

Reference:	FOI.10921.23
Subject:	Veterans
Date of Request:	9 February 2023

Requested:

1. Does the Trust have a person appointed Armed Forces/Veterans Champion?
2. If so, what is their name and contact details?
3. Does the Trust have an agreed suicide prevention action plan or strategy?
4. If so, does this strategy recognise veterans as an at-risk, priority or tailored group?
5. If so, does your strategy reference veterans in any other way?
6. If so, when is your strategy due to be reviewed?

Response:

1. & 2. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that it has appointed two Armed Forces Champions. Lisa Gostling, Executive Director of Workforce and Organisational Development (W&OD) has the executive lead and can be contacted by email Lisa.Gostling@wales.nhs.uk and Delyth Raynsford, Independent Board Member is an Armed Forces Champion and can be contacted by email Delyth.Raynsford@wales.nhs.uk
3. The UHB does not have a suicide prevention action plan or strategy but is a member of a regional forum – Mid and West Wales Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Forum. The forum acts as a vehicle for the delivery of the Talk to Me 2 Strategy (2015-2022). A link has been provided below:

[talk-to-me-2-suicide-and-self-harm-prevention-strategy-for-wales-2015-2020.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable. However, the Mid and West Wales Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Forum is currently developing its regional action plan and has held a series of workshops to identify its priorities. Although veterans have not been identified as a specific priority group, the work to support suicide prevention within the veterans' community will be embedded through the other priority areas, including involving those with lived experience of being bereaved by suicide. The Forum's Regional Co-ordinator is in regular contact with veterans' organisations and is also a member of the national Suicide in Veterans Reference Group.