

NSPA Conference 2026 Agenda | Conference begins 09:30 and closes at 17:00

Time	Session
08:30	Registration & Networking
09:30	Welcome from the NSPA Co-Chairs: Stronger Together: Shaping the Future of Suicide Prevention <i>Tom Ayers, Director, National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health, Steve Gilbert OBE, Lived Experience and Anti-Racism Consultant, Ellen O'Donoghue, CEO, James' Place</i> Where are we now? National leadership, progress and priorities for suicide prevention <i>Professor Sir Louis Appleby, Chair, National Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisory Group. Other speakers tbc.</i>
11:00	Morning Break
11:30	Discovering Liveability <i>Dr Hazel Marzetti, Senior Research Fellow, School of Health in Social Sciences, University of Edinburgh</i>
12:00	Breakout sessions 1a. Shaping the Future of Suicide Prevention <i>Facilitated workshop with the NSPA</i> This session will engage delegates in a collective conversation about how suicide prevention should evolve over the next 5-10 years, identify key priorities during a period of policy and system change, and gather views that can inform future action across the sector. 1b. Supporting children and young people bereaved by suicide <i>Support After Suicide Partnership and Childhood Bereavement Network</i> Join SASP and CBN as they present findings from their research looking at how to better support children and young people bereaved by suicide. 1c. Learnings from a community response to a suicide cluster <i>Safer Public Spaces Network and Humber Wellbeing CIC</i> How a community response to a suicide cluster developed into a wider model of prevention, what we have learned along the way, and why doing things differently really can save lives.
12:45	Lunch

13:45	Chair's welcome back Seeing the whole picture: Integrating diverse data and insights to better understand suicide (panel) <i>Jake Mills, CEO, Chasing the Stigma, Dr Manawar Jan-Khan, Founder, Campaign for Racial Justice in Suicide Prevention, Isaac Samuels, Head of Partnerships & Campaigns, People's Voice Media</i> Traditional data sources, such as death registrations and real-time suspected suicide surveillance, remain essential to understanding suicide and informing prevention efforts. However, they tell only part of the story. To develop a richer and more nuanced understanding of suicide, we need to look beyond conventional datasets and draw on a broader range of evidence.
14:30	Breakout sessions 2a. World Café: Turning Conversation into Action for Suicide Prevention 2b. Exploring the use of AI chatbots in crisis support <i>University of Cambridge, Samaritans and partners</i> 2c. Exploring the relationship between wealth inequalities, suicide and liveability <i>Discovering Liveability, University of Edinburgh</i> How do wealth inequalities impact on suicide? What is the evidence on the effects of wealth on suicide risk?
15:20	Afternoon break
15:40	Solidarity and intersectionality: Amplifying marginalised voices in suicide prevention <i>NSPA, Racialised Voices for Life and Body & Soul</i> Panel discussion exploring: • Experiences of marginalisation in suicide prevention • Suicide prevention through an intersectional lens • Solidarity and learning between marginalised communities • How can the suicide prevention community better hear, amplify and work with marginalised communities?
16:20	Moments of Connection: Rethinking Reach, Connection and Support <i>Ben West, Mental Health Campaigner and Founder of Reasons to Stay in conversation with Kate, NSPA Lived Experience Influencer</i>
16:50	Closing Summary from NSPA Co-Chairs