

Appendix E summary of the National Suicide Prevention Alliance (NPSA) membership advantages and potential local benefits

Context: The NSPA is a national collaborative group of organisations and individuals devoted to the prevention of suicide in the UK. With two options for membership, [Individual membership - NSPA](#) and [Organisational membership - NSPA](#), the NSPA seeks to encourage collaboration and the sharing and promotion of best practice resources, initiatives and guidance aimed at preventing suicide. In the Berkshire West region the only published membership of the NSPA is within the West Berkshire Council area where the [West Berkshire Volunteer Centre](#) is a member as part of its overall support and co-ordination role for Suicide Prevention in that area. In Berkshire East only Slough Borough Council is signed up as an NSPA member, though an all-council motion in that authority has urged wider promotion of NSPA membership across the Berkshire East system.

Benefits of Direct Membership: There are several benefits that membership of the NSPA brings:

- Clear, visible commitment to the SP agenda - which is useful at individual and corporate levels and includes the right to include NSPA logos and references in local or regional publications, and can stimulate and energise focus on the SP agenda including a “SP in all policies approach”
- Access to NSPA bulletins, updates from the National and regional SP networks, emerging research, briefings and opportunities to collaborate or contribute to ongoing works and best practice resource development
- Publication of member organisation details and resources on the NPSA website enabling promotion of local works and priorities
- Attendance of NSPA events and voting rights for and election of steering group members

The Commitment: Members are required to abide to a [Membership Agreement](#) which sets out basic conduct for NSPA members, including communications guidelines on how the NSPA logo and materials can be used. Members are called to:

- Support and promote the aims of the NSPA as set out in the [NSPA Declaration](#)
- Nominate a representative to attend and vote at the members’ meeting
- Update the NSPA on local priorities and challenges for publication via the NSPA website and report on progress at least once a year
- Share information, contacts, intelligence, and good practice within your own organisation, with the NSPA and collaborate where possible with other members
- Promote membership of the NSPA (adhering to branding/usage guidelines)
- Contribute resources to the NSPA’s work if they can - either a financial donation or support in-kind
- Be respectful of the balance between promoting relevant products and services with other NSPA members and the inappropriate use of member communication channels.

Process: Membership is accessed through a simple online application form where details of the individual or organisation applying are sought, and materials are requested to inform the NSPA members listing and information

Suggested next steps: It is suggested that each local authority actively considers and takes up membership on an individual basis to fully benefit from the linkages and focus this can provide to their local systems. In time it would be ideal if all Berkshire system partners signed up to the NSPA.