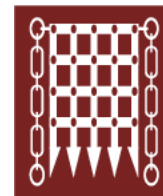


Westminster Health Forum policy conference:

Next steps for palliative care in England

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 2nd September 2026

Taking place online



**WESTMINSTER
HEALTH FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP, Shadow Secretary of State, Health and Social Care
- 9.05 **Key considerations for building a coherent national approach to palliative care**
Baroness Finlay, Commissioner, Commission on Palliative and End-of-Life Care
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Assessing palliative care funding in England - insights on demand, pressures and future requirements**
Lee Summerfield, Director, Responsive Audit and Investigations, National Audit Office
Lloyd Astley, Senior Analyst, National Audit Office
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **Developing a Modern Service Framework - commissioning consistency, long-term planning and sustainable funding**
development and implementation of a Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Modern Service Framework | alignment of future service development with the 10 Year Health Plan | achieving consistent commissioning across ICBs | developing better understanding of current and future demand for services | current funding flows across the NHS, local authorities and the voluntary sector | options for standardising funding frameworks | supporting shifts towards community-based care | implications for hospital capacity, discharge pathways and care home support | examining commissioning arrangements required to support specialist services | priorities for palliative care in the context of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill not progressing | tackling specialist workforce shortages
Dr Gillian Oakley, Senior Lecturer, Palliative Care, University of Lancashire
Dr Rakesh Koria, Clinical Lead, Ageing and Dying Well, NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board
Professor Katherine Sleeman, Laing Galazka Chair in Palliative Care, King's College London; and Honorary Consultant in Palliative Medicine, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Sharon Allen, CEO, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity
Maxine Taffetani, CEO, Healthwatch Milton Keynes
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 **Chair's closing remarks**
Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP, Shadow Secretary of State, Health and Social Care
- 11.10 Break
- 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior parliamentarian
- 11.25 **Putting patients at the centre of palliative care - addressing variation, access and experience across England**
Helen Forrow, Managing Director, Marie Curie
- 11.35 **Next steps for children's palliative care - building sustainable services for children, young people and families**
Nick Carroll, CEO, Together for Short Lives
Dr Christine Mott, Co-Chair, Association for Paediatric Palliative Medicine
- 11.55 **Tackling inequalities and delivering personalised, technology-assisted community-based care**
provision of personalised care for patients and their families in appropriate settings | support for anticipatory planning and shared decision-making | addressing variation in access, experience and support | identifying disparities affecting underserved and marginalised groups | simplifying fragmented pathways and improving co-ordination between services | developing enhanced support for families and carers, including access to bereavement services, advice and support | embedding palliative care expertise into multidisciplinary teams and neighbourhood health models | use of data, digital tools and system dashboards to support planning, predict need, target interventions and reduce crisis admissions | remote monitoring, virtual wards and virtual reality use to enhance quality of life
Dr Tammy Angel, Chief Clinical Transformation Officer, Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Mike Blaber, Palliative Medicine Specialist, Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust
Dr Paul Beadon, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Palliative Care Psychology and Bereavement Service Lead, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Sanchia Biswas, Lead Clinical Psychologist, Specialist Palliative Care, John Eastwood Hospice, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Joanna Sheppard, GP, Palliative Medicine, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 12.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**
Senior parliamentarian
Tess Mitchell-Thomas, Westminster Health Forum