

52. **We recommend that organisations and services at high risk locations, including the police and Network Rail (as well as other organisations such as the RNLI where appropriate), should be involved in the development and implementation of local authorities' suicide prevention plans.**

53. In our interim report, we emphasised the need to “embrace innovative approaches that reach out to those in distress in order to offer an alternative before an avoidable loss of life to suicide”.⁴⁴ We noted the importance of tackling the stigma that persists in talking about emotional health (particularly for men) and of offering non-traditional routes to help for people who are unlikely to access mainstream services.

54. We are pleased that the Government strategy, and the progress report on the strategy, recognise that men are a high risk group. We have seen and heard of examples of good work being done in this area, including by Everton in the Community and State of Mind (organisations that we visited),⁴⁵ CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably) and Men's Sheds.

55. It is encouraging that the Government's third progress report acknowledges that

We must look at more innovative ways of targeting men, especially middle-aged men, to address the barriers that prevent them from seeking help. We also need to consider what interventions and services would be most effective to meet their needs.⁴⁶

56. However the report does not include any detail on how progress will be made. **We recommend that local authorities should include in suicide prevention plans a strategy for how those who are at risk of suicide but are unlikely to access traditional services will be reached. This should include up-to-date knowledge about what services are available in the voluntary sector.**

57. We repeat our concern about funding of these initiatives. A successful strategy in this area will allow public health teams within local authorities to identify those at risk and intervene early. If vulnerable people who need help are not accessing the services currently on offer, then the services must be adapted. The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness (NCISH) recommends that online services and help in non-clinical settings should be widely available, but that aim cannot be achieved unless local authorities have access to funding to enable it.⁴⁷

58. We recognise the importance of promoting emotional wellbeing in order to tackle mental health problems in young people. We also note the importance of taking the opportunity to provide support for young people in distress, and at times of particular vulnerability, including in further and higher education settings. We are looking in further detail at children and young people's mental health and education in our current joint inquiry with the Education Committee.

44 Fourth Report of Session 2016–17, [Suicide prevention: interim report](#), HC 300, paragraph 14

45 Annex, Visit to Liverpool and Salford

46 [Preventing suicide in England: Third progress report of the cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives](#), paragraph 17

47 National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness (SPR0087)