



Action Log	Due Date	Responsible Member
Sarah will contact members to ask for a key contact to be a 'research champion' from each organisation	28/02/2017	Members
Research cross-sector options for research funding.	ongoing	Research Team
Sharon and Sarah meet with Stephanie/WCMT	16/02/2017	
Engage with UK Universities wellbeing and mental health with the research.	31/03/2017	Hamish
Members circulate the resources they are aware of, for specific needs of people surrounding suicide, such as the bereaved, people who may have attempted to take their life, or witnesses	ASAP	All members
Confirm date of next meeting	31/03/2017	Sarah

1. Policy Environment and support

Hamish summarised the current political environment around prevention and postvention of suicide. It was felt the political atmosphere is positive, but commitments need to be made and adhered to. Hamish updated the members on his recent work on the postvention documents commissioned by Business in the Community.

The following were noted as areas of particular importance:

- Postvention is key to providing prevention, as the bereaved are an easily identifiable high-risk group
- Postvention should be of a consistently high standard, with guidelines for support services
- Services must be accessible and consistently available across the country – not scattered.
- To fully understand the definition of effective support, which should be based on the principle that everyone is offered support with a few days of the death and this should include both emotional support and practical support, incorporating advice on the inquest and any NHS serious incident review.

There were five points discussed, which will be developed to integrate into our business plan:

1. Impact of Suicide

Produce a balanced report, which sets out the impact of suicide on families, friends and colleagues as well as the social and financial cost of suicide.

2. Gap in provision

Provide analysis through members/others on how many people are currently supported, compared to the number of people who needs support, in order understand the size of the gap, ideally by local authority area

3. Commitment and funding

Secure commitment and policy change from central government to fund and provide suicide bereavement support within the local communities.

4. Local accountability

Identify and contact a responsible body/person in every local authority and secure commitment to set up a service

5. Support Guidelines

Commission guidelines on suicide bereavement support, make these widely available and secure agreements from all support agencies to implement the guidelines at organisational and individual level



In regards to point 4, it was added that a clear distinction of the responsibilities between the CCGs and public health would be helpful.

It was also noted that identifying the people at risk is key to providing an effective service, and that services must be clearly visible to those wishing to access them.

2. Update from the Leadership Team meeting.

Members were updated on the outcomes of the Leadership Team meeting, and gave their input on the new logo and branding of the SASP. Members will receive a copy of the Leadership Team Meeting minutes.

There was a short discussion around the clinical guidelines the SASP is hoping to develop with the BACP. It was decided that any training must be accessible to a range of groups and professionals of different levels of training and expertise.

3. Response to recent events

Hamish outlined the recent events in the field, and there was a short discussion about how the members' responses to the announcements by Theresa May and the government, and the recent publications.

4. Impact of suicide on the UK: SASP research update.

Sharon McDonnell presented the preliminary findings of the research pilot, and the plans of moving forward. It was noted that the sample was potentially biased, as all participants were already accessing bereavement support services.

It was suggested that further analysis/research could investigate clustering, universities, homelessness, gambling, social issues, and impact of suicide on professionals.

Options for funding were discussed, including asking companies involved with gambling for support, given the association between suicide and gambling and their interest in corporate responsibility. The need for funding was discussed, and it was agreed that the research team will explore further ways to fund the research.

Action: Sarah will contact members to ask for a key contact to be a 'research champion' from each organisation

Action: The research team will investigate further options for funding, including cross-sector funding

Action: Sarah and Sharon will contact the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust to discuss potential funding

Action: Hamish will engage with UK Universities wellbeing and mental health to promote the research

5. Members updates

Outlook South West have been working with the police, for colleagues bereaved by suicide. This has been a positive experience that will lead to a specific plan for the Police. Some projects could be interesting for schools, specially academies that do not have access to EAP.

Listening Ear recently ran training for GPs and nurses, which were well received.

SOBs voiced some concerns over the accessibility of support for people who have attempted suicide. It was suggested that CALM and Papyrus could be a point of contact for support. It was also discussed that there is currently very little support for people who were handicapped as a result of attempting suicide.

SASP Members' Meeting

8th February 2017

Octopus Investments Ltd. 33 Holborn, London



Support
After Suicide
Partnership

If U Care Share has been involved in evaluating the prevention elements through the police (Durham), a six-week workshop in primary schools about emotional wellbeing, and research on postvention.

The Compassionate Friends will see a change of Chairperson, with Margaret Brearley stepping down. She circulated the main achievements of her TCF, including a 'bereavement resources library'. We all wish Margaret well and thanked her for her commitment to TCF and the SASP.

Facing the Future informed the group about the Business in the Community event (prev. introduced by Hamish), a new tool kit for prevention/postvention that will be sent in March.

After a discussion around resources, it was agreed that members should share services local to their areas available to people, who may have specific needs.

Action: Members circulate the resources they are aware of, for specific needs of people surrounding suicide, such as the bereaved, people who may have attempted to take their life, or witnesses

6. Encouraging commissioners to fund a bereavement support service

Item 6 was postponed for a later meeting.

7. Experience within TCF in Britain and Germany in caring for parents bereaved through suicide

Margaret Brearley presented work done in the UK and Germany (including Munich based Primi Passi who are first responders to newly bereaved parents), and shared her personal journey of involvement with The Compassionate Friends.

8. AOB

As there was no further business, Hamish thanked the members for coming, and drew the meeting to a close.

9. Attendees

Alexander Robertson – Cruse Bereavement Care

Ann Culley – SOBS

Claire Walker – NSPA

David Mosse – SOBs Harringay/Time to Talk

Hamish Elvidge – Matthew Elvidge Trust/Chair of the SASP

Margaret Brearley – The Compassionate Friends

Nafeesa Zulfiqar – JWSMT

Richard Brown – AMPARO

Rosie Ellis – NSPA

Sarah Bates – SASP

Sharon McDonnell – Suicide Bereavement UK

Shirley Smith – If U Care Share

Stephanie Talbot – WCMT

Terumi Okaku – Live On

Diogo Duarte – Samaritans

Fergus Crow – Winstons Wish