

Transforming Your Palliative and End of Life Care Update

June 2014

Moving forward with eight initiatives

A clear way forward for the development of initiatives under the Transforming Your Palliative and End of Life Care Programme has now been set by the programme's Regional Steering Group.

A total of eight initiatives will be developed under the programme. The priorities were agreed at a Regional Steering Group workshop on 13 June 2014. A brief description for each initiative follows:

Support for patients and carers

This initiative will consider the development of a practical training/support programme to equip family carers looking after a person with palliative care needs at home. It will aim to draw together information and resources for patients and carers to help them navigate through the care system.

Enhanced access to palliative care services at home

This initiative aims to provide a core set of services a person with palliative and end of life care needs can expect to be provided in their own home, nursing home, residential home or supported living.

Supporting planned discharge and provision of equipment

This initiative will aim to improve discharge planning, ensuring the process is joined up and co-ordinated with community services so that the person leaving hospital is appropriately supported.

This initiative also aims to improve access to equipment for people with palliative care needs to enable them to stay in their own home or to return home from hospital (including returning home to nursing/residential home).

"I am delighted that we have very clear priorities for moving forward with the Transforming Your Palliative and End of Life Care Programme.

I am very appreciative of the work that has gone into the first phase of the programme and I am looking forward to seeing the priorities being progressed as we now move into the second phase and work gets underway in design groups."

Pat Cullen, Regional Steering Group Chair, Executive Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professionals, Public Health Agency



Ambulance Service

This initiative will aim to enable ambulance staff to provide the most supportive and appropriate response when they are called to care for people with palliative and end of life care needs.

Palliative Pharmacy

The aim of this initiative is to consolidate the role of pharmacy within palliative care services and to ensure that patients have timely access to planned medication and that there are formalised procedures in place for emergency access to medication.

Identification and planning for people with palliative care needs

This initiative aims to improve the identification of people with palliative care needs, ensuring their information is captured and recorded - including their preferred place of care - and to use this information to co-ordinate supportive care for the person. The initiative will also consider how to embed Advance Care Planning to ensure that patients with palliative care needs have the opportunity to discuss and complete an Advance Care Plan, if this is their wish, and to have it reviewed regularly.

Training for healthcare providers

This initiative aims to provide a portfolio of training options designed to upskill healthcare professionals to enable them to competently deliver palliative and end of life care to patients and their families. The initiative will consider staff in the statutory, independent and voluntary health care sectors.

Day Hospice

This initiative is developing a regional model for day hospice services in Northern Ireland. Work to develop a service specification has begun, which will include the purpose of day hospice; criteria for access; a description of services; and resources required to deliver it.

Design Groups Moving Forward

These priorities are the result of extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders during this first phase of the programme, including seven workshops held between 4 March and 4 April 2014.

All ideas from the workshops were assessed and reviewed to inform the options

considered by the Regional Steering Group and from which they agreed the priority for initiatives.

Phase two of the programme is now underway with design groups being established to take forward initiatives, which will have leadership from the Regional Steering Group.

The chairs will lead these design groups which are to be made up of members from across Northern Ireland, all of whom will have expertise in service areas being developed to improve palliative and end of life care. Design groups will have representation from statutory, voluntary and community and independent sectors.

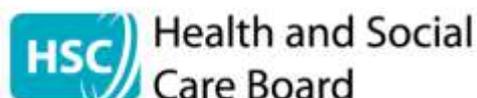
The programme team will support the design groups as they: design projects/services to be agreed; develop business cases for resourcing of initiatives and plan implementation. The team will also ensure that the initiatives are joined up and support each other for the benefit of people requiring palliative and end of life care.

The Transforming Your Palliative and End of Life Care Programme is supporting the redesign and delivery of coordinated services to enable people across Northern Ireland with palliative and end of life care needs to have choice in their preferred place of care. The Programme is being delivered by Marie Curie in partnership with the Health and Social Care Board/Public Health Agency.

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Transforming your palliative and end of life care programme



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