

Coping After Suicide in Your Organisation

Please note that this flowchart is an additional document to the Coping After Suicide Guidance and should not be used by itself. Please read the main guidance before consulting this document.



1. Preparedness

- Establish a Critical Incident Team (CIT)
- Assign all tasks in advance
- Complete the accompanying Checklist

2. Managing the Situation

If the suicide occurred in your workplace or onsite:

- Call the police as soon as possible.
- Secure the area where the incident has happened and do not move anything.
- Divert others and take witnesses to a place of safety.
- Inform next of kin and/or liaise with the police on this.
- Inform Local Authority Suicide Prevention Lead at Public Health.

If the suicide has already been reported:

- Inform Local Authority Suicide Prevention Lead at Public Health.

3. Pressing Pause

- 'Press pause' and think about the first response of the organisation.
- Offer non-judgemental support to your staff.

4. Breaking the news

- Break the news in small groups, and face-to-face where possible. Consider the diverse communication needs of your workforce.
- If you break the news online, ensure that face-to-face follow up is offered to all.
- See suggested script on how to break the news on page 13 of Coping After Suicide guidance.

5. Other actions (Stakeholders)

- If your organisation was the first to know about this death, inform other organisations, that were working with the person. This might be the NHS, social services and the person's faith group.

Share sources of support with your organisation

Throughout your suicide response, signpost staff and clients to the sources of support at the end of the guidance document.

Taking care of the CIT:

Ensure the CIT come together and support each

other/arrange for an external facilitator to come in to assist this process. You can find a facilitator through your membership networks or with help from North Central London Support After Suicide service.