



## **Press Release**

**Date: 08 April 2014**

### **Public events will update plans to transform cancer and end of life care in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent**

PEOPLE in Cannock Chase are being urged to drop in on one of two events detailing a major project to transform the treatment of cancer patients and those approaching end of life across the region.

The two information events will provide an update on the innovative programme working alongside patients, carers and healthcare professionals on Transforming Cancer and End of Life Care Programme in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Andrew Donald, Chief Officer of Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group said: "We want to provide the people of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent with world-class cancer and end of life care.

"Patients and carers have told us things are not as good as they should be," he said. "They have told us about not always knowing who to turn to in a crisis and about feeling they have become lost in the system or that they have struggled to get the right support at the right time. It's clear to us that this is not acceptable.

"We know access to care at the right time is a problem, with some people, for example, not able to die at home when they want to because of the lack of support available.

"We want to develop the support needed to make sure people have real choice and receive the best possible support wherever and whenever they need it, and that no-one feels as though they have been lost in the system."

The project sees four of Staffordshire's Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) working alongside Macmillan Cancer, looking at commissioning services in a new way – with one principal organisation responsible for the overall provision of care in place to start delivering cancer and end of life care from April 2015.

The two events will take place between 9:30am and 1:00pm on Tuesday April 29 at the Moat House (Best Western Hotel) in Etruria in Stoke-on-Trent and Wednesday April 30 at Staffordshire University's Gallery on Beaconside in Stafford.

To register for either event, email [rachel.bentley@northstaffs.nhs.uk](mailto:rachel.bentley@northstaffs.nhs.uk) or call 01785 221041.

### **Ends**

For more information please contact Communications and Engagement Team Manager Tamsin Carr on 01782 401048

## Notes to Editors

The partners in the programme are Cannock Chase, Stafford and Surrounds, North Staffordshire, Stoke-on-Trent Clinical Commissioning Groups and Macmillan Cancer Support.

By 2030 - one in two people will be diagnosed with cancer but 38% of them will die from something else

The number of people surviving cancer will double to four million over the next 20 years

The number of people dying from cancer will have increased by 17% by 2030

## About Macmillan Cancer Support

More than one in three of us will get cancer. For most of us it will be the toughest fight we ever face. And the feelings of isolation and loneliness that so many people experience make it even harder.

But you don't have to go through it alone. The Macmillan team is with you every step of the way.

We are the nurses and therapists helping you through treatment. The experts on the end of the phone. The advisers telling you which benefits you're entitled to. The volunteers giving you a hand with the everyday things. The campaigners improving cancer care. The community there for you online, any time. The supporters who make it all possible.

Together, we are all Macmillan Cancer Support.