

Wessex Cancer Alliance Patient and Public Steering Group and Network Impact Summary: October-December 2024



Wessex Cancer Alliance has commissioned Involving People at Help & Care to involve volunteers with lived experience in the work of the Alliance. The Steering Group acts as a critical friend to ensure patient and public involvement is effective. The Network enables us to invite more people with lived experience to be involved in a range of opportunities. Here's a look back on the previous quarter's work.

At our October steering group:

- Steering group members fed back on the work they have been involved with including: attending a Research and Innovation Day and Metastatic Breast Cancer Conference, feedback on the Clinical Strategy, National PPV forum representation and quality improvement work
- We heard feedback on actions taken since the previous National Cancer Patient Experience Survey
- We were updated on the 'know the signs' campaign

3 new network volunteers joined us this quarter taking the total to 30 plus 9 steering group members.

It's very rewarding to be involved in shaping the same healthcare system of which you are a patient, ensuring better services for future generations.

Steering group member

All volunteers will use the Volunteero app from 1st April so communication and reporting is easier for everyone.

This quarter volunteers have been invited by the Alliance to be involved in 3 opportunities, they are:

- Valuing cancer support in the community event
- Invitation to join a new readers panel- 9 members so far
- Readers panel checked a text message for targeted lung checks as their first piece of work

Other partners offered 1 opportunity which was:

- NHSE invite to participate in covid enquiry



You are influencing our thinking, and collectively very much holding us to account. Exactly as I hoped you would.

Sally Rickard, Managing Director WCA

Volunteering makes everything I went through fighting cancer for 18 months have a purpose and a meaning.

Steering group member

Plans for the next quarter:

- Host our away day with network volunteers
- Develop our induction, support and training offer for volunteers



Scan the QR code for the full report!

A partnership between Involving People and Wessex Cancer Alliance
www.involvingpeople.org