

Bereaved by Suicide Coordination, Facilitation and Development Project

The voices, needs, interests and experiences of individuals, families and communities, who have experienced the loss of a loved one through suicide is critical to the ongoing delivery of suicide prevention and mental and emotional wellbeing work.

This is reflected in Action 9.2 of Protect Life 2: A Strategy for Preventing Suicide and Self Harm in Northern Ireland (2019-2024) which outlines the need to '*Facilitate support networks for people bereaved by suicide and their role in influencing policy and service delivery*'.

The current service is delivered by Developing Healthy Communities and is nearing completion. The PHA intends to appoint one organisation to deliver this service.

The core objective of this service is to provide coordination, facilitation and development support to the Families Voices Forum to be a voice for individuals, families and communities who have been bereaved by suicide and to publically promote the work of the Forum and highlight pathways for involvement. The Provider will be required to:

- Facilitate support networks for people bereaved by suicide and their role in influencing policy and service delivery by supporting the Families Voices Forum to:
 1. Increase and improve the involvement of Forum members to support their ability to input to the Forum.
 2. Develop a core membership group to provide representation on local and regional statutory groups.
 3. Develop a wider forum that provides views and a number of opportunities for input which can be formal or informal.
 4. Increase representation within the Forum to ensure the voices of under-represented groups are included.
 5. Promote FVF as a forum for all of those impacted by suicide by improving communication links with local bereavement groups, those who work with the bereaved and growing FVF membership across all areas.
 6. Support the Families Voices Forum to actively contribute to regional debates and decision making in relation to emotional wellbeing & suicide prevention strategy and related implementation structures.

7. Ensure Families Voices Forum are represented & actively participate in relevant regional and local meetings (representation where possible should include FVF members)