

**County Durham MacMillan Partnership Programme**

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**Report of Gill O'Neill, Interim Director of Public Health, Children and Adults Services, Durham County Council**

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**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 This report is to notify the Health and Wellbeing Board of a flagship partnership project between Durham County Council and Macmillan Cancer Support and to seek support for the development and future implementation of the project.

**Background**

- 2 Almost one in two people will get cancer in their lifetime, however, advances in treatment and improved survival rates mean that people with cancer are living longer and may experience similar illness patterns as those with other long-term conditions. Ultimately, this means that there are, and will continue to be more people living with and beyond cancer in County Durham than ever before.
- 3 Increased survivorship affects, not only upon the individual living with or beyond cancer, but also on the family and carers. The consequences of surviving the disease, and the often gruelling treatment regime, not only impact on an individual's physical condition, but also on their psychological, financial and social functioning. Returning to "normality" is often fraught with difficulties and support is very often required outside of the medical treatment process.
- 4 Macmillan Cancer Support recognises that local authorities are in a unique position to broker local solutions for people living with and beyond cancer, their carers' and local communities and, as such have committed significant resource to ensure improved quality of life for people affected by cancer in County Durham.

**Project drivers**

- 5 This project will contribute to the attainment of County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board's strategic objectives of:
  - Reducing health inequalities and early deaths;
  - Improving quality of life, independence and care and support for people with long term conditions;
  - Improving the mental and physical wellbeing of the population;
  - Protect vulnerable people from harm; and

- Support people to die in the place of their choice with the care and support that they need.
- 6 It will also support the NHS Five Year Forward View by facilitating people to have greater control of their own care; breaking down the barriers between acute, primary and social and community care and contributing to more integrated care for people.
- 7 It will also help County Durham to achieve the outcomes for patients and their carers set out in Achieving World-Class Cancer Outcomes: A Strategy for England 2015-2020:
- Effective prevention (so that people do not get cancer at all if possible);
  - Prompt and accurate diagnosis;
  - Informed choice and convenient care;
  - Access to the best effective treatments with minimal side effects;
  - Always knowing what is going on and why;
  - Holistic support; and
  - The best possible quality of life, including at the end of life.
- 8 Implementation of this project will also support the nine Macmillan Outcomes:
- I was diagnosed early;
  - I understand so I make good decisions;
  - I get the treatment and care which are best for my cancer, and my life;
  - Those around me are well supported;
  - I am treated with dignity and respect;
  - I know what I can do to help myself and who else can help me;
  - I can enjoy life
  - I feel part of a community and I'm inspired to give something back;
  - I want to die well.
- 9 The foundations of the project will be based upon the recommendations in the National Institute for Clinical and Health Excellence (NICE) clinical guidance on supportive and palliative care (CSG) (2004):
- People affected by cancer should be involved in developing cancer services;
  - There should be good communication, and people affected by cancer should be involved in decision making;
  - Information should be available free of charge;
  - People affected by cancer should be offered a range of physical, emotional, spiritual and social support;
  - There should be services to help people living with the after-effects of cancer manage these for themselves;
  - People with advanced cancer should have access to a range of services to improve their quality of life;
  - There should be support for people dying from cancer;

- The needs of family and other carers of people with cancer should be met;
  - There should be a trained workforce to provide services.
- 10 This project will support the proposals set out in the NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plan including:
- Engaging patients, communities and NHS staff, with a focus on self-care;
  - Implement new care models integrating across health, social and voluntary sectors;
  - Reduction in emergency admission and inpatient bed-day;
  - Integrated multidisciplinary teams to underpin new care models; and
  - Helping to achieve 2020 ambitions on key clinical priorities around cancer.

### **Current Position**

- 11 Macmillan Cancer Support already funds, or has previously funded, a number of projects within County Durham ranging from Macmillan Palliative Care Nurses, to Macmillan Information and Support Centres and Macmillan Welfare Rights advisors as well as direct volunteers such as Durham Not Alone. Funding for some existing services expires in March 2017. The affected services are in the process of seeking funding to bridge the gap prior to this new project being implemented.
- 12 Macmillan Cancer Support has identified a significant amount of resource (£1million) to support the development phase of this project and has agreed to support the project on a long term basis. Additional sustainability will be a key part of the project plan from the outset.
- 13 A project manager and project support officer have been appointed and are based within the Public Health Team at Durham County Council.
- 14 As part of the agreement between Macmillan and the local authority the project will seek to provide people living with or beyond cancer, their families and carers with:
- Early support to address holistic needs including housing, income, practical and emotional support from the point of a cancer diagnosis.
  - Holistic needs assessment and care planning co-designed by person living with/beyond cancer and their family/carer(s).
  - The creation of clear pathways, that are person centred and coordinated (including across health and social care).
  - Links to existing services, building on community assets.
  - Clear and accessible information on self-management.
  - Access to services to improve lifestyle and overall health and wellbeing to meet their assessed needs.
  - Facilitated return to work and access to volunteering opportunities.

- 15 Due to the prevalence of cancer within the adult population, the project will initially focus on adults (18+) who have a cancer diagnosis. However, once the project is established it is hoped that it will extend to include children with a cancer diagnosis and their families. It is anticipated that, in the longer term, the model could be rolled out to support people with other long term conditions.
- 16 A high-level multi-agency programme board is to be established to oversee the development of the project and relevant work-streams. A project plan, including a project initiation document, is in the process of being developed and progress can be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board at a future date.
- 17 Two “Join the Dots” events have been held to engage with a variety of stakeholders, including patient and carers, on existing provision for people with cancer and to identify good practice from other areas, such as Glasgow and Doncaster. A third event took place on 6th June 2016 to begin to scope the future of the project and identify a name.

### **Recommendations**

- 18 The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:
  - Note the contents of the report;
  - Agree to support the project;
  - Receive updates on the progress of the project at a future meeting

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Finance**

Macmillan Cancer Support has identified £1m to support the development phase of this project with further sums anticipated for the implementation phase. Sustainability for the project will be built into the project plan from the outset.

### **Staffing**

Staffing costs for the project management are covered for 2 years from Macmillan Cancer Support.

### **Risk**

The risk of not supporting this initiative is one of reputation for both Durham County Council and Macmillan Cancer Support. Without strategic buy-in to the project the project will be unable to overcome the barriers which may be posed and the project could be put at risk; ultimately at the detriment of people living with/beyond cancer.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

No adverse implications

### **Accommodation**

There may be some accommodation implications in relation to the project team at implementation stage.

### **Crime and Disorder**

No adverse implications

### **Human Rights**

Article 2 Right to life – positive impact

Article 8 Respect for your private and family life, home and correspondence – positive impact

Article 9 Freedom of thought, belief and religion – positive impact

Article 10 Freedom of expression – positive impact

Article 14 Protection from discrimination in respect of these rights and freedoms – positive impact

### **Consultation**

People who have experience of cancer as a patient, carer or family member; professionals who work in the cancer field and current organisations and services have and will continue to be consulted throughout the development of the project in line with NICE (2004) recommendations.

### **Procurement**

No current implications

### **Disability Issues**

No adverse implications

### **Legal Implications**

No adverse implications