

Invitation to Tender

Providing timely and appropriate suicide bereavement support across the UK



Summary and Purpose

The Support after Suicide Partnership is the co-ordinating hub for a UK-wide network of organisations that support people who have been bereaved or affected by suicide. We do this through research, advocacy, signposting, innovative practice and working together to achieve our Vision that, *'everyone bereaved or affected by suicide is offered timely and appropriate support'*.

The SASP believes that 'timely and appropriate support' can be delivered through locally based services, supported by a dedicated central hub. This hub may hold resources, information, evidence and guidelines, and will play an important role in encouraging and making it easier for NHS Trusts, CCGs, Local Authorities and other organisations to invest in and develop effective local support (see Appendix 1 and 2).

We are therefore asking for expressions of interest from people or organisations who could lead a piece of work to help us define the scope of the hub, set out how it might work in practice and propose the structure required to develop and sustain it.

We have undertaken some initial scoping work to identify the good practice that currently exists in this country and elsewhere. Our next steps are to identify the key principles and terms of reference for such a network model, seek options for funding, and identify local areas and organisations, who might adopt the model.

Outline of the work

Overall Aim

To provide the SASP with a comprehensive report, which sets out the content and shape of the hub, how it might work in practice and the structure required to develop and sustain it.

Deliverables

- A proposal and recommendations for the content, shape and functioning of the central hub, including:
 - the proposed structure of the central hub
 - the resources, information, evidence and guidelines the central hub would offer at different stages of its development (see Appendix 2)
 - the situation of the central hub; be it as part of an existing organisation, as a new organisation, or a development of the Support after Suicide Partnership.
 - a Proposal, Terms of Reference and Tender to build the central hub
- Engagement of service providers, who currently deliver services consistent with PHE guidelines and SASP principles (Expert Reference Group)
- Buy in from current service providers and newly developing services to become early adopters of the principles of the central hub, including:
 - expressions of interest from current providers, local authorities and voluntary sector
 - expression of interest for partnership from SOLACE or a similar umbrella organisation of Chief Executives of Local Authorities
 - letters of intent from NHS Trusts, LAs and CCGs to use the framework locally

This is a crucial element, as the level of buy-in will determine whether or not we consider it worthwhile to go ahead with the next stage and build the hub

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- Engagement of those in a position to drive change (such as CEOs of LAs, Director of Public Health and NHS Trusts), so that they understand;
 - the need to implement local services
 - how it would work, how much it would cost, the benefits (social and economic), and the support that would be available
- Set out proposed approaches to funding for both the development of the hub and its longer term sustainability

The completion of the stage above would then enable us to go out to tender to;

- Develop the central hub model.
- Launch, promote and support implementation

Process

The SASP recognises this tender may be challenging and has a broad scope. Therefore, it welcomes bids from any area of the mental health, voluntary, commercial or public sectors. We particularly welcome bids led by or including people with experience of implementing local services on a national scale, and bids led by or including people who have experience of working with Public Health England, NHS Trusts, Local Authorities, and Commissioning groups.

After the submission of proposals, members of the SASP Leadership Team will consider submissions and we will award the Tender by Friday, 26th October.

We would then envisage the work to be completed before the end of December, 2018.

Proposals

Concise proposals are required (max 2000 words) which cover and will be evaluated against the following areas:

- Profile of individual(s) who will undertake the work
- Outline proposal for the method of working, including
 - A summary of your approach
 - Budget (in the region of £3,000-£5,000) including breakdown of person time and travel
 - Expected output
- Experience of research to develop concepts
- Experience of report writing
- Experience of developing national frameworks
- Experience of fundraising

It would also be desirable to have:

- Experience of partnership working
- Experience of coordinating multiagency working groups
- Experience of working in a setting of trauma, stigma, and/or sensitive issues

Some headings you may wish to consider addressing are

- Your understanding of the context for the work and our requirement
- Your views on the proposal, the idea of a central hub and the role it could play

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- Proposed approach to our tender and the sequence of steps to be taken
- Who you intend to work with in order to deliver the required outcomes
- Proposed outputs/deliverables
- Timeline and Budget for each step proposed
- Experience of similar work with the NSPA, DHSC, NHSE, Public Health England, other national and local Government Departments, Partnerships/Alliances and collaborators

Please submit your proposal no later than October 12th 2018 to: Hamish Elvidge, Chair, SASP
achair@supportaftersuicide.org.uk

If you have any queries about this, please contact Hamish Elvidge on 07836 252638 or chair@supportaftersuicide.org.uk

Appendix 1 – Structure and principles of a network model of support

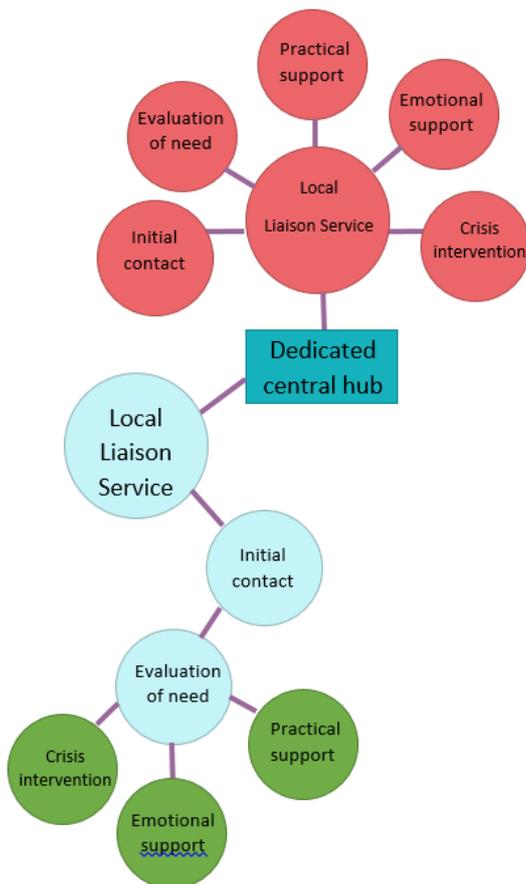
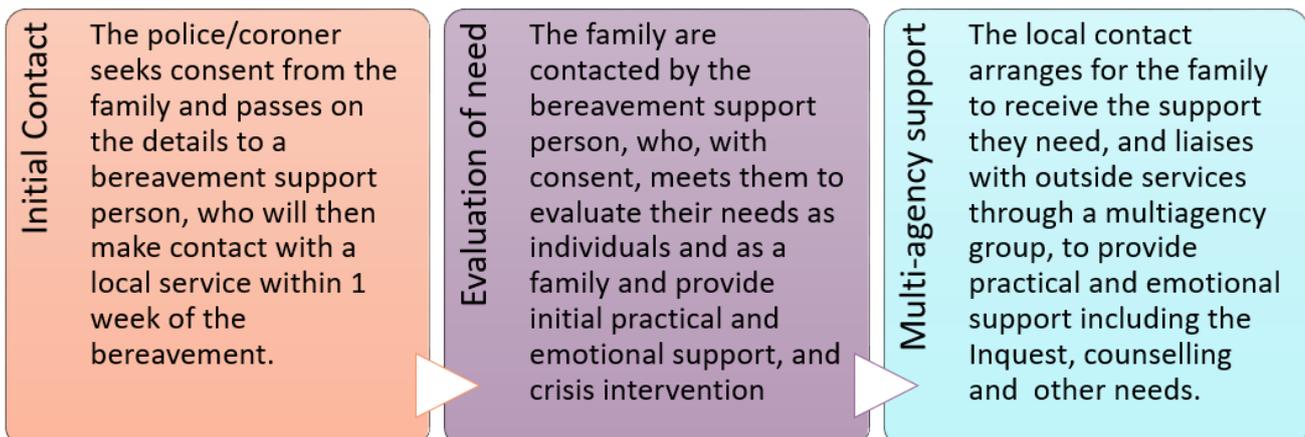


Figure 1 representation of the structure of a national network of locally delivered services.

A central hub would provide support for local liaison services, which could provide support to people bereaved by suicide directly (as in pink), or further liaise with local external organisations to provide support (as shown in cyan and green), or possibly be a combination of both



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Appendix 2 – Potential Content for the central hub

- A central hub with local service providers, who could easily access all they need to consider investing in evidence based support. A small charge would be made for access to the hub, to ensure that it is sustainable in the long term.
- A framework for developing local services (PHE have launched this, but it may need to be simplified to make it easy for local authorities or others to adopt)
- A national and local compelling case for investment, including who incurs the cost of every suicide (£1.67m)
- Research for the need for support (Results of Survey with University of Manchester being presented in 2019 and the on-going research provided by Dr Alexandra Pitman)
- Research and evidence for the benefit and effectiveness of support services (much work needed here)
- An outline role description for the family support worker/navigator, including the qualifications and experience required
- An approach to real time surveillance with coroners and police (PHE did some pilots and some areas have developed a good approach. PHE proposes further work here in 2018/19)
- Clinical Commissioning guidelines
- A website (SASP has developed one)
- Resources like 'Help is at Hand' and 'Finding the Words'
- Advice of the types of practical and emotional support that could be provided including inquest, serious incident review, finance, debt, housing, children
- Guidelines for support groups (being developed by SASP)
- Signposting to local support
- Training (much good practice in place and need to agree the level of training required)
- A national helpline... possibly
- Evaluation/quality assurance/accreditation
- An online App for support