health, urgent and emergency care, and third sector services. (Cont'd)	Continue to develop the bilingual Digital Platform to support front-line workers across Wales, and the public, through co-production and collaboration.	Ongoing.	National Digital Hub continues to develop, expand and gain traction across sectors Welcome to the Suicide and self-harm Prevention Cymru Training Hub .	GREEN	Revisit all content in the context of the 2025 Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Strategy and the most recently published datasets.
	Active promotion of the suicide and self-harm bilingual basic awareness modules throughout primary care mental health, urgent and emergency care, and third sector services.	End of year one.	Increasing engagement with Primary Care national groups and settings in preparation for the Primary Care Toolkit, including promotion of the Basic Awareness Suicide Module.	AMBER	Proactive drive on promotion of Basic Awareness modules once refreshed.
	Delivery of Nationally Accredited 'bespoke' training.	End of year three.	AGORED accredited units focused on responding to people affected by suicide or suspected suicide have been developed, alongside a train the trainer unit to support the cascade of training. The units have been delivered to over 50 active trainers across Wales.	GREEN	Support the roll-out of the delivery of these units by the people trained across sectors in Wales.
	Co-produce a 'toolkit' for the Primary Care sector.	End of year two.	A task and finish group has been established with multi-disciplinary representation.	GREEN	Establish the key components of the 'toolkit' and develop it over the next 12 months, incorporating activity at the individual worker, practice, and cluster levels. Identify where to host different components.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Enhance the offer of support in other services including primary care mental health, urgent and emergency care, and third sector services. (Cont'd)	Support the implementation of undergraduate/ pre-registration learning in self-harm and suicide within health and care training programmes.	End of year two.	A comprehensive document setting out the learning outcomes developed with Skills for Health is available online: Learning for undergraduate, pre-registration and pre-qualifying health and social care students in Wales – SSHP.	GREEN	Revise the document to fully align with 2025 Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Strategy. Liaise with HEIW who commission undergraduate programmes across Wales. Regional Leads in the SSHP team to engage higher education's delivering programmes to assist adoption of the learning outcomes.
Creating a pathway for self-harm.	Creation of an integrated health and social care quality statement for self-harm, developed through collaboration and co-production.	End of year one.	Integrated health and social care quality statement for self-harm co-produced and published on GOV.WALES website. The Quality Statement for Self-Harm GOV.WALES	GREEN	Dissemination of the quality statement to stakeholders.
	Production of a Pathway for self-harm response in Primary Care.	End of year one.	Draft Pathway produced with national Community Health Pathways team and Subject-matter experts.	AMBER	The SSHP team will consult on the draft Pathway with people with lived experience and practitioners. The draft will be finalised and uploaded.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Creating a pathway for self-harm. (Cont'd)	To work with key agencies already responding to suicide attempts to identify needs and support the ongoing design and development of both monitoring and response systems.	End of year three.	This worked has not yet commenced.	AMBER	Regional Leads within the SSHP team are exploring existing activity where people who attempt suicide are known to present and measures are being put in place to support.

Objective 5: Equipping

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Increase understanding of current provision in other support services and identify any gaps in support.	Map services where people with co-occurring issues may present in Wales.	End of year one.	In collaboration with the Suicide and Self-harm Programme in NHSPI, Welsh Government has undertaken baseline surveys in both the substance misuse and VAWDASV sectors to further understand knowledge and training provision in these sectors supporting people at high risk of suicide and self-harm. Discussions with stakeholders around the findings have been undertaken in the substance use sector and the VAWDASV responses are currently being analysed.	AMBER	Work to continue into year two, focussing on unemployment support sector survey and scoping further services that support those at high risk of suicide and self-harm and where those with co-occurring issues may present. Next steps for substance misuse sector – undertake a wider survey including third sector support to deeper understand training needs. Next steps for VAWDASV sector – deeper analysis of survey results and consideration of stakeholder workshop. Further next steps to be guided by outcome of Self-harm Health Needs Assessment.
	Increase our understanding and better communicate the complexity of needs of service users, and what needs to be in place to meet those needs.	End of year one.	Currently engaged with a range of workforces relating to associated factors highlighted in the data and evidence base e.g. domestic abuse, substance use, criminal justice, men's mental health groups, children and young people.	AMBER	Guided by outcome of Self-harm Health Needs Assessment.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Enhance the offer available.	Directing services to available resources to enhance understanding and skills), in particular: Ensure the basic Suicide and Self-harm awareness modules are available and promoted.	Ongoing.	Basic Awareness modules updating and uploading being finalised. Licences for Living Works START 90 minute e-module of suicide intervention acquired and being distributed across frontline workforces across sectors.	GREEN	Active promotion of the e-modules to drive uptake throughout the year. Evaluate the Living Works module with a view to making more widely available, or to incorporate into multi-modal workforce development programmes.
	Ensure frontline workers across sectors, e.g. local authorities, housing, DWP, teachers, receive suicide awareness and suicide prevention training to develop active listening skills and suicidal conversation skills, so they can hold effective compassionate conversations.			GREEN	

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Enhance the offer available. (Cont'd)	Ensuring the “Treating people with mental health and substance misuse problems” co-occurring framework considers suicide prevention, self-harm and other health harming behaviours, as well as scoping the provision of support for those who are intoxicated.	Ongoing.	Funding continues to be provided through the Substance Misuse Action Fund to Area Planning Boards (APBs) who commission local services. Commissioning arrangements are a matter for the APBs and these are monitored by officials. The Joint Commissioning Committee (JCC) Review of Substance Misuse has provided a number of reports which will help inform work to be taken forward. For example, on areas such as Alcohol Related Brain Damage and Co-occurring Mental Health/Substance Misuse.	AMBER	Work will continue on monitoring the work of APBs and this includes engagement with APBs on the how the work is commissioned and consideration of if these could be standardised, with learning from each other. Areas of policy focus will be on co-occurring mental health/substance misuse work, Alcohol Related Brain Damage, Ketamine and Buprenorphine.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
To ensure services for children and young people feel equipped to support them with self-harm and suicidal ideation and behaviours.	Ensuring inclusion of suicide and self-harm awareness raising, safeguarding and escalation processes within the CAMHS Toolkit/Service Specification.	Ongoing.	A separate and additional section on suicide and self-harm has been appended to the CAMHS specification.	AMBER	SSHP working with Safeguarding Procedures Steering Group to ensure consistent reference to suicide and self-harm across both children's safeguarding procedures and adult, to be followed by the development of Practice Guides specifically addressing suicide and self-harm.
	Scope potential to collaboratively develop resources for education practitioners for support around suicide and self-harm for themselves and awareness around vicarious trauma.	End of year one.	Scoping discussions have been undertaken around existing provision.	AMBER	Ongoing work to ensure support is provided in relation to suicide and self-harm and vicarious trauma.
	Support those who respond to children and young people affected by self-harm and suicide by assessing learning and support needs, and develop policies, protocols and resources through co-design and collaboration.	End of year three.	The Suicide and Self-harm Programme team, in NHS Wales Performance and Improvement, continue to facilitate and support Communities of Practice within Higher Education Institutions and Further Education Colleges (sector-led). Work also continues to embed references to suicide and self-harm into national specifications and procedures (e.g. CAMHS, Safeguarding).	GREEN	Workstreams continuing linking with CAMHS Schools In-reach service, PRUs, and Youth Homelessness services.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
To ensure services for children and young people feel equipped to support them with self-harm and suicidal ideation and behaviours. (Cont'd)			The Suicide and Self-harm Programme team in NHSPI, and subject-matter experts, have engaged with key stakeholders and sectors around our <i>'Responding to issues of self-harm and thoughts of suicide in young people'</i>. The Suicide and Self-harm Programme team continue to work with agencies supporting the most vulnerable young people.	GREEN	The Suicide and Self-harm Programme team (NHS Wales Performance and Improvement) are collaborating with subject-matter experts to create key recommendations around updates and improvements to the <i>'Responding to issues of self-harm and thoughts of suicide in young people'</i> guidance to better reflect safeguarding procedures and to ensure it is promoted and fit for purpose for those working outside of education, as well as within the sector. Welsh Government expect to receive these recommendations within the next few months and will be considering any revisions to the guidance.
	Work with online safety experts to provide resources for Hwb to support education practitioners and families in discussing harmful online content with children and young people and in identifying support and reporting services.	End of year three.	The Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Policy and Digital Resilience Teams in Welsh Government continue to work collaboratively to understand the latest harmful online content and to be responsive to emerging issues.	GREEN	

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Create multi-agency mechanisms.	Develop and support regional multi-agency partnership mechanisms.	Ongoing.	Scoping has been undertaken around how multi-agency partnerships between Health Boards and RPBs can be strengthened and supported.	GREEN	Heath Board/RPB footprint multi-agency partnerships being strengthened and supported. Regional Forums to be refined and refocused to reflect 2025 Suicide Prevention and Self-harm Strategy, with publication of Regional Profiles, and reduced meetings (bi-annual) due to strengthening of Health Board/RPB partnerships.
	Include a representative from Suicide and Self-harm Programme Team on the NYTH/NEST national steering group and include suicide prevention and self-harm in NYTH/NEST implementation.	End of year one.	Suicide and Self-harm Programme, NHS Wales Performance and Improvement are now represented on the NYTH/NEST National Steering Group.	GREEN	Complete.

Objective 6: Responding

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
To ensure timely trauma informed, compassionate and person-centred support is available for those affected by suicide.	Evaluate the impact of the national response to people bereaved or affected by suicide guidance.	End of year two.	The tender specification has been issued and bids received and reviewed. Evaluator has been confirmed and procurement is progressing towards arranging a start date.	GREEN	Engage with provider to set out workplans for the year 2026-27.
	Scope if further provision under the National Advisory Liaison Service (NALS) is required around such elements as being trauma informed, accessibility and language provision.	End of year two.	Changes have been implemented to the delivery of NALS to further align the service to the needs of the population.	AMBER	Continue to embed the service changes, review and evaluate implementation of changes and their impact.
	Create a short “What Happens Next?” information and support booklet in line with feedback from those with lived experience.	End of year one.	A bilingual print version of “What Happens Next?” has been co-developed with stakeholders and people with lived experience. The booklet will be printed in summer 2026.	AMBER	The booklet will be disseminated to touch point agencies and third sector support agencies, including police, coroner’s offices, mortuaries, funeral directors, bereavement services.

Our aim	How will we do this?	When will we do this by?	Progress	RAG Rating	Next Steps
Provide consistent, joined-up and rapid responses following suicide.	Develop and maintain national protocols for rapid response to suicide events.	End of year one.	A draft version has been issued for consultation, with policy colleagues invited to provide comment.	AMBER	SSHP to review responses and update documents and liaise with SPSH policy colleagues in Welsh Government on digital publication.
	Develop and maintain national protocols for cluster responses.	End of year one.	A draft version has been issued for consultation, with policy colleagues invited to provide comment.	AMBER	SSHP to review responses and update documents and liaise with SPSH policy colleagues in Welsh Government on digital publication.
	Work with UK Government to introduce regulations which place a duty on online providers to store information relating to the death of a child by suicide or instances of self-harm.	Ongoing.	The Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 was introduced on 23 October 2024 and received Royal Assent on 19 June 2025. The Act contains provisions which amended the Online Safety Act 2023, requiring social media companies to retain information in connection with an investigation by a coroner into the death of a child, including those suspected to have died by suicide. From 30 September 2025, if a coroner provides Ofcom with certain information about the death of a child, Ofcom have a duty to issue a Data Preservation Notice to the relevant regulated service.	AMBER	Continue to contribute to the ongoing development of Ofcom's frameworks for monitoring and enforcing as the appointed Regulator.