

Cabinet



Date of meeting:	08 July 2024
Title of Report:	NHS End Of Life Care
Lead Member:	Councillor Mrs Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)
Lead Strategic Director:	Gary Walbridge (Interim Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities)
Author:	Gary Walbridge
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Your Reference:	N/A
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

In response to concerns around End of Life Care performance in Plymouth, as well as statistically higher hospital deaths at University Hospital's Plymouth (UHP) than national averages, the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (H&ASC OSC) considered End of Life Care on 20 February 2024 (reconvened on 06 March 2024). The Committee identified that there were many multi-organisational efforts being undertaken to improve End of Life Care performance, as well as to reduce deaths in hospital settings however, there was significant work to be done. This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the H&ASC OSC from this session, for cabinet to review and action as appropriate.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. That the Cabinet recognises the importance of End of Life Care for the citizens of Plymouth, and thanks the Scrutiny Committee for its diligent work.
2. That the Cabinet endorses further review at Scrutiny of the improvement plan being undertaken by the NHS and partners in relation to End of Life provision and the consideration of any further recommendations that the Committee deems appropriate.
3. That Cabinet notes the Cabinet Member response at appendix two.

Reason: To ensure that End of Life Care is adequate for Plymouth's citizens.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None identified.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Gary Walbridge (Interim Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 03/07/2024											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mary Aspinall (Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) Date approved: 03/07/2024											

Appendix one H&ASC OSC Recommendations 20 February 2024 – End of Life Care

The Committee Recommended that:

1. NHS Devon and partners return to a future scrutiny session to bring an update on performance against the End of Life Care improvement Plan. This is to include delivery of the Palliative Care framework, findings of the Estover Pilot Project, and additional information on the below recommendations.
2. NHS Devon and Partners take into account and record peoples preferences for place of death.
3. NHS Devon and partners return at a future time to report on falls prevention measures being undertaken and related performance.
4. NHS Devon and partners work to reduce the delay in testing and diagnosis to enable maximum choice for patients spend their remaining time in the way/location that they wish.
5. NHS Devon adopt processes to include patients' relatives in the planning and administration of care for their loved ones (where applicable, and consent given). This includes consultation in the development of a Treatment Escalation Plan (TEP).
6. The Council, in partnership with City organisations and individuals, seek to promote and recognise St. Luke's communication of "Care in the community" and "the hospice coming to you", rather than the misconception of patients having to be admitted to a hospice.
7. The Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities (Cllr Penberthy), ensures that the Housing Needs Assessment considers housing standards, and their appropriateness, for individuals with a variety of medical needs (Accessibility and quality).