

Our Mission

The Safer Public Spaces Network is a place for people to come together to progress issues of suicide in public space. By joining together internationally and across different sectors, we will advance the thinking, research, and ways in which we create better public spaces.

As a culture, the network thinks about how we can influence the cultural environment and the cultural scripts around safer public space and beyond just mechanical factors looks at the wider landscape around the meaning of place in relation to mental health and wellbeing.

The key activities of the network formed are to explore best practices and innovations in surveillance, enabling early behaviour recognition and intervention, and develop shared practice protocols to improve our public spaces.

as a network, we will set the standards of positive placemaking for wellbeing by developing suicide prevention and wellbeing policy for sharing across sectors, industries to make an impact and a difference to our environments and for all that live in them.

More information and an opportunity to join can be found at <https://saferpublicspace.org>

Manifesto

Safer Public Space

Through the network we will....

Culture

- Ensure equality and make sure everyone feels part and included by using principles of codesign to developing this network
- Stop looking at mechanical factors and start looking at the wider landscape around the meaning of place
- Recognising that all lives are equal and so the network is founded on principles of equality and respect
- Think about how we can influence the cultural environment and the cultural scripts around safer public space

Key Activities

- Look at core skills and training for outreach/chaplaincy/surveillance type staff and volunteers at sites
- Focus on prevention instead of trying to cure suicide as a unique area of focus for the network
- Explore best practice and innovations in surveillance, enabling early behaviour recognition and intervention
- Develop a shared practice protocol around removing memorials and/or offering alternatives (including case studies from partners)
- Create evaluation and monitoring frameworks
- Build a learned behaviour database specific to place - how do these vary by location
- Use funding and research opportunities internationally to advance research in this area
- Reach out and involve those working to improve public places

Knowledge Exchange

- Share success and projects that have achieved a positive impact
- Develop a skills database so we can understand our own areas and how we can link in together
- Brining new perspectives and approaches to the issue of suicide through the lens of place
- Short sharp knowledge exchange sessions that circulate across
- Develop a database of examples of best practice

Impact

- Set standards of positive placemaking for wellbeing
- Develop a suicide prevention policy to public space for sharing across. Humber example
- Lobby for building codes/regs with BSI (and different legislation)
- Learn about how to influence shared cultural meanings of a place
- Work to embed our values into local and regional development plans as a framework for others to adopt
- Aim to deliver a suicide prevention day event around alternative memorialisation for bereaved families and loved ones

We are always looking for new friends for the network.
Come and join us.