

# SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION IN PUBLIC SPACES; ACCEPTABILITY, ETHICS AND EFFECTIVENESS

**JAY-MARIE MACKENZIE**, UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

**LISA MARZANO**, MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY

**IAN MARSH**, CANTERBURY CHRIST UNIVERSITY

**PENNY PHILLIPS**, NSPA INFLUENCER

**ANDY WILLIS**, NSPA INFLUENCER

**MUSTAK MIRZA**, NSPA INFLUENCER

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AND CO-INVESTIGATORS

CARLISLE GEORGE AND LAURA JOYNER, *MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY*

PHILIP WORRALL AND BETHANY CLIFFE, *UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER*

PETER CRAIG, ANTHONY PURVIS & MANUELA DEIDDA, *UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW*

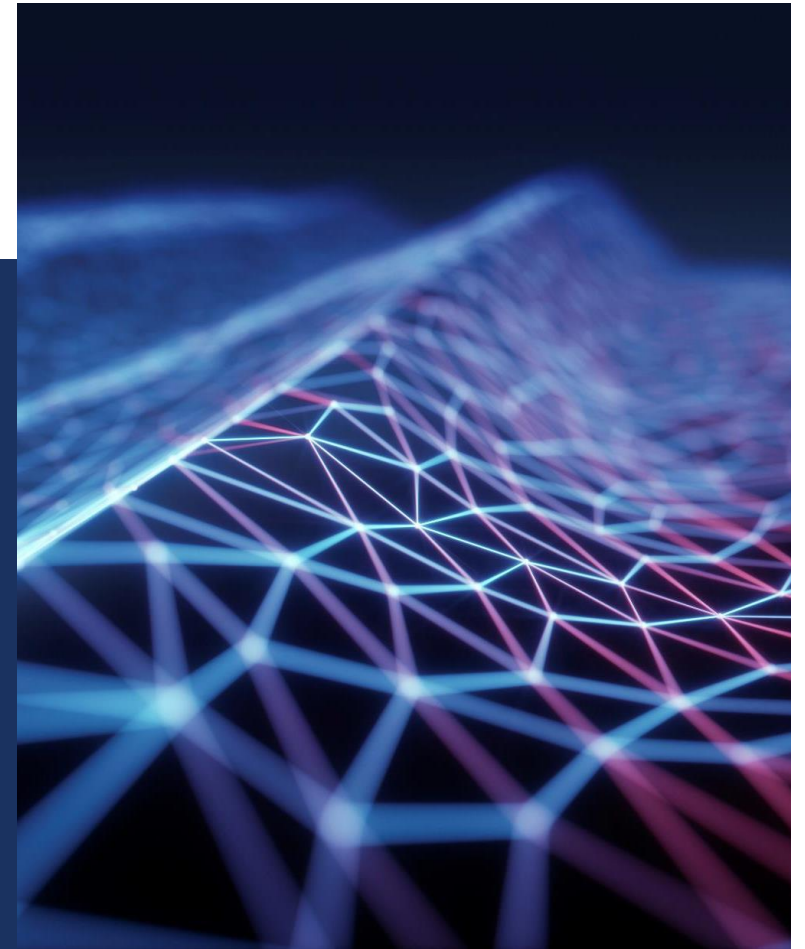
ELIZABETH PETTERSEN, *SAMARITANS*

ROBIN PHAROAH AND ALEX DARK, *ETHNOGRAPHERS*

KEITH HAWTON, *UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD*

SUPPORTED BY JESS WORNER, ROSIE ELLIS AND THE NSPA LIVED EXPERIENCE EXPERTS

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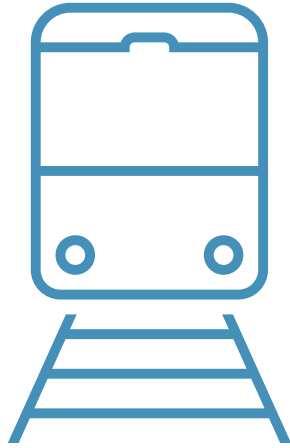


# SESSION AIMS AND PLAN

1. To highlight the potential role of surveillance technology in suicide prevention in public spaces, whilst also considering some of the challenges associated with this topic such as effectiveness, acceptability and ethics.
2. A secondary aim will be to consider challenges with evaluations of suicide prevention in public spaces more widely.

## Plan:

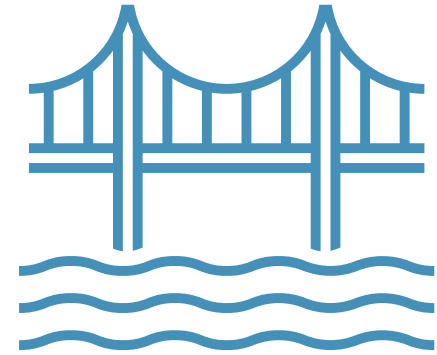
- Provide an example of a project which is evaluating the effectiveness of technology for suicide prevention in public spaces
- Form break out groups where your table will be allocated a 'challenge' to discuss
- Come back together for wider group discussion



Railways



Coasts



Roads and Bridges  
(Highways)

**BACKGROUND TO PROJECT: SUICIDES IN PUBLIC SPACES**

## SUICIDE SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES (SST)

- Technology being used in public spaces to prevent suicides
- Covert and overt
- May rely on human responder and/or be a stand-alone intervention
- E.g. Smart CCTV, infrared detection, 'beacons', alerts activated by movement sensors

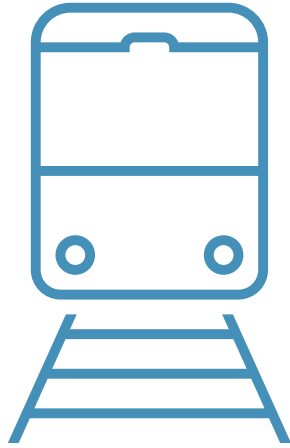


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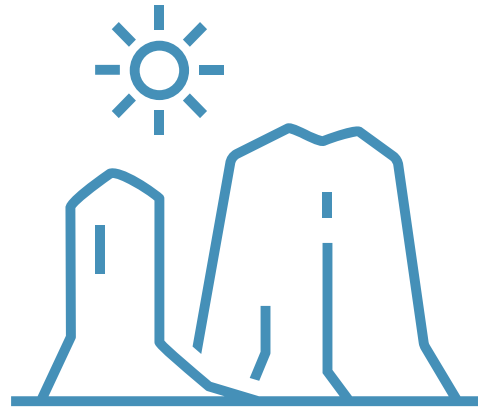
## RESEARCH AIM:

# CAN SST REDUCE SUICIDES AND SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AT 'HIGH-RISK' PUBLIC LOCATIONS?

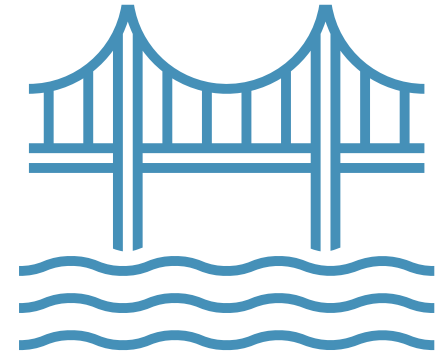
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- i. Examine the **use, benefits and harms** of SSTs at three different sites with high annual numbers of suicide-related incidents
  - ii. Consider what people with lived experience of suicide and key stakeholders perceive as **barriers and enablers** to successfully implementing SSTs at high-risk public locations
  - iii. Identify the full range of SSTs being implemented **across the UK**
  - iv. Develop a package of resources and **evidence-based guidance on SSTs** to be used at high-risk locations.



Railways

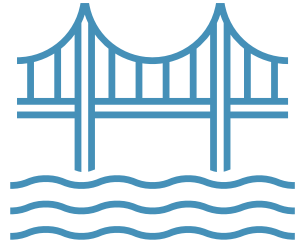


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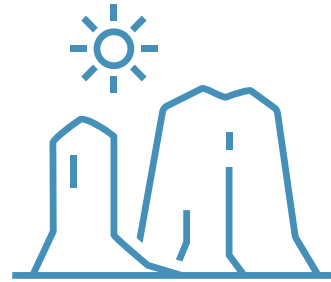


Bridge

THREE 'CASE STUDY' SITES CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING TECHNOLOGY



Bridge



Coast



Railways



United Kingdom

THREE 'CASE STUDY' SITES CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING TECHNOLOGY

# MIXED-METHODS NATURAL EXPERIMENT EVALUATION:

## 1. Quantitative Data

Implementation and outcome evaluation, to quantify accuracy of SSTs, adverse events and before and-after comparisons in suicide-related incidents at 3 high-risk locations

## 2. Qualitative Data

Process evaluation, using ethnographic and qualitative data collection with stakeholders commissioning and implementing SSTs at high-risk locations, front-line staff and community groups, and people with lived experience of suicidality

## 3. Cost

Economic evaluation: cost-consequence and cost-benefits analysis of SSTs at 3 high-risk site-types to estimate overall costs and social benefits over a 10-year time horizon

## 4. Wider Context

Transferability evaluation, to maximise the broader relevance and impact of 1-3:

- Longitudinal survey of local authorities and other key stakeholders
- Deliberative stakeholder consultation
- Living systematic review of academic and grey literature



# BREAK OUT GROUPS: CHALLENGES OF THE BELOW (15 MINS)

Evaluation of suicide prevention initiatives in public spaces (including technological interventions)

What considerations are needed about Ethics and Acceptability of suicide prevention (including technology in public spaces)

The role of people with lived experience in helping to shape suicide prevention and evaluate it (including their role in research)





# THANK YOU

[J.C.MACKENZIE@WESTMINSTER.AC.UK](mailto:J.C.MACKENZIE@WESTMINSTER.AC.UK)

[IAN.MARSH@CANTERBURY.AC.UK](mailto:IAN.MARSH@CANTERBURY.AC.UK)

[L.MARZANO@MDX.AC.UK](mailto:L.MARZANO@MDX.AC.UK)

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N.B. This one found evidence of displacement: Fredin-Knutzén, J., Hadlaczyk, G., Andersson, A. L., & Sokolowski, M. (2022). A pilot study evaluating the effectiveness of preventing railway suicides by mid-track fencing, which restrict easy access to high-speed train tracks. *Journal of safety research, 83*, 232-237.

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