



St Barnabas  
House



Chestnut  
Tree House

# Special Bulletin

*Dear Colleagues,*

I am writing to update staff and volunteers on discussions that have been taking place at Trustee level about future directions for St Barnabas House, our adult hospice.



A group has been meeting for the last year to consider the clinical strategy for St Barnabas and set out a broad strategic direction.

Over the past year we have received around 1,000 new patient referrals to St Barnabas and we expect the demand for end of life care in our area to increase in the future. Over the last few years, we have responded by setting up and developing a Hospice at Home service and establishing the Hospice Outreach Project vehicle initiative.



# Special Bulletin cont.

Our Trustees have agreed on a clear aim for St Barnabas; to reach more people who need our care.

We believe that St Barnabas is currently reaching around 80% of patients with cancer who need our care. However, our Trustees are very conscious that St Barnabas services do not touch the majority of people who die in our catchment area and there are many reasons for this.

We know that patients with advanced non-malignant disease have similar levels of palliative care needs as those with cancer. Last year patients with a non-cancer diagnosis represented just 20% of our referrals. We have therefore started to explore the following areas of new work:

- \* Reaching more patients with heart failure.
- \* Improving the way we support patients with dementia.
- \* Reaching more patients with liver/renal failure.
- \* Improving hospice services for patients with kidney diseases.
- \* Reviewing end of life services for patients with respiratory problems.



Linked to this, we will be considering the merits of developing a multi-disciplinary Wellbeing Centre or clinic.

In addition, we are working with other local providers and Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group to review the coordination of end of life care across the local area. We want everyone to have access to a wide range of support services, for palliative and end of life care, regardless of diagnosis and at the time they are needed. One of the main ways we can achieve this is by developing stronger partnerships with a number of local service providers to enable us to improve the way services are coordinated between hospital, home and St Barnabas.

We are also considering ways in which we can reach more people by expanding our Education Services as well as working more closely with local nursing homes, using new technology in different ways and expanding volunteer-supported services.

I would like to emphasise that all these strands of work are at an early stage of exploration and there is clearly a lot of work to do over the next year. I will keep you updated as things progress and I know that Andy Burt would welcome your thoughts and input at all stages.

Finally, I should mention that a similar review of Chestnut Tree House strategy is about to start and this will be developed over the next year.

With best wishes and many thanks for your hard work and commitment.

*Hugh*

Hugh Lowson, Chief Executive

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