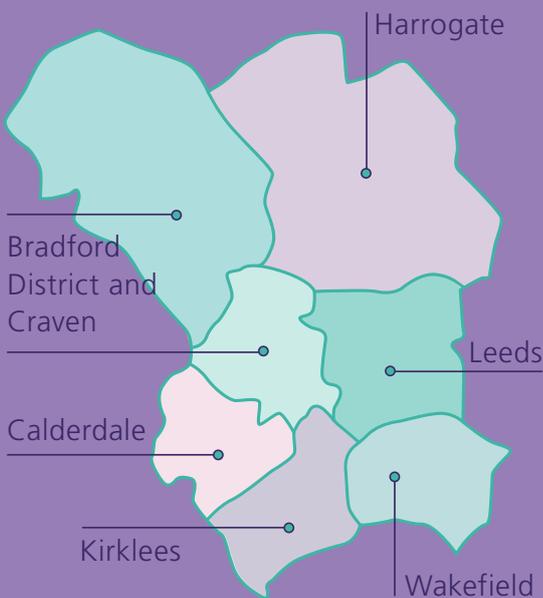


Telling our Partnership story



Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.6 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

Working with West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to help prevent suicide

Our ambition

We have a zero suicide approach to prevention.

What next?

Suicide continues to be the biggest killer of young men in the UK. What is less known is that most people who die by suicide are not in touch with specialist mental health services. It is really important that we are all equipped to deal with people who may be feeling hopeless or helpless, that is why we're delighted to be working in partnership with the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. It is a great example of how we are collaborating on issues that will make the biggest difference to people.

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership



What we are doing

We have developed a scheme to give fire-fighters trained suicide prevention techniques one of many initiatives taking place across our area to reduce number of people who take their own life

Our Partnership has set a target of a 75% reduction in targeted areas and 10% reduction in overall suicides by 2020.

To help achieve this the Partnership has invested £22,000 in a basic 'train the trainers' fire service pilot.

Five trainers from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service will become trainers in 'safeTALK' a suicide prevention training course that helps people know what to do if someone's suicidal by following the easy to remember TALK steps - Tell, Ask, Listen and Keep-safe. These practical steps offer immediate help to someone having thoughts of suicide and help them move forward to connect with more specialised support.

A further four fire service places have been allocated to training trainers in ASIST - Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. ASIST teaches participants to recognise when someone may have thoughts of suicide and works with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety.



The training builds on other suicide prevention work across the area such as the 'Adopt a Block' scheme in Leeds, which has seen fire-fighters building suicide prevention work into their existing safety and prevention work in high rise building. It also acknowledges that fire-fighters are often among the first people on the scene when there are suicide attempts.



Deputy Chief Fire Officer Dave Walton said:

"Losing someone to suicide is an experience that no-one should have to go through. Having spoken to people who have thought of taking their own lives I think it is important that we work with our partners to make our staff aware of the warning signs, to enable them to support both colleagues and community members. By working with the Partnership we can hopefully raise awareness of this subject and most importantly help to save more lives."



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A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

June 2019

West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Health and Care Partnership

