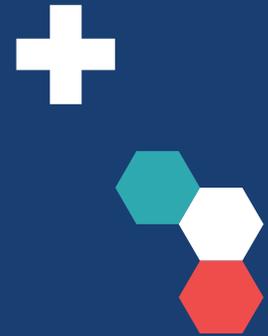


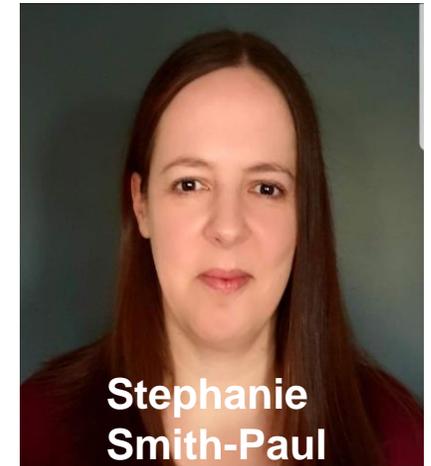
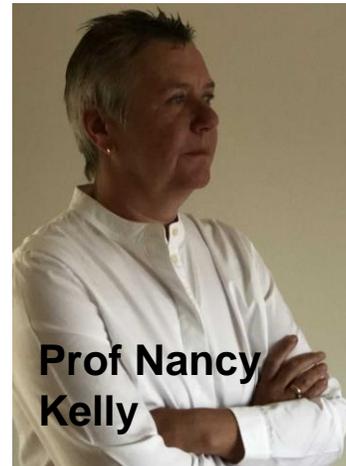
Developing policy and practice guidelines for working with young people aged 18 and under in relation to self-harm, suicide attempts and deaths by suicide



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The project team



Rationale

- Practice issue identified by Children North East from their work with local children and young people
- Adolescent death by suicide is a global concern (Abraham and Sher, 2017; Rufino and Patriquin, 2019)
- In 2019 in England and Wales, there were 196 deaths by suicide for children/young people aged 10 – 19 (Office for National Statistics, 2020). Globally, suicide ranks as the third major reason for the deaths of young people aged 15 – 19 (WHO, 2019)
- Research indicates complex factors contributing to suicide (drug misuse, self harm history, social isolation, bullying/cyber bullying) and that these are likely to hold true for young people (Rodway et al., 2016)
- Links between (repeated) self-harm and subsequent suicide for young people (Hawton et al., 2020)
- Adolescent self-harm and suicide/attempted suicide requires timely, multi-disciplinary responses and interventions (Abraham and Sher, 2017; Rufino and Patriquin, 2019) Rodway et al., 2016)
- Impact of the pandemic on children and young people's wellbeing, particularly those young people not in education or employment (Prince's Trust, 2021)
- Research re: Real Time Suicide Surveillance Schemes indicates postvention work is required re: adolescents (Newbury-Birch et al., 2019).

Project aims and objectives

1. review available quantitative re: prevalence of self-harm, suicide attempts and deaths by suicide amongst young people aged 18 and under
2. review national and local policies and strategies in the UK
3. carry out a rapid systematic literature review of peer-reviewed qualitative work looking at recording of self-harm in young people aged 18 and under
4. carry out focus groups and interviews with policy makers and practitioners
5. carry out focus groups and interviews with young people aged 18 and under, carers and those who have been involved with services in relation to self-harm, and suicide attempts to ensure that policies and guidelines include service user insights
6. To hold a national workshop with PHE and relevant practitioners and policy makers to discuss the findings from 1-5 and to develop recommendations for practice and policies

Practicalities

- Timescales: commence 1st March (possibly 1st April, subject to approval) for 18 months (end June 2022 approx.)
- Steering group: to include young people and carers as well as the project team, local and national Public Health team representatives
- Initially desk based research for the first few months
- Awaiting for the research associate to come into post
- Commitment to co-production

Questions and comments



Thank you



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