

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 23-085	2 nd March 2023
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1. Does the Trust have a person appointed Armed Forces/Veterans Champion?

Yes.

2. If so, what is their name and contact details?

Sarah Simmonds, Director of Workforce & OD is the Armed Forces Veteran Champion for ABUHB, 01633 435951.

3. Does the Trust have an agreed suicide prevention action plan or strategy?

Gwent as a region has a multi-agency 'Suicide (and Self-Harm) Prevention Action Plan': 'Prevention Action Plan'.

This local Prevention Action Plan is developed, monitored, and implemented by a multi-agency Steering Group, of which Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) are key members. The Prevention Action Plan is aligned, and is in response, to the Welsh Government 'Talk to Me 2' suicide and self-harm prevention strategy for Wales.

ABUHB representation on the Steering Group includes representatives from the Public Health Team (chair), CAHMS and the Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Division.

As such the Health Board do not have a separate plan but are bound by the regional Prevention Action Plan.

4. If so, does this strategy recognise veterans as an at-risk, priority or tailored group?

Yes, the regional *Prevention Action Plan* explicitly recognises veterans as an at-risk group for suicide.

5. If so, does your strategy reference veterans in any other way?

Veterans are directly cited as one of the target groups in the Prevention Action Plan under the action "promote services and support available for people experiencing financial difficulties, social isolation and other high-risk groups".

6. If so, when is your strategy due to be reviewed?

The Prevention Action Plan is to be reviewed and updated in April 2023. A regional Strategy is being developed for 2023-24 by the Public Health Team. Development of the local prevention plan and strategy will be guided by our regional Expert Advisory Group. ABUHBs Clinical Lead for Veterans and our Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer both sit on this group, and will therefore be involved in developing the Strategy and Prevention Plan for 2023-24.