

Suicide Prevention Programme Learning Set
Suicide Prevention in the Square Mile

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City Data

In the City 80% or more of completed suicides occur on bridges and 95-100% occur in the public sphere.

Year	Attempted and Contemplated Suicide	Completed Suicides
2019	over 150	Between 5 and 10
2020	over 100	Under 5
2021	over 250	Between 5 and 10

City of London Suicide Prevention Multi- agency steering group and action plan

Six domains outlined by Public Health England (PHE):

- Reduce the Risk of Suicide in Key high risk groups
- Tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups
- **Reduce access to the mean of suicide**
- Those who are bereaved or affected by suicide to feel informed and supported throughout their experience
- Support the media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour
- Support research, data collection and monitoring

Bridge Pilot 2016

From April 2016 to April 2017 we conducted a bridge pilot:

- placed Samaritans signs on 3 bridges
- delivery of training sessions to the public and frontline staff at various city locations
- leaflets handed out to pedestrians at one bridge site

Partnership working and sharing good practice

The Corporation is a member of :

- The Tidal Thames Water Safety Forum
- Safe Public Place
- The National Suicide Prevention Alliance

City focus - reducing access to the means of suicide

- Advise developers at pre application meetings for any building of 4 storeys or above
- Planning guidance for developers of building of 4 storeys or higher on how to mitigate suicide risk to be part of our long term plan
- Planning committee report template to have a paragraph on suicide risk mitigation
- Exploring feasibility of options for physical measures on the bridges

City Focus - increasing opportunities for human intervention

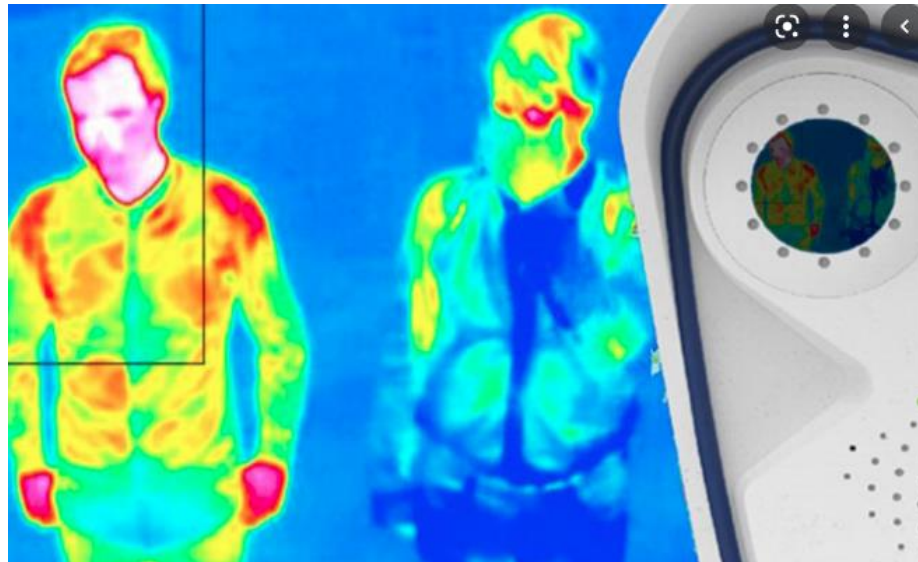
- Trying to secure funding for 24/7 trained volunteer patrols on 13 bridges (in the hope of a mobilization summer 2022)
- Mental health street triage - Mental health nurses accompany police officers
- Training of business staff along the river through the business healthy network
- Promotion of water safety and suicide awareness materials to licensed premises along the water
- Leaflet about suicide prevention in the City are distributed regularly at transport hubs and on the bridges

Intervention Strategy

- Post incident follow up meetings have become the standard
- Intervention meetings with the service user
- Frequent attenders have been steered away from returning to high risk locations
- To date we have had 100% success in reducing re-attendance to zero

City of London Police Secure City Programme (SCP)

- Additional camera coverage of the City's 5 bridges which feed directly into the police control room
- SCP's remit also includes a specific workstream aimed at improving situational awareness of vulnerable people on the City's Thames bridges using camera, sensor and video analytics technology for the benefit of the emergency and support services.



City of London Police Secure City Programme (SCP)

This particular workstream was mobilised earlier this year and is now undertaking a series of field trials to establish their effectiveness in the Thames environment. This evolving workstream intends to consider three distinct aspects of a fall from the City's bridges, namely:

- The identification of a potential fall before it happens
- The detection of a fall as it happens
- The response to a fall once it has happened



City of London Police Secure City Programme (SCP)

Different types of technology have been identified : video analytics, 'break beam' sensors at bridge level and sensors to help enhance search & rescue capability.

- Lifebelt sensors that flags when a lifebelt is taken out of the housing



The Samaritans City Hub

- Brand new Samaritans service delivery centre located near London Bridge
- London workers can volunteer flexibly around their work patterns and busy lives
- Help meet the demand for Samaritans forthcoming online chat service
- Engage London workers in activities that enhance wellbeing and develop skills
- Create a innovative Samaritans centre enabling them to test a more flexible model of volunteering



Upstream measures - promotion and prevention



Things to do Services Supporting businesses

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Services / Health and wellbeing / Mental health

Mental Health and Wellbeing

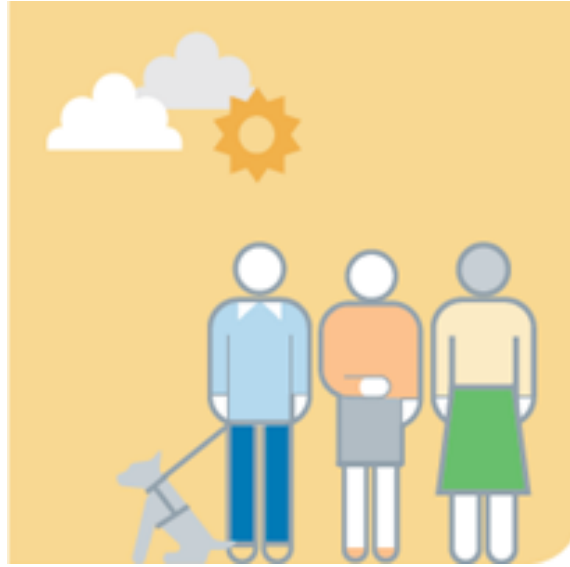
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! Is your life in danger? If you have seriously harmed yourself – for example, by taking a drug overdose – call 999 for an ambulance or go straight to A&E. Or ask someone else to call 999 or take you to A&E.

Mental wellbeing

Mental wellbeing is more than not having a mental health problem; it refers to our ability to get the most out of life and cope with its challenges.





Questions?