



Our two LGBTQ+ workshop series and the open-to all series of our arts-based workshops used a black-out poetry activity. Black-out poetry is an avant-garde poetic technique that can provide an accessible way into writing poetry by removing unwanted words from a pre-existing document until the only words left behind are those that the writer wishes to form their poem.

This activity used a ministerial forewords from eight suicide prevention policies we were working with across the workshops. Each participant was provided with a single 1-2 page ministerial foreword, with which they could try and distil the key messages of the foreword (either what it was saying or what the participant believed that it was *trying* to say); reply to foreword and speak back to the minister; or answer a question they still had in mind from the previous workshop.

Most people selected the first option, often providing a critical reading and re-telling of what they believed were the messages hidde beneath the foreword.

Subtext by Caoimhe

Suicide is an economic cost

we need to address this shocking reality

including the inequalities caused by

low social and economic prosperity

We will put in place a more robust

young people in order to strengthen

England

Delivery of these ambitious recommendations is supported
by authority

This is part of the Government's wider commitment to
transform

The Future

children and young people

The central driver of the National Strategy must be that

England is crucial

Together, we can achieve this goal.

Ministerial Foreword

Suicide is [REDACTED] an economic cost [REDACTED] we need to address this shocking reality [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] including the inequalities caused by [REDACTED] of low social and economic prosperity [REDACTED]

We will put in place a more robust [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on young people [REDACTED] in order to strengthen [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] England [REDACTED] Delivery of these ambitious recommendations is supported by [REDACTED] authority [REDACTED]

This is part of the Government's wider commitment to transform [REDACTED]

The Future [REDACTED] children and young people [REDACTED]

The central driver of the National Strategy must be that [REDACTED] England [REDACTED] is crucial [REDACTED] Together, we can achieve this goal.

Jeremy Hunt
Secretary of State

Blackout poem by Sam

Many people know suicide

No government department can tackle the issue

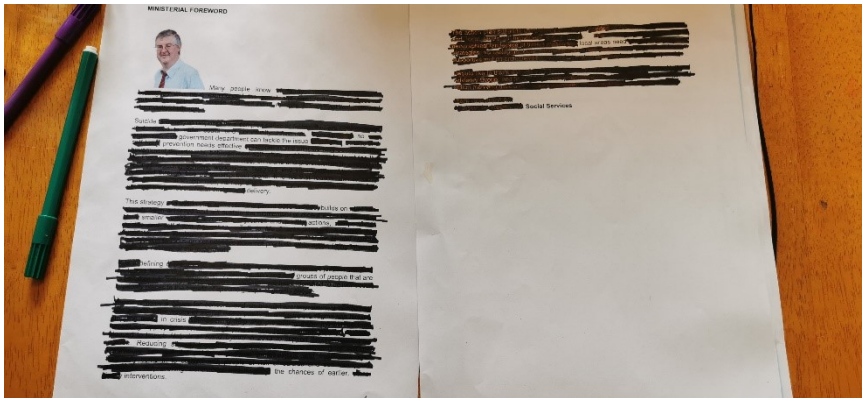
Prevention needs effective delivery.

This strategy builds on smaller actions,

defining groups of people that are in crisis

reducing the chances of earlier interventions.

Local areas need social services.



Dystopia is our reality by Stardew

The Government believes that death by suicide should be inevitable.

In the past decade, progress in addressing this hugely important issue

Of death by suicide's testament to the dedication, expertise and hard work of all those who work to event suicides in our society.

However it is clear that we have far more to do.

The Government's vision,

Which is shared by our partners

Is where suicide is available to anyone contemplating suicide

Suicide is business.

This document sets out that Government's plan – working with our partners – to achieve those objectives.

It lists the actions which leaders at a national, regional and local level must take to transform suicide.

The approach we've set out is one which recognises the need for further death by suicide.

I am very grateful to all those who took the time to attend meetings and public engagement events.

Your views and experiences played a hugely important part in information and sharpening this document.

The scope of this Plan reflects our shared determination to bring about suicide

I am confident that by working together across sectors, organisations and society, we can better distress communities and lives.

Ministerial Foreword



The [redacted] Government believes that death by suicide should be [redacted] inevitable.

In the past decade, [redacted] progress in addressing this hugely important issue [redacted]

[redacted] of death by suicide [redacted] s testament to the dedication, expertise and hard work of all those who work to [redacted] prevent suicides in our society.

However, it is clear that [redacted] we have far more to do.

The [redacted] Government's vision, which is shared by our partners [redacted] is [redacted] where suicide [redacted] is available to anyone contemplating suicide [redacted]

[redacted] Suicide [redacted] is [redacted] business.

This document sets out the [redacted] Government's plan – working with our partners – to achieve those objectives. It lists the actions which leaders at a national, regional and local level must take to transform [redacted]

[redacted] suicide.

The approach we've set out is [redacted] one [redacted] which recognises the need for further [redacted] deaths by suicide.

[redacted]

I am very grateful to all those who took the time to attend meetings and public engagement events. Your views and experiences played a hugely important part in informing and shaping this document.

The scope of this Plan reflects our shared determination to bring about [redacted] suicide [redacted] I am confident that by working together across sectors, organisations and society, we can better [redacted] distress, [redacted] communities, and [redacted] lives.

Clare Haughey
Minister for Mental Health

Emma

Suicide

Devastating

Progress has been made.

No room for complacency

Revisit national strategy

Bringing together knowledge

Applying evidence

Effective interventions

Highlighting resources

Involve communities

Individuals

Affected by

Mental physical health

Equally important

National suicide prevention.

Ministerial Foreword

In England, one person dies every two hours as a result of suicide. When someone takes their own life, the effect on their family and friends is devastating. Many others involved in providing support and care will feel the impact.

In developing this new national all-age suicide prevention strategy for England, we have built on the successes of the earlier strategy published in 2002. Real progress has been made in reducing the already relatively low suicide rate to record low levels.

But there is no room for complacency. There are new challenges that need to be addressed. And at a time when we have economic pressures on the general population, it is particularly timely to revisit a national strategy that has demonstrated clear progress.

If we are to continue to prevent suicide, we also need to take specific actions, as outlined in this strategy.

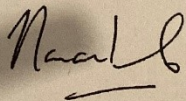
This strategy supports action by bringing together knowledge about groups at higher risk of suicide, applying evidence of effective interventions and highlighting resources available. This will support local decision-making, while recognising the autonomy of local organisations to decide what works in their area.

The factors leading to someone taking their own life are complex. No one organisation is able to directly influence them all. Commitment across government, from Health, Education, Justice and the Home Office, Transport,

Work and Pensions and others will be vital. We also need the support of the voluntary and statutory sectors, academic institutions and schools, businesses, industry, journalists and other media. And, perhaps above all, we must involve communities and individuals whose lives have been affected by the suicide of family, friends, neighbours or colleagues.

We have made it clear that mental and physical health have to be seen as equally important. For suicide prevention, this will mean effectively managing the mental health aspects, as well as any physical injuries, when people who have self-harmed come to A&E. It will also mean having an effective 24-hour response to mental health crises, as well as for physical health emergencies.

The strategy has been developed with the support of leading experts in the field of suicide prevention, including the members of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisory Group, under the chairmanship of Professor Louis Appleby. I would like to thank all members of this group for sharing their knowledge and expertise with us. Their continued support and leadership is central to our efforts to prevent suicides in England.



Norman Lamb MP
Minister of State for Care Services

I keep talking, but no one is listening by Will

Public and

Personal

In isolation and

Collaboration

Talk to me

What will sustain self

Talk to me

Strategies and action plans

The national or the local

Talk to me

People have priority.

A concern, improvement is needed

Stop preventing

Support

Help

'help'

L i s t e n

I would like to *talk*.

public and

personal
in isolation and
collaboration
Talk to Me

will sustain the
self
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Talk to Me
the national or the local

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li si en

I would like to
Talk

Time and again, we hear the Prime Minister say that mental health will be given parity with physical health, but it seems to be all talk and no action. Money is not being put into mental health.

Dawn Butler, House of Commons, 29th November, 2018.

Marianne

I have pain and anguish, devastation, appreciation in the face of personal tragedy.

Unacceptably more needs to be done.

Impossible to quantify.

Underlying issues.

No doubt it is important we work together.

All departments should play.

It's important that we learn the media.

I'm keen!

I intend!

Suicide business.

Elizabeth

Strategy cannot resolve the risk of suicide in our communities

The government's actions ensure suicide and self-harm.

Hollie

Government needs effective and true partnership with those in crisis.

This work was conducted as part of the Suicide in/as Politics project, a partnership project between University of Edinburgh and the University of Lincoln, funded by the Leverhulme Trust. You can find out more about our project at www.blogs.ed.ac.uk/suicide-in-as-politics

If you'd like more information about the poetry activities discussed in this booklet, contact hazel.marzetti@ed.ac.uk or for more information on the project as a whole you can connect with us via Twitter @SuicidePolitics or contact any of us by email:

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