



To: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 15 October 2025

Title: Suicide Prevention Annual Report 2024

1. Recommendations:

- 1.1. To note the key highlights of the Coventry and Warwickshire Suicide Prevention Annual Report 2024
- 1.2. That organisations review the offer of support available to their workforces about suicide prevention
- 1.3. That organisations engage with the key areas of activity for 2025 with a focus on partnerships and communications

2. Background information:

- 2.1. Coventry and Warwickshire Suicide Prevention Strategy 2023-2030 highlights the importance of having a local Real Time Surveillance System (RTSS).
- 2.2. RTSS for suicides refers to a system designed to capture data on suspected suicides in near real-time, enabling quicker intervention, support for bereaved individuals, and detection of potential clusters.
- 2.3. A specialist Real Time Surveillance Coordinator collects, analyses and disseminates the data gathered from Coventry and Warwickshire Coroner Offices, where appropriate. This includes to the C&W Suicide Prevention Steering Group, C&W Suicide Prevention Network and through thematic Learning Panels.
- 2.4. An Annual Report has been produced to detail specific data that has been captured during 2024. The report is a tool for partners to use to help shape suicide prevention activity across Coventry and Warwickshire, align priorities and work together to reduce duplication and strengthen partnerships.
- 2.5. The information included in the report is based on anonymised data submitted for inquest to the Coventry and Warwickshire's respective Coroner Offices. The Coventry RTSS system uses information from the Coroner's Office and produces real-time data updates as well as quarterly and annual reports on numbers, demographics, circumstances and wider learning around suspected suicides.

- 2.6. It is important to note that Coventry and Warwickshire's RTSS system is highly regarded due to the positive collaborative working with partners. The positive relationship with Coventry and Warwickshire Coroner offices allows the Real Time Surveillance Officer to analyse up to date data, meaning potentially the reduction in risk to residents. Understanding any change in trends, numbers, demographics, methods and/or geographies, can directly influence suicide prevention activity across the patch. The data captured through RTSS is shared across the Suicide Prevention Partnership so other agencies and services can align their work to meet the need of the local community.
- 2.7. There were 92 suspected suicides in Coventry & Warwickshire during 2024, a 10% decrease compared to the 106 suspected suicides in 2023.
- 2.8. The report includes a specific focus on:
- 2.8.1. Local picture
 - 2.8.2. Demographics
 - 2.8.3. Mental Health
 - 2.8.4. Physical Health
 - 2.8.5. Method
 - 2.8.6. Wider circumstances
- 2.9. Learning panels are conducted every quarter on a subject matter that is agreed by the Suicide Prevention Steering Group, informed by the quarterly data report. Partners are invited to attend and share learning on the specific topic, and a highlight report is shared. Learning Panels for 2024 have included deaths by overdose, deaths by drowning, suicide prevention considerations for education settings and jumping from height. The report also details the cluster response that was carried out in September 2024 in Coventry.
- 2.10. There are key recommendations from the report that will inform suicide prevention activity and focus over 2025:
- 2.10.1. Partnership and communications: increasing spring and winter wellbeing campaigns, partnership campaigns around working with drug and alcohol services
 - 2.10.2. Service Delivery: accessibility for women into mental health services, early referrals surrounding major life events, creating awareness for mental health professionals around risks of novel methods and continuing to engage with partners to promote suicide awareness and resources as part of daily routine operations.
 - 2.10.3. Information sharing: Utilising the RTSS annual report, proactively sharing data and information between partners and organisations and to continue the RTSS programme of work and ensuring data is disseminated to help inform local practice and activity.
- 2.11. The Annual Report will be signed off by the Coventry and Warwickshire Suicide Prevention Steering group on 16th October.

3. Financial Implications

3.1. None

4. Environmental Implications

4.1. None

Report Author(s):

Name and Job Title: Jane Fowles, Consultant in Public Health

Directorate: Public Health

Telephone and E-mail Contact: jane.fowles@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person.