



Cancer Partnership Group Service Users Role Description

Purpose

To draw on your own experience and those of other cancer service users to help ensure that users' needs are considered within meetings (see below) and any other related activities. This involves:

- Contributing to the discussions and decision-making of the group(s).
- Preparing for the meetings by reading through the agenda and accompanying papers and consulting with others where appropriate.
- Attending the meetings where possible, including virtual meetings.

Person Specification for Service Users

- Personal experience of cancer, either as a patient or as a carer within the last three years at the Great Western Hospital (GWH).
- It would also be helpful if you are in regular contact with other cancer service users.
- Basic knowledge and understanding of the NHS, and understanding of the patient perspective in the wider context of cancer services and healthcare.
- Flexibility to attend virtual meetings as well as face to face meetings.

What We Offer

- Practical and personal support (for example, pre-meeting slots to discuss the agenda).
- Training events to develop skills and knowledge.
- A chance to have an input directly into the planning, discussing, managing and improving services delivery at GWH.
- An opportunity to meet with the people who make decisions about the treatment and care delivered and challenge and support them to make things better.
- Transparency and honesty about what we can and cannot achieve.

Meetings where User Representation is proposed:

- Cancer Partnership Group: held quarterly.

What would be expected from a user representative?

- To work alongside Cancer Services to co-design specific projects.
- To ensure that the 'patient voice' is heard when decisions relating to the delivery of cancer services are discussed.
- Ability to articulate a patient perspective beyond personal experience where necessary and discuss things in a balanced, fair way.
- Use their experience and knowledge to provide advice on how proposals may impact on people with cancer.
- Confident communicating within mixed group of health professionals and patients.

Role

- Support cancer services in prioritising the services provided for local people and ensure they are effectively and efficiently delivered.
- Develop long term plans for the delivery of Cancer services taking account of local and national priorities; and the resources available (including those potentially available e.g. national/ regional/ local investment programmes).
- Encourage the contribution of users and their families through the establishment of an effective Users sub-group/ advisory group which is networked with appropriate local voluntary groups.
- Recognise that developments will need appropriate funding through the contract/SLA (Service Level Agreement) or Business Case, as required.