

Gambling and Suicide Prevention

Gambling Summit

September 2021

Pauline Toner

**Glasgow City Suicide Prevention Coordinator,
Glasgow City Suicide Prevention Partnership**

Glasgow City – Deaths by suicide

- **Sadly in 2020, 104 people died by suicide in Glasgow City.**
- **Every single death is a tragedy.**
- **Good progress was made in Glasgow particularly between the years 2013- 2017. (Reduction in deaths by suicide.) But..**
- **In the past two years numbers have gone back up to treble figures. (Increase in national trends also)**
- **We must extend our partnership and increase our efforts**

Glasgow City Suicide Prevention Partnership- Current Partners

- Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
- 3rd sector groups
- Locality SP Forums
- Health Improvement
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Mental Health Network
- Police Scotland
- Education Services
- Homelessness Services
- Strathclyde University
- Addiction Services
- Glasgow Water Safety Group



Working Together-Why?

We need to extend our partnership work to include groups who regularly support people who have gambling issues:

- To learn from them about their experiences of gambling harm and associated suicide risk**
- To share information with them about suicide prevention work and available support**
- To offer access to suicide prevention awareness raising and training**
- To link them into the wider suicide prevention network locally and keep them up to date with what is happening nationally in suicide prevention developments**

Suicide Prevention Awareness Raising Modules & Training

Current Options:

1. SAMH Webinars

- Maintaining Wellbeing,
- Building Resilience,
- An Introduction to Suicide Prevention

2. Living Works Start – Suicide Prevention E Module

3. ASK/TELL Animation- Briefing sessions

Coming winter 2021-

Living Works courses, SafeTALK, SuicideTALK & ASIST late 2021

Further info on our local web page

Services and Support- What is currently available locally?

- Samaritans & Breathing Space
- Mental Health Assessment Units
- NHS 24 (mental health hub)
- Compassionate Distress Response Service (GAMH)
- Distress Brief Interventions (SAMH)
- Lifelink – Expanded Self Referral Service
- Gambling with Lives
- MindtheMen
- Mental Health Network
- Information on bereavement support
- Local suicide prevention web page

<https://www.yoursupportglasgow.org/chooselife.aspx>

Development

- **The Glasgow City Suicide Prevention Partnership will continue to keep gambling harms on its agenda**
- **Our third sector partners in GCVS and our health improvement partners in the HSCP will now be working to connect gambling harms activity across the city.**
- **There will be a a part time post to connect, support, help identify needs and organise events**
- **Overall we will strive to work together to try and reduce deaths by suicide**