



Oifig Náisiúnta um Fhéinmharú a Chosc  
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Connecting for Life

Report to the  
**National Cross Sectoral Steering and  
Implementation Group**

*Q4 2019*

HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention

(6<sup>th</sup> December 2019)

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## INTRODUCTION

This report gives an outline of *Connecting for Life (CfL)* activity during Quarter 4 of 2019. *CfL* action lead agents were requested to provide an update on the activity of their relevant lead actions during the period Q4, 2019. They were also requested to give an outline of activity proposed to take place in Q1, 2020. This report highlights key suicide prevention activity conducted for this quarter as well as implementation barriers experienced.

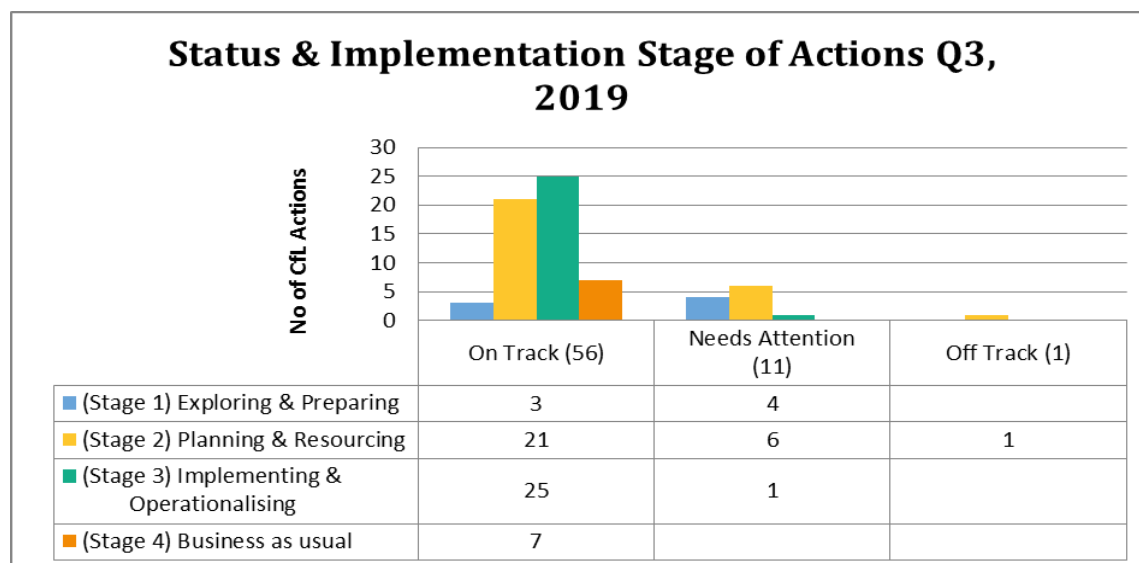
### **Dashboard Templates received and included in this report from:**

- HSE Mental Health
- HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention
- HSE Primary Care
- HSE Health & Wellbeing
- Broadcasting Authority of Ireland
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection
- Probation Service
- Department of Justice & Equality /Irish Prison Service
- Department of Education and Skills
- Press Council of Ireland
- Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport
- Department of Rural and Community Development
- Department of Communications Climate Action & Environment
- Department of Defence
- Department of Children and Youth Affairs/TUSLA
- Department of Health
- Health and Safety Authority/ Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation
- Higher Education Authority
- HSE Acute Hospitals
- Local Authorities

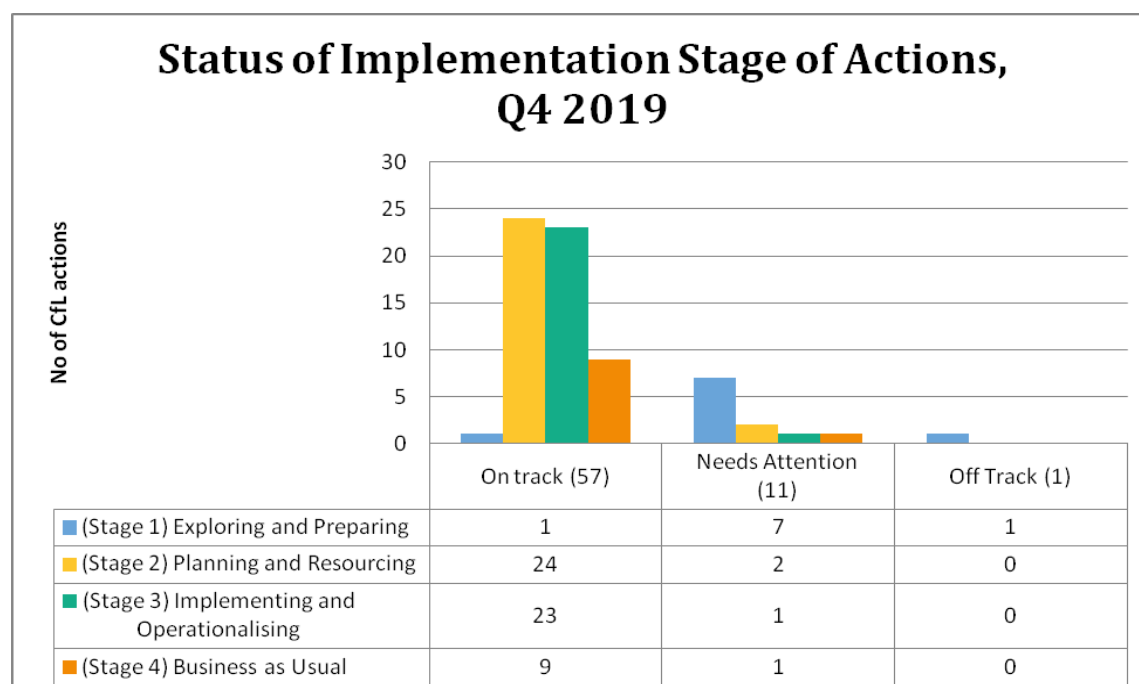
## OUTLINE OF CFL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (Q3 AND Q4, 2019)

The graphs below give an overview of the status (i.e. On Track, Needs Attention, Off Track) and implementation stage (based on the Centre for Effective Services stages of implementation) of *CfL* actions as of Q3, 2019 and Q4, 2019. It is important to note that the status and implementation stage of actions is self-reported by *CfL* Lead Agents and not linear.

As part of the Q3, 2019 reporting period, out of 69 actions within *CfL*, an update on progress was received for 68 actions. Based on *CfL* activity reported for Q4 2019, the majority of actions (n=25) are in 'Stage 3' implementation.



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## OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS BY CFL GOAL AS OF Q4, 2019

The tables to follow outline implementation progress by Goal, based on the dashboard templates received as part of this reporting period. It outlines the total number of actions per Goal, number of actions which an update has been received for, the status of implementation and implementation stage. A comment box is also completed where there are areas of concern. Key 'Progress Achieved' is also outlined. Where activity is planned for Q1, 2020 it is stated as Yes (Y)/No (N).

### GOAL 1: TO IMPROVE THE NATION'S UNDERSTANDING OF, AND ATTITUDES TO, SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR, MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

<b>No of Actions: 12</b>			<b>No for which update received:12</b>		
<b>Status of Implementation:</b>					
					
<b>Implementation Stage:</b>					
					
<b>Analysis by Cfl action number:</b>					
Action Number	Lead Agent	Status	Implementation Stage	Comment	Activity Planned Q1, 2020 (Y/N)
1.1.1 (Measuring suicidal behaviour)	NOSP	Needs Attention	1	The HSE NOSP is working in partnership with the NSRF to develop and resubmit a proposal for the inclusion of the module on suicide prevention in next HI survey.	Y
1.1.2 (Mental Health & Wellbeing plan)	HSE H&W, DOH HI	On Track	1		Y
1.1.3 (Communication Campaigns)	HSE MH	On Track	4		Y
1.1.4	HSE PC	On Track	2		Y
1.1.5	DOH HI, DTTAS	On Track	4		Y
1.2.1	HSE MH	On Track	4		Y
1.2.2	HSE MH	On Track	4	Targeted campaigns need to be aligned with the forthcoming priority group plan.	Y
1.3.1 (Stigma reduction)	NOSP	Needs Attention	3	See Change (deliverer of Green Ribbon Campaign) review recommendations need to be implemented before planning for 2020 campaign commences.	Y
1.4.1	DCCAE	On track	2		Y

1.4.2	DCCA/E/BAI	Needs Attention	4	Awaiting Audio Visual Services Directive before review of code can proceed.	Y
1.4.3	Press Council	On Track	4		Y
1.4.4 (media engagement)	NOSP	On Track	3		Y

### Key Progress Achieved

#### CAMPAIGNS & COMMUNICATIONS – EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- Launch of YourMentalHealth Information Line took place in November. A new campaign to promote the service was developed and promoted through; Radio, Digital Display, Social Media and Paid search. (Action 1.1.3)
- Little Things campaign for Post Primary translated into Irish. The 2020 promotional programme for 'First Fortnight' has been supported by 'Yourmentalhealth' through the placement of advertising and cross-promotion. (Action 1.2.2)
- NOSP has developed a public awareness campaign around reporting of pro suicide related content. (Action 1.4.1)
- BAI supported Headline presentation at community radio forum of Ireland event (Action 1.4.2)
- NOSP supported NSRF and WHO Filmmakers Guidelines launch (Sept) (Action 1.4.4)
- To date in 2019 Headline has delivered: Student workshop to 5 Colleges, 80+ students; 4 Media Briefings in partnership with ROSPs and/or NOSP; presentation at IASP Derry 2019 presentation and attendance. Headline also held their annual awards ceremony on 4<sup>th</sup> December to celebrate excellence in mental health media, which received widespread media coverage (Action 1.4.4).

## GOAL 2: TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES' CAPACITY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR

No of Actions: 5		No for which update received: 5			
<b>Implementation Status:</b>					
<b>Implementation Stage:</b>					
<b>Analysis by CfL action number:</b>					
Action Number	Lead Agent	Status	Implementation Stage	Comment	Activity Planned Q1, 2019 (Y/N)
2.1.1	HSE MH	On Track	4	There are some ROSP posts which have not been resourced and/or backfilled; this has an impact on local CfL implementation.	Y
2.2.1 (Community Guidelines)	NOSP	On Track	2		Y

2.3.1	NOSP	On Track	2	Delay in analysis of 2018 and 2019 suicide prevention training impacting on planning a targeted approach to training in 2020.	Y
2.3.2 (Training Plan)	NOSP	On Track	3		Y
2.3.3	HSE H&W	On Track	3		Y

### Key Progress Achieved

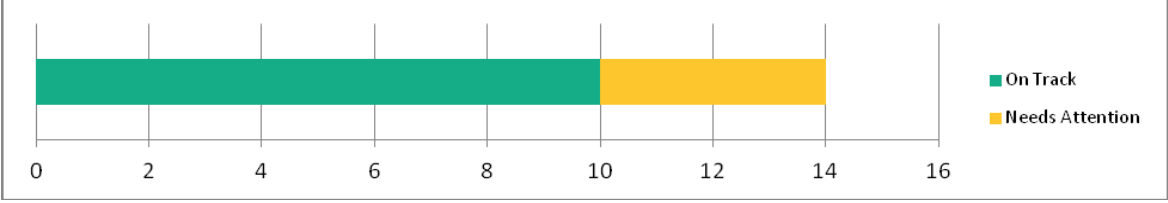
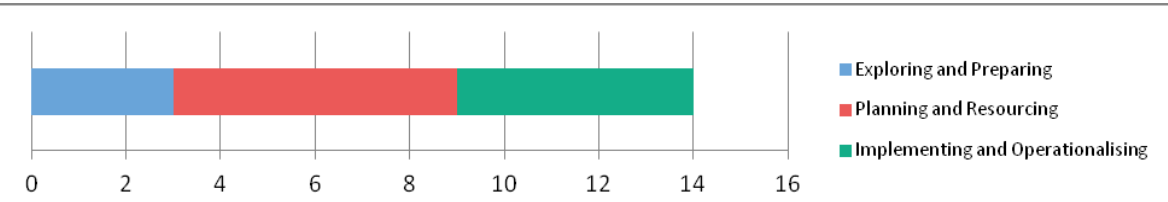
#### CAPACITY BUILDING- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- By end of Q4 it is estimated that 114 SafeTALK courses will have taken place (2174 people). ASIST numbers for Q4 are estimated to be 30 courses (591 people). 21 USH courses were held (382 people). Local Community training in Kinvara was featured on RTE's Nationwide. (Action 2.3.1)
- 16 new community bereavement trainers were trained. (Action 2.3.2)
- 23 teachers trained as part of Zippy's Friends workshop; 13 teachers trained as part of Mindout training; 28 Minding Your Wellbeing Workshops delivered (446 participants in total) (Action 2.3.3)

#### IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- Researchers have been appointed to develop Best Practice Guidance for developing a multi-agency community response to suspected suicides. (Action 2.2.1)

## GOAL 3: TO TARGET APPROACHES TO REDUCE SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR AND IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH AMONG PRIORITY GROUPS

No of Actions: 14		No for which update received:14			
<b>Implementation Status:</b>					
					
<b>Implementation Stage:</b>					
					
<b>Analysis by Cfl action number:</b>					
Action Number	Lead Agent	Status	Implementation Stage	Comment	Activity Planned Q1, 2019 (Y/N)
3.1.1	DAFM, DOH, DJE, DEASP, DCYA/TUSLA, DRCD, DOD, DTTAS	Needs Attention	1	4 <sup>th</sup> meeting of working group took place and options for feasibility of this action were discussed.  Action is very aspirational and is proving difficult to implementation as there is no 'checklist for policy development'.	Y

3.1.2 (Protocols)	NOSP, HSE: AH, PC & MH, IPS/An Garda Siochana, Non-statutory partners	On track	2	Third working group meeting took place in September including Gardaí, HSE Acutes and TUSLA reps.  A separate group will be established to look at information sharing protocols. The group needs to link with Future Commission of Policing group which is proving challenging.  Each lead agency will need to disseminate staff guidance document across their organisation.	Y
3.1.3	HSE PC	On Track	3		Y
3.1.4 (Evaluation RE: Priority Groups)	NOSP	Needs Attention	1		Y
3.1.5 (Health & Social Care Training)	NOSP	On Track	2	NOSP review of GP training pilot required.	Y
3.1.6	HSE H&W	Needs Attention	1	Working Group has been convened to develop the Mental Health promotion strategy which will take CfL Priority Groups into account.	N
3.2.1	HSE PC	On Track	2		Y
3.3.6	HSE PC	On Track	2		Y
3.3.7	HSE MH	On Track	3	Uncertainty about recruitment is impacting significantly on services as waiting lists are now developing where they haven't existed before. There has been some improvement during October, four CHOs (2, 5, 7 & 8) now have no children waiting longer than 12 months to be seen by CAMHS. CHO1 have 35, CHO3 6, CHO4 151 (a reduction of 7 from the previous month), CHO6 7 and CHO 9 have 2 children waiting longer than 12 months to be seen by CAMHS. New initiatives to address this and sustain improvement into the future are currently being examined within CHOs.	Y
3.3.1	DES	On Track	2		Y
3.3.2	DES	Needs Attention	3	On-going issue with some schools not participating in training.	Y
3.3.3	HEA	On Track	2		Y
3.3.4	DES	On Track	3		Y
3.3.5	DES	On Track	3		Y

### Key Progress Achieved

#### IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- "A guide for staff responses to a person in distress" has been finalised. A draft Community Response Plan guidance document has been circulated to all stakeholders." (Action 3.1.2)
- DES Wellbeing Action research project with 30 schools launched in October. (Action 3.3.1)
- HEA researchers have presented draft of national suicide prevention and mental health guidance for HEIs to working group. (Action 3.3.3)

#### CAPACITY BUILDING- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- Engage training delivered to 263 participants (Action 3.1.6).
- Inter agency National Housing First Initiative has provided funding for the recruitment of Tenancy Support Workers in Mental Health. (Action 3.1.3)
- SAOR Train the Trainer has commenced. (Action 3.2.1).
- Phased implementation of STORM training taking place across the HSE. Eight new STORM trainers trained in Q4. Five STORM workshops were held with 44 professionals trained. 206 GPs/trainee GPs were trained in suicide awareness. NOSP has got ICGP accreditation for their new suicide bereavement professional training course. (Action 3.1.5).



**GOAL 4: TO ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY, CONSISTENCY AND CARE PATHWAYS OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE VULNERABLE TO SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR**

<b>No of Actions: 8</b>	<b>No for which update received:8</b>																																																						
<p><b>Implementation Status:</b></p> <p>Legend:   <span style="color: green;">■</span> On Track   <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Needs Attention</p>																																																							
<p><b>Implementation Stage:</b></p> <p>Legend:   <span style="color: red;">■</span> Planning and Resourcing   <span style="color: green;">■</span> Implementing and Operationalising</p>																																																							
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key progress Achieved</b></p> <p>CAPACITY BUILDING- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 5th post to complete recruitment in CHO 7 for the 7/7 service improvement project has now been recruited - 3 posts remain unfilled from the 48 approved for this service development. (Action 4.1.1).</li> </ul>																																																							

IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

- The Self-harm programme continues to be delivered in 24 of 26 general hospital emergency departments. Year to date, there has been 9,477 presentations by 8,627 people with 95% receiving a biopsychosocial assessment (Action 4.1.5).
- Suicide Bereavement Supports in Ireland report has been completed (Action 4.3.1)

GOAL 5: TO ENSURE SAFE AND HIGH QUALITY SERVICES FOR PEOPLE VULNERABLE TO SUICIDE

No of Actions: 16		No for which update received:16			
<b>Implementation Status:</b>					
<b>Implementation Stage:</b>					
<b>Analysis by Cfl action number:</b>					
Action Number	Lead Agent	Status	Implementation Stage	Comment	Activity Planned Q3, 2019 (Y/N)
5.1.1 (Best Practice Guidance)	NOSP	On Track	3		Y
5.1.2	DES	On Track	3		Y
5.1.3	DES	On Track	3		Y
5.1.4	DOH	On Track	3		Y
5.1.5	NOSP, DJE	On Track	3		Y
5.2.1 (Uniform response)	HSE MH	On Track	2		Y
5.2.2	DCYA/TUSLA	On Track	2	NOSP needs to link with DCYA/TUSLA re data in early 2020.	Y
5.2.3	HSE MH	On Track	4		Y
5.3.1	DJE	On Track	3	Deaths by Suicide in Prisons/SADA report to be published January 2020.	Y
5.3.2	DJE	On Track	3		Y
5.3.3	DJE	On Track	3		Y
5.4.1	NOSP	On Track	2	SafeTALK programme for teachers requires further consideration.	Y
5.4.2	DAFM, DOH, DJE/IPS, DEASP, DES, DCYA/TUSLA, HSA, DOD, DRCD, LA	On Track	3		Y

5.4.3 (Ed to health professionals)	DOH	Needs Attention	1	Action progressing under NOSP Training and Education Programme.	Y
5.4.4	TBC	Off Track	1	Action progressing under NOSP Training and Education Programme.	Y
5.4.5	DOH	On Track	4		Y

### Key Progress Achieved

#### IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

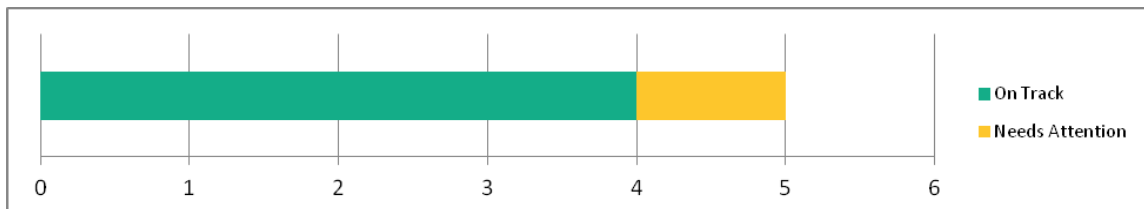
- Best Practice Guidance document has been published; implementation has commenced, as has the evaluation (of its implementation) (Action 5.1.1).

#### CAPACITY BUILDING- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS

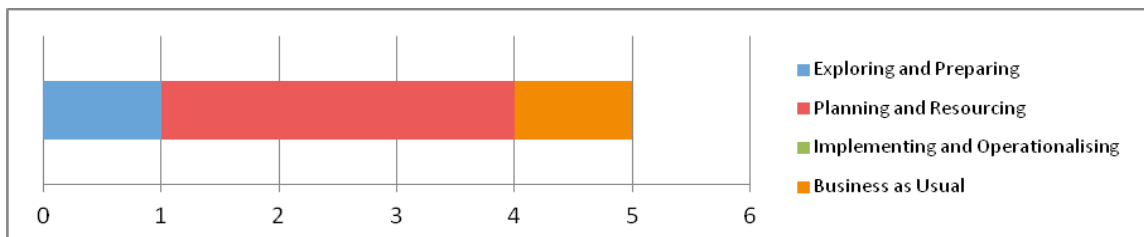
- NOSP Suicide Bereavement training for professionals has secured ICGP accreditation (Action 5.4.3).

## GOAL 6: TO REDUCE AND RESTRICT ACCESS TO MEANS OF SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR

### Implementation Status:



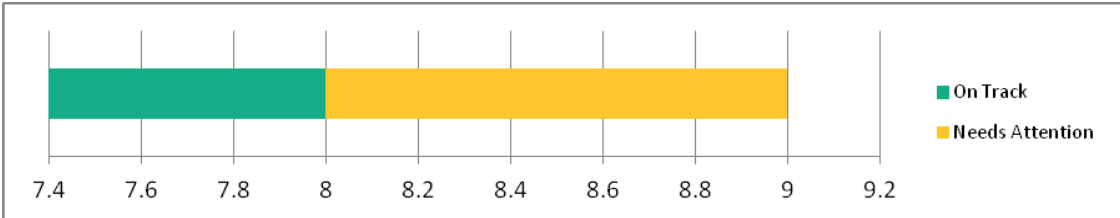
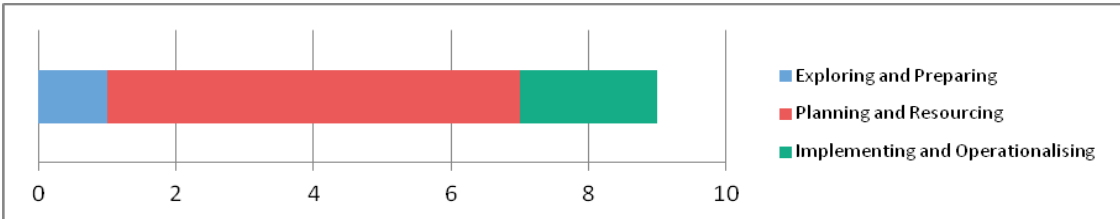
### Implementation Stage:



### Analysis by Cfl action number:

Action Number	Lead Agent	Status	Implementation Stage	Comment	Activity Planned Q3, 2019 (Y/N)
6.1.1 (Appropriate prescribing)	DOH	On Track	2	No update from October Medical Council meeting provided.	Y
6.1.2	DOH	On Track	4		Y
6.2.1	LA	Needs Attention	1	There has been engagement between NOSP and LGMA lead.	Y
6.2.2	HSE MH	On Track	2		Y
6.2.3	DJE	On Track	2		Y

## GOAL 7: TO IMPROVE SURVEILLANCE, EVALUATION AND HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH RELATING TO SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR

No of Actions: 9	No for which update received: 9																																																												
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Progress Achieved</b></p> <p>ENGAGING WITH EVIDENCE- EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation(s) on the value of Coroners Data to suicide prevention has been given to a range of key stakeholders to create engagement around and pull for the research findings. (Action 7.2.1 &amp; 7.4.1)</li> <li>Learning event took place on December 4th as collaboration between HSE Mental Health, NOSP, Quality and Patient Safety and the State Claims Agency. This event explored data monitoring systems and system / service reviews following suspected suicides. (Action 7.2.2).</li> <li>NSRF Early Career Researchers event took place in October. (Action 7.4.2).</li> </ul>																																																													

## OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS BY CFL ACTION LEAD AGENT

The table below gives an outline of the self-reported implementation progress by CfL action lead agents for Q4, 2019 as well as outlining as to whether or not activity is planned to take place in Q1, 2020.

Name of Government Department /State Agency	Number		Status	Implementation Stage	No. actions for which activity planned Q1, 2020
	Lead Actions assigned	for which update received Q2 2019			
HSE Acute Operations	1	1	1=On Track	1 = Planning & Resourcing	1
HSE Mental Health (MH)	17	17	16=On Track 1= Need Attention	5 = Planning & Resourcing 7 = Implementing & Operationalising 5=Business as usual	17
HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)	17	17	14=On Track 3=Need Attention	2 = Exploring & Preparing 12=Planning & Resourcing 3=Implementing & Operationalising	17
HSE Primary Care (PC)	6	6	6=On Track	5=Planning & Resourcing 1=Implementing & Operationalising	6
HSE Health & Wellbeing (H&W)	3	3	2=On Track 1=Needs Attention	2=Planning & Resourcing 1=Implementing & Operationalising	3
Department of Education and Skills (DES)	7	7	7=On Track	3=Planning & Resourcing 4=Implementing & Operationalising	7
Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS)	3	3	3=On Track	1=Exploring & Preparing 1=Planning & Resourcing 1=Implementing & Operationalising	3
Department of Defence (DoD)	2	2	2=On Track	2=Implementing & Operationalising	2
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine (DAFM)	2	2	1=On Track 1=Needs Attention	1=Exploring & Preparing 1=Implementing & Operationalising	2
Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection (DEASP)	2	2	2=On Track	1=Planning & Resourcing 1=Business as usual	2
Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD)	2	2	1=On Track 1=Needs Attention	1=Planning & Resourcing 1=Business as usual	2
Department of Communications Climate Action & Environment (DCCA)	1	1	1=On Track	1=Planning & Resourcing	1
Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI)	1	1	1=On Track	1=Business as usual	1
Press Council of Ireland (PCoI)	1	1	1=On Track	1=Business as usual	1
DCYA/TUSLA	4	4	4=On Track	4=Planning & Resourcing	4
Health and Safety Authority (HSA)	1	1	1=On Track	1=Planning & Resourcing	1
Higher Education Authority (HEA)	3	3	2=On Track 1=Off Track	2=Exploring & Preparing 1=Implementing & Operationalising	2
Dept of Health (DoH)	9	9	6=On Track 3=Need Attention	1=Exploring & Preparing 2=Planning & Resourcing 2=Implementing & Operationalising 4=Business as usual	9
Department of Justice/An Garda Síochána/IPS	10	10	9=On Track 1=Needs Attention	5 = Planning & Resourcing 5 = Implementing & Operationalising	10

**Report compiled by:** HSE NOSP