



Connecting for Life strategy implementation monitoring report Q2 2022

HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention



Connecting for Life



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1: Introduction

This is the Q2 2022 implementation monitoring report for *Connecting for Life (CfL)*. It will provide an overview of the work carried out by strategy lead agencies from April 2022-June 2022..

To date in this quarter, of the 67 actions in CfL, **updates were received on 61**. Of these 61 actions for which updates were received, **4 were rated as 'complete' and 9 were logged as needing attention**. The majority of actions were considered to be on track. Further detail on the needs attention actions are provided at the end of this report. No actions were logged as off-track.

The NGO quarterly CfL implementation report (Q1 2022) has been completed and is available [here](#).

Some highlights from this quarter include:

- The HSE Mental Health Promotion Plan was launched on April 6th 2022. Implementation is commencing across a number of action areas.
- Mental Health videos to support those arriving from Ukraine in development with Translate Ireland.
- On 31st May 2022, the Online Safety and Media Regulation Bill completed Seanad Committee Stage.
- The National Housing First Implementation plan 2022 -2026 was launched.
- The delivery of online CBT through referral from GPs, primary care psychology, Counselling in Primary Care and Jigsaw continues to scale up and over 4,000 licences have now been activated since this service was launched (in Q2 2021).
- NOSP publicly available briefing on CSO suicide data, June 2022; NOSP publicly available briefing on Eurostat, June 2022.



This quarter updates were received from 19 partners:

- Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI)
- Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM)
- Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD)
- Press Council of Ireland
- Department of Education (DoE)
- Higher Education Authority (HEA)
- HSE Health and Wellbeing (HSE H&W)
- HSE Mental Health Operations (HSE MH Ops)
- HSE Primary Care (HSE PC)
- HSE Acute Hospitals (HSE Acute Ops)
- HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (HSE NOSP)
- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media (DTCAGSM) – Media
- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media (DTCAGSM) – Sports
- Health and Safety Authority (HSA)
- Department of Defence (DoD)
- Department of Health (DoH)
- Local Government Management Authority (LGMA)



This quarter updates were received from 19 partners:

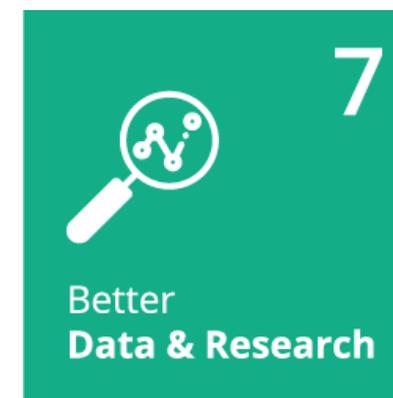
- Department of Children, Disability, Integration, Equality and Youth (DCDIEY)
- Department of Justice (DoJ)

This quarter updates were not received from 2 partners:

- Tusla
- Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection (DEASP)



2: Overview of progress on CfL strategic goals





Goal 1: Improved understanding

• 1.1 Understanding suicidal behaviour	• 1.2 Awareness of services	• 1.3 Reducing stigma	• 1.4 Media and reporting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Radio advertising, social media and paid search campaigns for YourMentalHealth continued throughout Q2 including key dates across Easter and the May & June bank holiday weekends. (HSE MH Ops)• The HSE Mental Health and Wellbeing Promotion Plan was launched on April 6th. Implementation is commencing across a number of action areas. (HSE H&W)• Report of National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP) Review finalised and approved by Implementation Group. (DOH)• Major promotion for the event launched by Minister Feighan in April 2022. Website now live. (DoH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated page signposting to MH supports and services now permanently on the homepage of YourMentalHealth.ie.• Joint project with HSE Digital to improve the digital experience and access to digital mental health supports underway. (HSE MH Ops)• Mental Health videos to support those arriving from Ukraine in development with Translate Ireland. (HSE MH Ops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Q2 2022, SeeChange launched the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Lets Talk About Mental Illness booklet.</i>• See Change Workplace Programme - 10 organisations completed workshops.• Exchange House and Turn2Me with funding from the NOSP, have launched the trilogy of stigma-reduction films. "You Looking at me" is the third film in the John Boy Trilogy, aimed at tackling suicide in the Traveller Community. (HSE NOSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no complaints submitted this quarter to the Press Council or the Broadcasting Authority regarding the reporting of suicide.• Headline activity in Q2: 437 breaches in suicide reporting guidelines observed (17% of articles).• Headline: New research collaboration with National College of Ireland and their 'SAMI' (Anti-Stigma) lab. Research focussed on supporting Headline's representation analysis of mental health challenges in Irish media.• On 31st May 2022, the Online Safety and Media Regulation Bill completed Seanad Committee Stage. (DTCAGSM_MEDIA)



Goal 2: Empowered Communities

2.1 Multiagency community responses	2.2 Accurate information and guidance	2.3 Education and training
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The local CfL plans being developed by CHOs to cover the extended implementation period of the national plan are progressing. To date, five local plans have been completed (in CHOs 2, 5, 6, 9 and 7). Local plans in other areas are in the final stages of editing. NOSP and MH Ops are reviewing each local plan in advance of publication. (HSE MH Ops)• NOSP and HSE MH Ops also continue to meet regularly with the ROSPs and continue to update the guidance document referencing local implications of national CfL developments / priorities / progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft of content for Suicide Prevention in the Community is currently being reviewed by NOSP.• NOSP are supporting local areas to develop CRPs (Community Response Plans) in line with the guidance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• safeTALK Train the Trainer event held with 20 participants. (HSE NOSP)• Evaluation of Bereavement Training programme - completed.• Training Figures Q1:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• START: 1651• safeTALK: 529• ASIST: 345• Introduction to Self-Harm: 107• Self-Harm: 73• Bereavement: 36• User testing for new stress prevention management programme is underway and to be finalised end of June. Course content nearly finalised. (HSE H&W)• Delivery of the face to face Minding Your Wellbeing programme commenced in Q2 in the majority of CHO areas to HSE staff and some community partners. A small number of online programmes have also been delivered. (HSE H&W)



Goal 3: Focus on Priority Groups

3.1 Reducing suicide among priority groups

- National Housing First Implementation plan 2022 - 2026 launched and National Housing First Directorate launched in Q4 2021. NSP22 funding allocated to enhance Housing First health supports in line with 2022 targets (240 new tenancies across the nine regions). (HSE PC)
- Implementation plan for Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS) pilot in CHO7 in development. Evaluation team secured. (HSE NOSP)
- Five projects awarded funding for Arts and Creativity Traveller Initiative in 2022. (HSE H&W)
- Final stage of development of Understanding Migrant Mental Health and Wellbeing e-learning module. (HSE H&W)
- Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI) survey published April 2022 [here](#). Training and education programme being developed with VCI and NOSP reflective of the findings of the survey.

3.2 Early intervention & prevention of substance misuse with Primary Care

- SAOR training remains available under HSEland. One days skills practice training is available to complement the HSEland eLearning programme for 2022. (HSE PC)
- SAOR remains the model for implementation as part of the Health Diversion Programme once operational. (HSE PC)

3.3 Supports for young people

- Year to date 74.3% of accepted CAMHS referrals offered an appointment within 12 weeks compared with 78.7% in the same period last year. (HSE MH Ops).
- Percentage offered an appointment and seen within 12 months is currently at 91.7% compared with 95.2% in the same period last year. (Data is live). (HSE MH Ops)
- Wellbeing CPD for schools commenced in March 2022 and ran until May 2022. 1244 attended to date. (DoE)
- Development of online critical incident training is completed and arrangements are in train for the training to be available on a Learning Management System. (DoE)
- A project at NUIG jointly supported by the HEA and NOSP is progressing a feasibility review of the implementation of the National Student Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Framework. (HEA)



Goal 4: Better access to support

4.1 Assessments and Care Pathways	4.2 Therapeutic Interventions	4.3 Support Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Model of Care (MOC) for dual diagnosis has been developed by the Clinical Care Programme & presented to the Chief Clinical Officers Council in Q2. The MOC is currently with the college of psychiatry for next step approval. Sites identified for 2 adult & 1 adolescent teams. (HSE MH Ops)• Public & Patient Involvement (PPI) evaluation framework established & training needs analysis has been completed. (HSE MH Ops)• Nurse lead post due to be filled for the Clinical Care programme for the assessment and management of patients presenting with self-harm to ED's. (HSE MH Ops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The delivery of online CBT through referral from GPs, primary care psychology, Counselling in Primary Care and Jigsaw continues to scale up and over 4,000 licences have now been activated since this service was launched (in Q2 2021). (HSE MH Ops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing funding of national bereavement counselling service, SBLO service and peer support service. (HSE NOSP)• National Bereavement Support and Communications Programme general population campaign developed and launched across social, radio and print media. Healthcare worker campaign in development. (HSE NOSP)• Development of illustrated story book for children & their parents bereaved by suicide is underway. (HSE MH Ops)



Goal 5: High quality services

5.1 National quality standards, guidance and information for suicide prevention	5.2 Responses to suicidal behaviour in services	5.3 Responses to suicidal behaviour in the justice system	5.4 Best practice among Practitioners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing engagement with 23 NGO partners to ensure implementation of CfL actions and strategic objectives. (HSE NOSP)• Q2 new publications:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NOSP publicly available briefing on CSO suicide data, June 2022• NOSP publicly available briefing on Eurostat, June 2022. (HSE NOSP)• Q2 (to date) NOSP Twitter - 48,600 impressions (number of times the content was seen).• National Policy Group for Lifelong Guidance has been established as recommended by Indecon in its review of Career Guidance Tools and Information. (DOE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The guidelines being developed to support the use of the incident specific tool for instances of suicide and suicidal behaviour will address issues related to the provision of supportive responses and will signpost relevant services available to both staff and to bereaved people. (HSE MH Ops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No update since Q1 2022. (DoJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Health and Safety Authority continues to promote Work Positive tool to improve the management of work-related stressors and reduce hazards and risks with psychosocial factors at work. To date in 2022 Work Positive has had 22 new registrations on the platform. (HSA)• NOSP are providing a range of training courses, with CPD credits, to a number of medical professions including: Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Irish College of Paramedics, ICGP, Royal College of Surgeons, Royal College of Physicians, College of Anaesthetists & NMBI. Discussions are ongoing with other medical professions to promote and provide access to suicide awareness training courses. (DOH)





Goal 6: Reduced access to means

6.1 Access to drugs used in intentional overdose	6.2 Lethal methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Met with chair of existing Medical Council Working Group on Prescribing to identify potential aligned work. (DOH)• WG includes key stakeholders - DoH, NOSP, HPRA, PSI, IPU, Retail Sector representation. Workplan continues to be progressed: design of information flyer is almost finalised; proposal for market surveillance survey circulated to WG; NOSP training opportunities for retail and pharma sectors are being explored. (DOH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Content of audit tool and guidelines for environmental safety within HSE mental health services is currently under review following engagement with colleagues in the UK. (HSE MH Ops)• Signage is available through NOSP in collaboration with the Samaritans and will be considered for use as appropriate and monitored through each local authority. (LGMA)



Goal 7: Better data and research

7.1 Evaluating CfL	7.2 High quality Data	7.3 Death Recording	7.4 Research and Evaluation Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Draft proposal completed for overall evaluation for CfL. (HSE NOSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Preliminary report on the data completeness study on suspected suicides within mental health services under review. The study reviewed data on suspected suicides as reported to the Mental Health Commission (MHC) and through NIMS. (HSE MH Ops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No update since Q1 2022. (DoJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A website is under development which will act as a landing page for members of the Connecting Suicide and Self-and Researchers on the island of Ireland (C-SSHRI), featuring resources, and research profiles. (HEA)





3. At a Glance: Needs Attention (9 actions)

Goal 3

3.1.2 Develop and implement a range of agency and inter-agency operational protocols (including protocols for sharing information and protocols in respect of young people) to assist organisations to work collaboratively in relation to suicide prevention and the management of critical incidents (HSE Acute Ops)

ED self-harm enhancement initiative awaiting project plan agreement by Project Group. Group is co-chaired by NCAGL Acute Ops/MHS. Work is also planned under StV.

Goal 4

4.1.1 Provide a co-ordinated, uniform and quality assured 24/7 service and deliver pathways of care from primary to secondary mental health services for all those in need of specialist mental health services (HSE MH Ops).

Requires coordination with all CHOs to conduct review and initial high level evaluation of service improvement initiative.

4.1.4 Deliver a uniform assessment approach across the health services, in accordance with existing and recognised guidelines for people who have self-harmed or are at risk of suicide (HSE MH Ops).

No dedicated resource currently available to progress the SHAARP project.



At a Glance: Needs Attention (9 actions) - continued

Goal 5

5.1.3 Provide support and resources for the implementation of the Department's curriculum and programmes in the promotion of wellbeing in the school community. Facilitate access to appropriate mental health and suicide prevention training for teachers, e.g. through summer courses and the Education Centre network. In this regard, the support services will work collaboratively and liaise, as appropriate, with Government agencies (DOE).

Progress to date is limited. Facilitation of access to appropriate mental health and suicide prevention training for teachers was impacted by Covid-19.

5.1.5 Disseminate information on effective suicide prevention responses through the development and promotion of repositories of evidence-based tools, resources, guidelines and protocols (HSE NOSP).

Low prioritisation with and availability of HSE Digital to progress web related actions.

5.2.1 Develop and deliver a uniform procedure to respond to suicidal behaviour across mental health services. (HSE MH Ops).

New resource is required.



At a Glance: Needs Attention (9 actions) - continued

Goal 7

7.2.3 Collect, analyse and disseminate high quality data on suicide and self-harm and ensure adequate access to and understanding of the data among those working in suicide prevention across all sectors. (HSE NOSP)

Edits to written sections of coronial study report needed prior to publication.

7.3.1 The Justice and Health sectors will engage with the Coroners, Garda Síochána, NOSP, CSO and research bodies in relation to deaths in custody, and recording of deaths by suicide and open verdicts, to further refine the basis of suicide statistics (DoJ).

Although the CSO-Suicide Mortality Statistics Liaison Group has met four times this year, bilateral engagement is required between the CSO and DOJ to understand if the DOJ need to undertake any work in relation to the CSO Suicide Mortality Liaison Group (DOJ).

7.4.4 Evaluate innovative approaches to suicide prevention including online service provision and targeted approaches for appropriate priority groups (HSE NOSP).

De-prioritised due to competing demands. Innovation document behind schedule for publication. Tool for assessing scalability/replication of innovation to be considered in Q4 2022.



HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention – July 2022

