

Mental Health Delivery Group Newsletter April 2022

Welcome to the third edition of the Mental Health Delivery Group (MHDG) newsletter

The group continues to work together towards achieving the overarching aim that all people in Highland will benefit from good health and wellbeing.

Despite the impact of Coronavirus on services and workloads, this multi agency group has continued to meet and remain committed to:

- Sharing best practice, ideas and resources
- Delivering Suicide Intervention and Prevention Training on behalf of the Highland Community Planning Partnership
- Developing an action plan that reflects identified need as highlighted via services from people with lived experience and from data provided both nationally and locally
- Ensuring the people around the virtual table represent the range of activities and services from communities across all 9 local community planning areas

This newsletter is produced by NHS Highland - Health Improvement Team, on behalf of the Highland Community Planning Partnership (HCPP) Mental Health Delivery Group

WHAT'S COMING UP?

*Click on the cards to reveal those underneath

Online Mental Health and Wellbeing Training - for individuals and community groups

Stress Awareness Month - stress.org.uk resources

MikeysLine - Men's Group at The Hive

Trauma Informed - A Highland Journey of Hearts & Minds and Culture & Practice

Director of Public Health Report 2021: Suicide and Mental Health

Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week 2-8 May 2022

Mental Health Awareness Week 2021 - Loneliness

Coming soon

Mental Health and Wellbeing website - launch May 2022 during MH awareness week

Meet the MHDG Partners

The Mental Health Delivery Group (MHDG) Explained

But first - Taking Care of You



If you or someone else is experiencing mental distress and you are worried about your own or someone else's immediate safety:

- Call 999 or go straight to A+E immediately.
- If you are calling for someone else, try to establish the person's, name, contact details and location

If the crisis is not life-threatening but you are concerned for your own or somebody else's mental wellbeing:

- Advise them to call NHS 24 on 111 or speak to their GP. The route into formal mental health services is through a GP surgery.
- If someone discloses to you that they are already being supported for their own mental health, it's useful to link them to where they are currently receiving support

Important Support Line Numbers and Links

- <u>NHS 24</u> on 111
- <u>Samaritans</u> on 116 123
- Breathing Space on 0800 83 85 87 (6pm Friday 6am Monday & 6pm 2am on weekdays)

- Shout by texting 85258
- Clear Your Head website

Download the HCPP Signposting to **Mental Health and Wellbeing Resource** for more information and support options





Encourage everyone to download the FREE Prevent Suicide Highland App

An information resource and safety planning/discussion tool for the whole community



Available for both Android and iPhone





If you need urgent help with suicidal thoughts call: Samaritans on 116 123 or Breathing Space on 0800 83 85 87

Mental Health and Wellbeing Training for Individuals and Community Groups



Feedback from partners working across Highland has highlighted the need for access to introductory level training for people who are working or volunteering within our communities.

The Mental Health Delivery Group (MHDG) continue to gather information on all training available across Highland and this will be presented as part of the launch of the updated Mental Health and Wellbeing website during Mental Health Awareness Week 9th - 15th May 2022 so watch this space.

In the meantime, in this edition we highlight useful online resources relevant to everyone, in any workplace, workforce or community. These resources are designed to support people to positively impact their own and others' mental health and wellbeing and contribute to preventing self-harm or suicide.

They are as follows:

Mental health Improvement and Suicide Prevention



This module comprises three animations and 'check your learning' quizzes covering mental well being, suicide prevention and having compassionate conversations with people who are experiencing mental distress or may be feeling suicidal

Promoting children and young people's mental health and preventing self harm



This module comprises three children and young people animations and 'check your learning' quizzes. They are designed to support the knowledge and skills of those who need to be informed about mental health, self-harm and suicide prevention in relation to children and young people. In particular, they will help people to understand the factors that influence mental health and

resilience in children and young people; engage proactively with children and young people about mental health, self-harm and suicide; and recognise when to seek help to support those in their care

How to access the training



- 1. Click on this link and you will be taken to TURAS learning page
- 2. Go to REGISTER at the top of page and create your TURAS learn account
- 3. Once registered, **click on the link above again** and you will be taken directly to the learning portal
- 4. Scroll down and select the course you want and choose launch

Within the same learning portal, scroll down to find a range of links to further information and learning resources

Suicide Intervention and Prevention Programme (SIPP) - further training dates available for staff/volunteers



Additional dates are regularly added in response to demand for the training so it's advisable to regularly check TURAS (as noted on the flyer)

For any further information or questions regarding SIPP training

OR

if you are interested in becoming a SIPP trainer,

Feel free to contact Siobhan Leen or Maggie Hume (acting on behalf of the Highland Community Planning Partnership)

at nhsh.mentalhealthtraining@nhs.scot

April is Stress Awareness Month



Highland Community Planning Partnership supports Stress Awareness Month and encourages communities across Highland to continue to play their part in the 'Community' based theme throughout the month of April

The Stress Management Society note:

"The last two years have been the most challenging we have faced and in 2020 our services were overwhelmed by people that are struggling and seeking support. This year our theme is Community. We have chosen this theme because lack of support can cause loneliness and isolation, which in turn lowers people's wellbeing, impacts mental health and can lead to mental illness".

"We are all individuals, and we each have a unique set of skills, knowledge and experiences. However, we are not meant to exist in isolation or feel alone. Instead, we need to share our talents with others in a way that will bring value to our communities. This is very much a

reciprocal relationship as we will benefit from opportunities to grow and develop by learning from others too".

Stress Management Society, April 2022

'Communities across Highland have played an integral role throughout the pandemic, demonstrating resilience and collective efforts to support people. Loneliness and social isolation remain a significant risk factor for both deteriorating mental health and suicide. As restrictions lift it's vital to continue to support people as we immerge post-pandemic'.



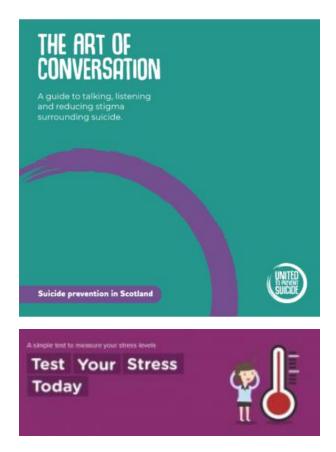
Ways to reduce stress and improve mental wellbeing:

- · Socialising with others has multiple benefits for our mental health. Whether it's a sport, hobby classes or volunteering, activities give meaning and purpose to our lives and can help build confidence. An opportunity to laugh and talk with others in social situations serves to turn focus outwards. Being able to talk through problems and share worries with others decreases stress levels. As the saying goes, a worry shared is a worry halved, and less worry equals less stress.
- · **Volunteering is good for reducing stress** because, much like socialising, it turns our focus outwards. Helping others with their problems, can help gain a positive perspective on our own difficulties. Plus, there are associated benefits when working together with other like-minded people to achieve a worthwhile goal, uniting in us in a shared sense of purpose.
- · **Adopt a positive mindset** Being in control of your thoughts increases your ability to find solutions to challenging situations and to deal more effectively with stress.

CONVERSATIONS have the power to change lives, helping to create supportive communities where we can begin to talk openly about mental health and feel empowered to seek help when we need it

The Art of Conversation - a useful guide

from United to Prevent Suicide



Take your stress test and find out how to make a positive difference to your own wellbeing and stress levels.

Note: this is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your GP or other qualified health provider with any questions/concerns you may have

For more information and resources visit www.stress.org.uk

Men's Group at The Hive, Inverness





 $\label{lem:mikeysline} \mbox{Mikeysline continue to offer confidential support to people experiencing emotional distress in Highland communities.}$

For more information on this group or other support options, please contact Mikeysline

Email: enquiries@mikeysline.co.uk

Phone/text: 07786 207 755

Facebook: @mikeysline

Twitter: @mikeysline1

Website: www.mikeysline.co.uk

IT'S OK NOT TO BE OK

Trauma Informed - A Highland Journey of Hearts & Minds and Culture & Practice



Working Together to Support the Early Years

The East Ross Community Planning Partnership are supporting the delivery of 3 consecutive training sessions for staff and volunteers on trauma-informed and responsive services. The sessions have aimed to take learners on a journey to understand the cultural and individual/family/community impacts of unrecognised and unresolved experiences of adversity and trauma.

The local partnership acknowledge how challenging it can be for staff and volunteers to ground practice within a trauma perspective. These sessions, delivered by Dr.Suzanne Zeedyk take learners on a journey that boosts awareness and commitment, enabling them to become agents of change and hope.

The primary focus being the first 1001 days of life and the intergenerational effects of unacknowledged trauma and adversity, with a particular emphasis placed on how services need to adapt in order to be trauma responsive—that is, not only to understand the science and processes of trauma but to put that knowledge into action.

Donna Cowan, Specialist Midwife for Perinatal Mental Health, and one of the partners involved in putting this initiative together notes:

"There is a real enthusiasm among participants to work together to ensure every person in Highland experiences relationships with services that are safe, where they have choices, services they can trust, that listen and work with people to enable them to have power and control over their own lives. We have and will continue to listen to people's experiences of services and are excited to share this

learning experience and work with with communities and partners across the whole of Highland, as part of the ongoing work to develop trauma informed approaches".





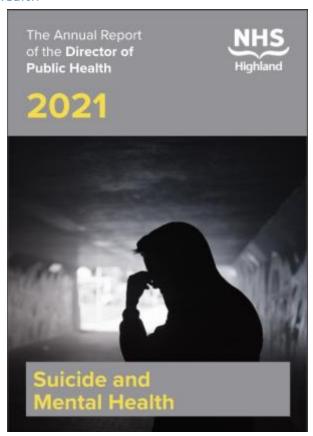






Director of Public Health Report 2021

Suicide and Mental Health



This years annual report highlights a range of different issues relating to suicide drawing on the latest national and local data to highlight the prevalence in our communities.

Included in chapter 5 are a range of examples of work going on nationally and locally to support positive mental health and wellbeing and particularly those people experiencing mental distress.

"The consequences of suicide are enormous for the community and for individuals and I expect that almost everyone [who reads] this report will have experienced the impact of suicide on their lives".

Dr Tim Allison, Director of Public Health and Health Policy, NHS Highland

Dr Allison invites readers to consider what the report means for them and others across communities.

Click <u>HERE</u> to view the report

- Chapter 1 Key concepts in suicidal behaviour
- Chapter 2 Epidemiology of suicide and mental illness in Highland
- Chapter 3 Adversity in childhood a life course lens
- Chapter 4 The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on mental health
- Chapter 5 Current activity
- Chapter 6 Conclusion and recommendations

Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week 2022





"The theme for 2022 is 'The Power of Connection', where we will be highlighting support across the UK. We are so proud that the information shared over the last six years has helped so many families. We have all recovered from maternal mental illness and want to do what we can to support others".

Perinatal Mental Health Partnership

Each day of the week will focus on a different theme, ranging from e.g.:

- What is maternal mental Health?
- Smashing the Stigma including recovery stories and how perinatal (maternal) mental health can affect people
- How can we care for and support people and their families

For more information on daily themes follow this link

Please take time to think about how you can open the conversation around maternal mental health and do what you can to support mothers and their families in your work and community life

Perinatal Mental Health Partnership are a small group of individuals who had experienced or been affected by Maternal Mental Health, who came together with a dream of not only raising awareness of it, but providing support and information. Check out their website <u>via this link</u>





Mental Health Awareness Week

9 - 15 May 2012





Together we can tackle loneliness

9-15 May 2022 - Loneliness

Mental Health Awareness Week is an opportunity for all of us to focus on achieving good mental health. <u>The Mental Health Foundation</u> started the themed event 21 years ago and it has grown to become one of the biggest awareness weeks across the UK and globally.

"Loneliness is not about the number of friends we have, the time we spend on our own or something that happens when we reach a certain age. Loneliness is the feeling we experience when there is a mismatch between the social connections we have and those that we need or want. That means it can be different for all of us".

Mental Health Foundation 2022









Q. How can you get involved?

A. In lots of ways

- Spread the word, go old school, have conversations, talk to people about mental health awareness week.
- Using social media would be great too!
- Share your stories of loneliness, if you can. In sharing our every day experiences, together
 we can reduce stigma and shame through helping people to talk about their feelings and
 experiences.

#ivebeenthere

#mentalhealthawarenessweek

#itsgoodtotalk





80 Miles in May challenge

We're asking you to walk run or jog 80 miles in May. Look after your own wellbeing while raising money to support our work.



Follow this link to the <u>Mental Health Foundation</u> page for resources, research and ideas to help us **"bring loneliness into the light"** (MH Foundation)

What can you do?



What 1 thing can you do to reduce loneliness for people within your community?

Highland Mental Wellbeing Toolkit



Updated toolkit to be launched during Mental Health Awareness week 9th - 15th May 2022

The <u>Highland Mental Wellbeing Toolkit</u> is currently under review and reconstruction with work ongoing to ensure it reflects services, resources and support being offered across Highland.

Think of the toolkit as resources and signposts to help people of all ages to look after their own mental wellbeing, and to recognise when help is needed.

It can be baffling to know where to start with on-line information, so the toolkit aims to help by highlighting some of the best websites and sources of help available in your part of Highland.

It also provides information about training and resources, if you are someone in a 'helping' or supporting role.

Knowledge is power!

We Need YOU



No matter where in Highland you live or work, whether you organise/lead/attend a service, activity or training, and you've checked it isn't already included in the Highland Mental Wellbeing

<u>Toolkit</u> please send the following information to Martin or Maggie at nhsh.mentalhealthtraining@nhs.scot

- Name of activity/service/training
- Brief description (3 or 4 lines)
- Who can use the service/attend the activity or training
- Contact details e.g. website, social media, phone, email

The MHDG note that the information in the toolkit is only as good as the day it is published. We work hard to keep it updated but cannot guarantee everything is 100% current and **depend on all partners and local community planning groups keeping us updated.**

Meet the MHDG Partners





Jim McCreath, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Trainer, The Highland Council

What is your role within the MHDG? I co-facilitate the communications sub-group and deliver Suicide Intervention and Prevention Programme (SIPP) training alongside Highland Community Planning Partnership colleagues

One interesting fact about you: When living in Australia I worked as a <u>Jackeroo</u> and as a tourist guide on horseback

Describe your vision/hope for the mental health and well-being of the people living across the Highlands: My hope is that one day mental health and wellbeing concerns are treated the exact same as any physical illness or injury and can be discussed openly without fear of shame. The stigma around mental health is what stops us talking about it. As we overcame the stigma around cancer, I hope we can do the same with mental health.

What 1 thing could we all do to help achieve this vision? Open discussions in our communities around mental health, wellbeing, and suicide prevention

What do you do to care for your own mental health and wellbeing? My "Me" time is spent kayaking on the Moray Firth or any of our beautiful lochs or rivers. The exercise and tranquillity are essential for re-charging my batteries.

7. Mental Health Delivery Group(MHDG)Explained



The MHDG is one of 5 thematic sub groups of the Highland Community Planning Partnership (HCPP). The overarching aim of this group is that **all people in Highland will benefit from good health and wellbeing**.

The <u>Highland Community Planning Partnership</u> brings together public agencies, third sector organisations and other key community groups to work collaboratively with the people of Highland to deliver better outcomes.

Feeding into the HCPP are 9 local community planning partnerships **and** the 5 regional thematic subgroups which are:

- mental health and wellbeing (MHDG)
- community safety and resilience
- infrastructure
- community participation and dialogue
- poverty reduction.





















CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson - Cathy Steer, Head of Health Improvement, NHS Highland

NatureScot

Cattie Anderson and Liz McLachlan

Third Sector Representatives

Vacant

Roisin Connolly

The Highland Council

Psychological Services Bernadette Cairns

Policy, Equality & Opportunity Rosemary Mackinnon

Occupational Health Gena Falconer

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Jim McCreath

NHS Highland

Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Helen Eunson

Public Health: Val MacDonald, Sally Amor, Siobhan Leen, Maggie Hume

Fire Scotland

Jill Graham

Police Scotland

Partnerships Jennifer Baughan

Partnerships Lindsay Tulloch

HighLife Highland

Lynn Bauermeister

Scottish Ambulance Service

Michael Adams

University of Highlands and Islands

Lynsey Mason

Highland and Islands Enterprise

Vacant

Spread the word via this newsletter!

The MHDG would welcome the views of people from across Highland, who are interested in improving the mental health and wellbeing of people in their local communities.



If you have anything you would wish to include in our next newsletter, e.g. services you wish to highlight, exciting local initiatives that other areas may wish to replicate, please contact us by emailing:

nhsh.mentalhealthtraining@nhs.scot