

Fareham and Portchester PCN	Cancer and Palliative Care placement pathway	
Additional project description	We are creating a placement pathway to upskill our non-clinical healthcare professionals with the soft skills to support patients on a cancer or/ and palliative journey.	
Project deliverables	Outcomes and impact	Reflections and learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main aim of this PCN, cancer and palliative care development programme and placement pathway is to ensure that staff feel equipped through exposure on placement to have uncomfortable conversations and to demonstrate appropriate empathy and compassion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently two of the healthcare professionals have completed part of the pathway due to difficulty in sourcing a placement. One SP and one GPA have completed training courses as part of this placement pathway – ‘Introduction to end of life care’ and ‘Communication at end of life’ provided by Mountbatten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the students / learners have not started the placement, yet this is limited As project coordinator, it has been difficult to source a placement with different organisations. Many instead offered training, which was frustrating and did not fit the needs of the pathway we are creating
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has been hugely beneficial for them and has achieved part of our aim. Feedback received: <i>“We absolutely loved it. Was super informative, gave me more knowledge with the way things are worded and gave me an insight into how to answer awkward questions rather than avoid saying the wrong things. Lots of information leaflets and we were able to discuss opinions and experiences we have had with difficult conversations. I think I'd feel more confident with having those hard conversations with the training I've had”</i>. They both feel more able to navigate within this area and hopefully upcoming placements in June will solidify this, which will grow their confidence and soft skills The remaining staff who are yet to start this pathway will be offered the same training and access the same knowledge, through a bespoke training day provided by Mountbatten at our practice for one of the three placement days 	Next steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial meeting with social prescribers (SP) and General Practice assistants (GPA) to discuss and assess individual needs Lots of time has been spent liaising with different organisations - The Rowans, Mountbatten, MacMillian, Hospice UK and other local community support groups to source a one-to-two-day placement Two placements with Mountbatten confirmed to commence in June Pending outcome following a conversation with Southern Health Trust A workbook has been created for the staff to document learning and reflections during their placement 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue developing this pathway, and evaluate the first two placements once they have taken place in June If the placements go well after evaluation, we will be sending the remaining staff on the same pathway from July, in the hope that all staff have completed the pathway at the end of October
		Breakdown and use of funding
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Total spend to date: £200</u> After discussion with staff completing the pathway, it was fed back that they would find some training within the placement pathway beneficial. The PCN felt it would be appropriate to use some of the project budget therefore, to incorporate this into the placement pathway to set them off to placements with a theoretical understanding to then apply practically