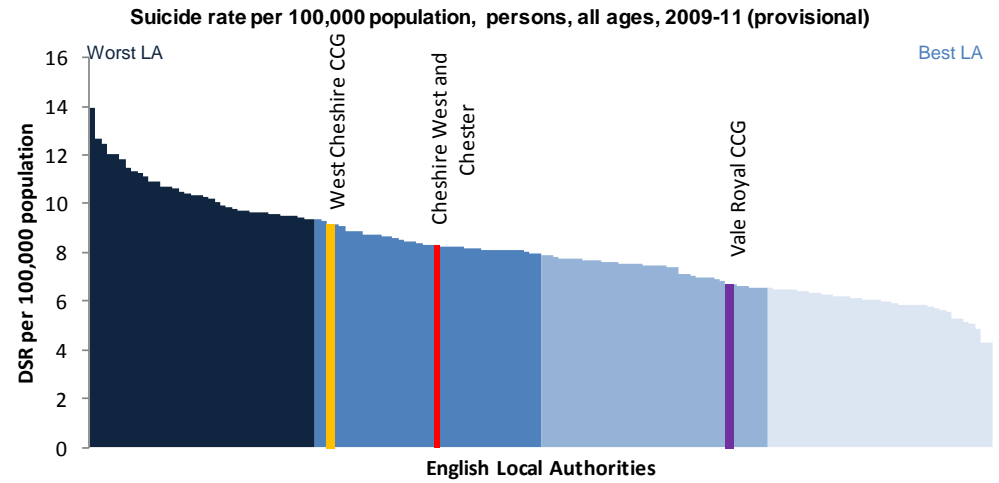


PHOF 4.10 - Suicide rate

Age-standardised mortality rate from suicide and injury of undetermined intent per 100,000 population



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Tailor services and improve mental health of specific groups such as vulnerable children and young people, survivors of abusive violence, veterans, people with long-term physical health conditions, people with untreated depression, the economically vulnerable and people who misuse drugs and alcohol.
- Ensure effective support for people in immediate crisis.
- Raise awareness of risk factors associated with suicidal behaviour.
- Provide better support to those affected by suicide.
- Target suicide prevention activities at nationally identified high risk groups.

EVIDENCE OF WHAT WORKS

- Effective and integrated working between health, social care, education, criminal justice system etc.
- Training for staff in early identification, risk assessment and risk management.
- Access to well developed support and psychological services.
- Reduce access to means to commit suicide such as hanging in mental health inpatient or criminal justice settings.

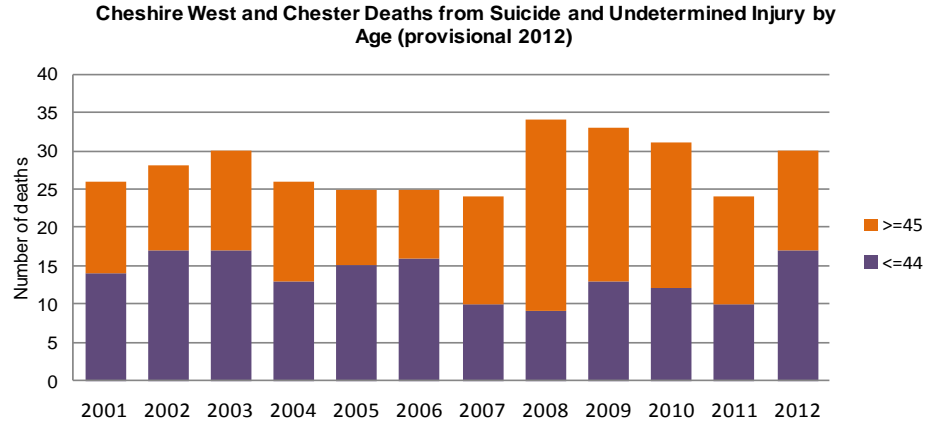
Source: Public Health Outcomes Framework data and ONS ADDE with 2011 MYE

In Cheshire West and Chester, around 30 people die each year as a result of suicide or injury of undetermined intent. Numbers of deaths are relatively small and so care needs to be taken interpreting results. Rates have fluctuated slightly over the last decade but with no significant change. The death rate is similar to the England average but there are differences within the local population.

Nationally, high risk groups have been identified and include young and middle aged men, people in the care of mental health services, people with a history of self harm, people in contact with the criminal justice system and specific occupational groups such as doctors, nurses, vets and farmers. Locally, there had been an increasing number of suicides in older age groups but provisional data for 2012 suggests that young men are again accounting for the greater number.

Suicide rates in our more deprived population are significantly higher than the England average. Men are more likely to complete suicide and account for 83% of suicide deaths in Cheshire West and Chester in the last 3 years.

The most common method used within Cheshire West and Chester is hanging (65%) followed by poisoning (17%). The most common place for the suicide to take place is at home (55%).



RATIONALE: Suicide is a significant cause of death in young adults, and is seen as an indicator of underlying rates of mental ill-health. The suicide prevention outcomes strategy has the overall aim of reducing the suicide rate in the general population in England.