

NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL INQUIRY INTO SUICIDE AND SAFETY IN MENTAL HEALTH (NCISH)

9th NCISH Conference, 26th April 2023

PROGRAMME

10.00am-10.10am	Welcome by our Chair, Professor Prathiba Chitsabesan
10.10am-10.15am	Opening message from Chancellor of The University of Manchester, Nazir Afzal OBE
10.15am-10.35am	Guest speaker Ian Russell
10.35am-11.05am	2023 NCISH Annual Report, Professor Sir Louis Appleby
11.05am-11.15am	Presentation of the Martin Lawlor Bursary Award
11.15am-11.30am	Break
11.30am-11.45am	Recent research findings from NCISH and the Centre for Mental Health and Safety, Professor Nav Kapur
	Q&A panel session
	Guest panellist Helen Undy
11.45am-12.20pm	Professor Sir Louis Appleby Professor Nav Kapur Professor Jenny Shaw
12.20pm-12.30pm	Closing remarks by Professor Prathiba Chitsabesan

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Professor Prathiba Chitsabesan is a Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry working in a large mental health and learning disability trust (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust). She became Associate National Clinical Director of NHS England's Children and Young People's Mental Health Team in 2017 and National Clinical Director in 2022. Prathiba chairs the

Clinical Reference Group for Specialised Commissioning (Children's Mental Health) and is a member of the National Suicide Prevention Advisory Group. She has an interest in the mental health and neurodevelopmental needs of children and young people in contact with the criminal justice system. Over the last 17 years Pratihiba has published in peer reviewed journals and books and contributed to national reports and guidance. She continues to be research active as a Visiting Chair at University College London and Manchester Metropolitan University and has been involved in a number of regional and national transformation programmes.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Ian Russell is the father of Molly Russell, a 14-year-old schoolgirl who took her own life in November 2017. After nearly five years, in September 2022, the coroner at Molly's inquest concluded that, "Molly Rose Russell died from an act of self-harm while suffering from depression and the negative effects of on-line content." It is believed this is the first official finding

linking online harms to a person's death in a "more than minimal way."

The Russell family, and their friends, established the *Molly Rose Foundation* with the principal aim of preventing young people's suicide by better connecting them to the help and support they need. The foundation has prioritised raising awareness of online dangers and provided mental health first aid training in conjunction with other national charities.

The foundation has contributed evidence for the government's *Online Safety Bill*; fully supports the Royal College of Psychiatrists 2020 paper, *Technology Use and the Mental Health of Children and Young People*; and welcomed the introduction by the Information Commissioner of the *Age Appropriate Design Code*.

The *Molly Rose Foundation* will continue to encourage connections between charities and organisations with the aim of preventing the suicide of young people, raising awareness about online harms and the foundation will strive to help young people's voices be heard in the ongoing debate about mental health.



Helen Undy was a core part of the founding team at [Money and Mental Health](#), running the organisation's communications and influencing work before becoming CEO in 2018. Since then, the charity has doubled in size, and achieved lasting impact across government policy, regulation and beyond as well as becoming the 'go to' organisation for understanding

the toxic link between money and mental health problems. A passionate campaigner, her proudest moment so far was the team winning the 'Recovery Space' campaign, securing vital debt respite for everyone using NHS mental health crisis services.

Helen has significant experience working across the third sector and in policy and politics, including working in Parliament. Helen is committed to campaigning alongside those with lived experience. She previously led Mind's policy and campaigns work on public mental health and social care, securing key changes to the Care Act, successfully campaigned with young care leavers for better financial security and with people who are homeless for a stronger commitment to tackle rough sleeping in London.

Helen is an independent advisor to the UK Regulator's Network, sits on the advisory group to the board of the Money and Pensions Service, the UK Finance Consumer Advisory Group, the Government's Financial Inclusion Policy Forum and the advisory board for suicide prevention charity Jonathan's Voice.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Louis Appleby leads the National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England. He is Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Manchester where he leads the Centre for Mental Health and Safety, investigating suicide, self-harm and other areas of risk. He is Director of the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health, a

UK-wide study that aims to improve the safety of mental health care.

From 2000-2010 he was National Director for Mental Health in England, playing a central role in reforming community care. From 2010-2014 he was National Clinical Director for Health and Justice, leading the development of diversion services for offenders with mental health problems. From 2013-2019 he was a non-executive director on the Board of the Care Quality Commission. In 2021 he was awarded the Royal College of Psychiatrists Lifetime Achievement Award. He has written reports on suicide prevention after the Grenfell fire for the NHS and on doctors facing investigation for the GMC. Louis was awarded a CBE in 2006 and was knighted in the 2023 New Year Honours, for his services to medicine and mental health.



Nav Kapur is Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health at the University of Manchester, and an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. He has spent the last 25 years researching suicidal behaviour, particularly its causes, treatment and prevention, including as Head of Suicide Research at the National Confidential

Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health.

He has led committees for the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) including those developing guidelines for how all clinical staff should treat people with self-harm. He sits on the main advisory group on suicide prevention for the Department of Health and is currently helping to lead a national quality improvement project to prevent suicide.

Nav is the lead author of [Suicide Prevention](#) (3rd Edition) and has published over 300 academic papers. He is the 2021 recipient of the American Association of Suicidology Louis I. Dublin Award for lifetime achievement in suicide prevention and the 2021 International Association of Suicide Prevention Stengel Award for outstanding research.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Jenny Shaw is Professor in Forensic Psychiatry at the University of Manchester, with interests in homicide, suicide and violence risk and offender health care. She is Head of Homicide Research at the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health.

Jenny is also a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist and was Clinical Director for Specialist Services at Lancashire Care Foundation Trust until September 2016.

She is an Honorary Consultant at Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust. Throughout her career, she has been interested in translating research evidence into improving the quality and safety of forensic mental health services.

THE MARTIN LAWLOR RESEARCH BURSARY AWARD



The Martin Lawlor Bursary Award was created in 2022 to honour our friend and colleague Dr Martin Lawlor, who sadly passed away in 2018. Martin was a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist who specialised in self-harm and suicide research. The bursary is awarded to an early career researcher to support research activity in the field of self-harm or

suicide prevention in the UK and Ireland. The award provides an opportunity to engage with other researchers in this field. Example use of bursary funds include, but are not limited to, conference attendance, a training course at a centre of excellence, or a visit to a research unit.

The Martin Lawlor Bursary Award has been given by Martin's family and supported by the Centre for Mental Health and Safety and State of Mind Sport.

