

**From:** Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health  
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**To:** Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee – 22 January 2019

**Subject:** **End of Life Care in Kent**

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Past Pathway of Paper:** Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee - 19 January 2018

**Future Pathway of Paper:** None

**Electoral Division:** All

**Summary:** This report provides an update on End of Life Care in Kent, a revised action plan setting out current achievements and developments, on-going work, areas for improvement, gaps that have been identified and how they will be addressed.

**Recommendation(s):** The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the updated overview of End of Life Care in Kent and the revised End of Life Care Action Plan.

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The original overview of End of Life Care in Kent was shared with the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee in September 2017. The document set out how Adult Social Care and Health was planning to implement End of Life Care against the Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care: A national framework for local action 2015-2020.
- 1.3 The overview of End of Life Care in Kent has been updated a second time to reflect developments and the latest version is attached in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The document sets out the current offer, identifies areas for improvement and gaps which are to be addressed through an End of Life Care Action Plan. The revised End of Life Care Action Plan is attached as Appendix 2.
- 1.4 An End of Life Care Innovation Workshop took place on 20 February 2018, hosted by the Design and Learning Centre for Clinical and Social Innovation. The workshop was attended by Health, Social Care and the Voluntary and Private Sector to share good practice and collectively identify gaps, challenges and opportunities for joint working to improve service delivery.

- 1.5 The Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) Clinical and Professional Board (C&PB) considered the outcomes of the above workshop and concluded that there was a need for further clarity and more consistency and that the C&PB will continue to monitor that this is achieved.
- 1.6 The level and range of activities associated with End of Life Care and support to staff has grown throughout 2018. The End of Life Care Action Plan approved by Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 19 January 2018 has been implemented throughout 2018. This report is intended to provide an update on progress against the action plan.

## **2. Strategic Statement and Policy Framework**

- 2.1 The End of Life Care Action Plan links with KCC's Strategic Statement and supports:
  - Older and vulnerable residents are safe and supported with choices to live independently.

## **3. The Report**

- 3.1 Work has progressed during 2018 across the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) on End of Life Care. Although End of Life Care is not a dedicated workstream of the STP, it is a key element of several existing workstreams and also part of the Clinical Strategy. Currently there are no plans for a Clinical Lead for End of Life Care, however links have been established with the two newly recruited End of Life Care Clinical leads from the Academic Health Science Network, to provide leadership and expertise and ensuring national best practice is adhered to across the STP area.
- 3.2 A Kent and Medway STP End of Life Care Workshop took place on 3 October 2018 and provided an opportunity to reflect on the current position, develop skills, joint working and ensure the Adult Social Care and Health End of Life Care Action Plan is aligned with the overall Health and Social Care STP plans and objectives for End of Life Care.
- 3.3 A range of Adult Social Care and Health staff have been identified in having a key role in delivering End of Life Care and are now linked in to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Academic Health Science Network for End of Life Care. Staff are provided with regular updates via email and invites to attend learning events, to develop and share best practice. Representatives from the wider care sector are also included in these arrangements and have the opportunity to attend events to learn and develop skills in providing End of Life Care.
- 3.4 Locally Adult Social Care staff are linked in to Clinical Commissioning Group led End of Life Groups focusing on local provision of End of Life Care. The Adult Social Care and Health Continuing Healthcare lead and team are able to utilise these networks to help resolve issues relating to End of Life Care.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

4.1 There are no additional financial implications from the continued implementation of the End of Life Care Action Plan.

#### **5. Legal Implications**

5.1 There are no legal implications from the continued implementation of the End of Life Care Action Plan.

#### **6. Equality Implications**

6.1 The ambitions set out in the End of Life Care document in Appendix 1 are designed to promote equality:

- Each person is seen as an individual
- Each person gets fair access to care
- Maximising comfort and wellbeing
- Care is coordinated
- All staff are prepared to care
- Each community is prepared to help

6.2 There are no other equalities implications for consideration.

#### **7. Conclusions**

7.1 The Adult Social Care and Health End of Life Care in Kent document and Action Plan has enabled progress to be made in developing and delivering End of Life Care services.

7.2 Following initial benchmarking against the national framework for End of Life Care, Adult Social Care and Health is engaged and keeping pace with national developments through the STP Clinical Strategy and workstreams covering End of Life Care and proactive engagement with the Academic Health Science Network End of Life Care programme.

7.3 On-going work and areas of improvement can be progressed further through implementation of the revised End of Life Care Action Plan. Monitoring meetings now take place twice a year to ensure actions are being progressed and delivered, with the next meeting scheduled for April 2019.

#### **8. Recommendation(s)**

**8.1 Recommendation(s):** The Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the updated overview of End of Life Care in Kent and the revised End of Life Care Action Plan.

## 9. Background Documents

End of Life Care Report to Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee – 18 January 2018

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s82212/Item%208%20-%20End%20of%20Life%20Care%20Update%20and%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

Ambitions for Palliative and End of life Care

<http://endoflifecareambitions.org.uk/>

## 10. Contact details

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