



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

A Connected Society - Exploring the Government's Work on Tackling Loneliness

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Tackling Loneliness Strategy





Strategy Objectives

Government's **2018 Tackling Loneliness strategy** set out three objectives:

- **Reducing stigma by building the national conversation** on loneliness, so that people feel able to talk about loneliness and reach out for help.
- **Driving a lasting shift so that relationships and loneliness are considered in policy-making and delivery by organisations across society**, supporting and amplifying the impact of organisations that are connecting people.
- **Playing our part in improving the evidence base on loneliness**, making a compelling case for action, and ensuring everyone has the information they need to make informed decisions.





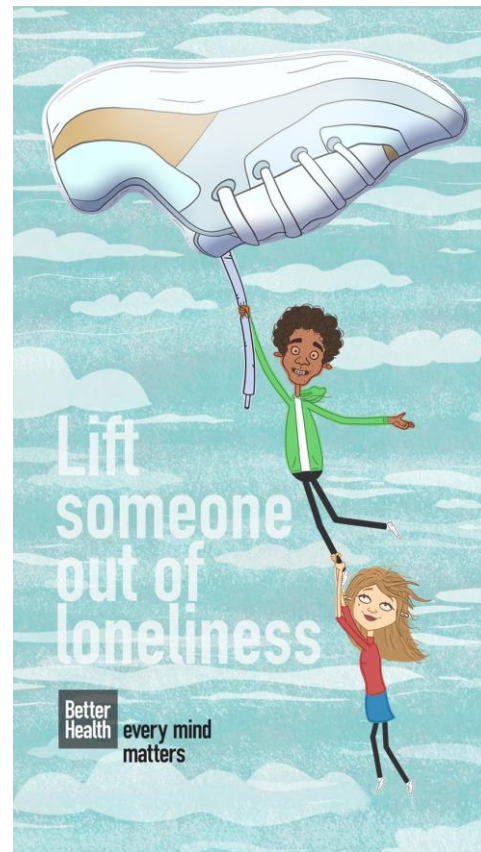
Working in partnership

- **Joint Ministerial Statement** between UK and Japan identifying loneliness as an important international challenge, with commitments to continue cooperation, share knowledge and raise awareness.
- **Tackling Loneliness Network** of over 90 organisations, across technology, culture, media, retail, charities, academia and national and local government. Tackling Loneliness Network Action Plan to drive progress.
- **Tackling Loneliness Hub** launched to enable first TLN members and then wider community to access useful evidence and materials and easily join up online.
- **Working across government departments** to support policy makers to tackle loneliness, including across many health policy areas.
- **Working with experts** to deliver a more joined-up approach to building the evidence base
- **Grant funds** to support charities and communities to directly tackle loneliness, and capture learning.



Stigma and the national conversation

- Previous Let's Talk Loneliness campaign reached millions of people during Loneliness Awareness Week, June 2021.
- Reaching high-risk groups through the Loneliness Engagement Fund
- Next phase: Encouraging young people to “lift someone out of loneliness” with NHS Better Health: Every Mind Matters.





Driving a lasting shift across sectors

Policy paper

Emerging Together: the Tackling Loneliness Network Action Plan

Published 8 May 2021



Set of commitments across two themes:

Supporting **organisations** to tackle loneliness

- Sharing resources and learning
- Convening organisations
- Organisations including tackling loneliness in strategic planning

Supporting **individuals** to tackle loneliness

- Reducing stigma
- Signposting people to support





Evidence and learning

Tackling Loneliness Evidence Group Report identifies gaps remaining in the evidence base on loneliness, and highlights priority areas for future research to focus on:

- Measurement
- Life course
- Social stigma
- Societal culture
- Mental health
- Place and context
- Workplace
- Economic evaluation
- Effectiveness of loneliness interventions

View the report at:



<https://www.gov.uk/society-and-culture/loneliness>



HUB

<https://tacklinglonelinesshub.org/>



Next steps

Third annual report will be published in February, setting out progress against delivery of the tackling loneliness strategy and the government's continued commitment to working in partnership to tackle loneliness, including by:

- Growing the national conversation on loneliness as part of Better Health: Every Mind Matters, working with partners to reach more people
- Expanding the Tackling Loneliness Network, and convening the Social Connection Funders Group
- Supporting government departments to embed tackling loneliness in relevant policies
- Building the evidence base, collaborating with the Loneliness Evidence Group