

Staffordshire Health and Wellbeing Board – 08 January 2020

End of Life Voluntary Action Alliance – Update

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

- a. Support the work of the South Staffordshire End of Life Voluntary Action Alliance in developing a complementary community model for end of life care in Staffordshire.

Background

1. This is an introductory note to a verbal update to be provided by Emma Hodges from the St Giles Hospice on the ongoing work of the South Staffordshire End of Life Voluntary Action Alliance. (VAL)
2. This builds on the update on the VAL provided to the HWBB by Emma in December 2018, following the formation of the Alliance in January 2018. The approach supports the priorities identified via the Director of Public Health's report on End of Life in 2017 and the work of the End of Life STP Board. It also links to the HWBB End of life public engagement and awareness raising undertaken by PH and local partners in Staffordshire.
3. We know that End of Life care can be fragmented and not well connected with support in the community, resulting in poor life experience at a most crucial time. The South Staffordshire End of Life VAL, when formed, comprised of 17 agencies aiming to unite around a community-based vision for end of life care^{1,2} The voluntary sector's contribution is essential to achieving the vision set out in this framework. It also provides opportunities to share that vision with the statutory sector (e.g. via the STP End of Life board) and help them plan a much improved and comprehensive solution for end of life care.
4. At the time of the last update a funding application had been submitted by the Alliance to NHS England for their project focusing on voluntary, community and social enterprise engagement with STPs. The Alliance were asked to submit a paper for funding that would enable benefits to be fast tracked through building capacity and momentum. The HWBB received details of the NHS England approved action plan with details of funding.

¹The National Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership developed an ambitions framework for 2015-2020.
<http://endoflifecareambitions.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2015/09/Ambitions-for-Palliative-and-End-of-Life-Care.pdf>

²Ambition Six is that 'Each community is prepared to Help'. (Compassionate Communities)

5. A key element of development was to provide a different approach to Care Planning, to enable front line staff to have the confidence to talk about death and dying, with training on this being part of the work undertaken. Work was also

being considered around development of bottom up care plans and the potential impact of all these changes on care planning (e.g. On the number of care plans). The verbal update will provide information on this and the action research which is informing the further development of the local approach and Community model for end of life in Staffordshire

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

N/A

Contact Details

Board Sponsor: Richard Harling, Director for Health and Care

Report Author: David Sugden, Commissioning Manager

Telephone No: 01785 276707

Email Address: David.sugden@staffordshire.gov.uk