

Our ref:  
Please contact:  
Email:  
Personal assistant:  
Direct tel:

22 May 2024

**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-4028-LSC**

Thank you for your request dated 30 April 2024.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. FOI about the **ringfenced suicide prevention funding allocated to Lancashire and South Cumbria ICS/STP for three years via the NHS Long Term Plan**. At Samaritans, we know that local areas across England are doing life-saving suicide prevention, and proper funding and resourcing is critical for this. To build our national understanding of how the funding was used and what's happening now that it has run out, we are submitting FOI requests to several Integrated Care Boards in England.

The ICS/STP was allocated £671,000 in 2018/2019 ringfenced for suicide prevention via the NHS Long Term Plan. How much ringfenced suicide prevention funding was the ICS/STP allocated via the NHS Long Term Plan in:

- a) Year 1
- b) Year 2
- c) Year 3

**The Lancashire and South Cumbria system (prior to ICB formation) were funded with the following national LTP allocations for Suicide Prevention which we understand to have been ringfenced within the relevant years:**

- a) Year 1: £671,000 2018/19**
- b) Year 2: £671,000 2019/20**
- c) Year 3: £331,110 2020/21**

2. What suicide prevention activities did this money fund, and what were the outcomes of these activities? Please include any relevant service or evaluation data. E.g. how many people were supported by a service, how many people received training.

**During the 3-years of the Long Term Plan funding allocation period, this allowed for the creation and implementation of a Suicide Prevention programme of work across the Lancashire and South Cumbria geography.**

**The programme enables leadership of Suicide Prevention activities across the L&SC patch which is collaboratively managed with partners via a Suicide Prevention Oversight Board, backed by a logic model with actions owned by all localities and feeds from various locality suicide prevention action plans and various steering groups.**

**Specific areas of the programme and activities able to be funded were:**

- **Suicide Prevention programme staffing, including programme management, programme lead, analysts, project support/admin and staff development**
- **Suicide Awareness and Prevention training (contracted Lancashire MIND and Every Life Matters from September 2019). Of which over 3000 people were trained between 2019-2021. This has allowed many people across the system including stakeholders, front line staff and local residents and organisations to receive free Suicide Prevention and Self Harm intervention training to support the communities in which they live and work leading to countless interventions, signposting to services and many lives saved**
- **Orange button community scheme development and associated campaigns and materials. Of which 1407 people signed up as members between 2018-2021. Following receipt of at least 3.5 hours of relevant training individuals are able to join the community scheme which is promoted across the system. It has created a network of active listeners who can identify people in need and guide them to essential services. It has helped to reduce the stigma of talking about suicide and asking for support and is used as a very early intervention scheme to support people in the community with signposting and information**
- **Suicide Bereavement Postvention service (contracted AMPARO and Every Life Matters). Of which 173 people were supported between 2018-2021. The AMPARO service was evaluated and as well as the wide ranging support offered for those affected by a suicide it has led to the creation of a bereavement pathway for adults, peer support groups in districts across the ICB footprint, a bereaved by suicide website developed through co-production and a mental health interactive map and mental health webpage detailing all localised service provision**
- **Suicide Prevention 'Lets keep talking' communications campaigns and promotion which promotes via various methods (e.g., social media, print media, websites, podcasts etc) relevant services, good practice and what support is available in areas such as debt, gambling harms, both Adult and CYP Mental Health and isolation and also created a useful mental health support leaflet for easy signposting to relevant services**
- **Creation and roll-out of Real Time Suicide Surveillance reporting system (RTS). The dashboards created informed the system on suspected suicides, drug related deaths and contributing factors in a timely manner which enabled the ICB and partners to have a data-backed, targeted approach to service provision**
- **Relevant pathway development.**

3. The ringfenced suicide prevention funding allocated through the NHS Long Term ran out after three years. How much money is currently set aside or ringfenced specifically for suicide prevention in the ICS/ICB budget? Please state the time period, e.g. £x for 2 years.

a) Where is this funding sourced from?

**The planned Suicide Prevention ringfenced budget for the ICB in 2024/25 is in the process of being finalised as there was a delay in being made aware of national allocations. Currently, we expect that there will be a similar level of funding, as in 2023/24.**

**£528,675 2023/24 funding was sourced via:  
National SDF allocation  
Local Authorities contribution  
Capital Grant  
ICB Core Funding**

**This allowed the ICB to continue to fund the following elements in 2023/24 and similar plans are intended for 2024/25:**

- **Suicide Prevention programme staffing, including programme management, programme lead, analysts, project support/admin**
  - **Suicide Awareness and Prevention training (contracted Lancashire MIND and Every Life Matters)**
  - **Suicide Bereavement Postvention service (contracted AMPARO and Every Life Matters)**
  - **Orange button community scheme development and associated campaigns and materials**
  - **Suicide Prevention 'Lets keep talking' communications campaigns and promotion**
  - **Creation and roll-out of LSCSIS Suicide Prevention reporting all (development of RTS system)**
  - **Relevant pathway development.**
4. As a result of ringfenced suicide prevention funding coming to an end, have any suicide prevention projects closed or been reduced in your local area? Please provide details of projects affected.

**Suicide prevention and postvention continue to be ICB priorities and therefore the schemes mentioned sections 2 and 3 continue to be funded via ICB core funding, Local Authority contribution and the national SDF allocation for Postvention without having to stand any projects down.**

### **Right of Appeal**

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within two calendar months from the date this response was issued.

### **To request an internal review**

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net) or by post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the CCGs FOI complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Professor Craig Harris – Chief Operating Officer**

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery  
ICB Chief Executive**