

Wessex Cancer Alliance Patient and Public Steering Group and Network Impact Summary: April - June 2026

Wessex Cancer Alliance commissions Involving People at Help & Care to involve volunteers with lived experience in the work of the Alliance. We do this through our Steering Group, Network and Reader Panel, acting as a critical friend to ensure patient and public involvement is effective.

In our May Steering Group meeting we:

- Discussed succession planning as a group.
- Had a presentation about Bowel Cancer early diagnosis, sharing reflections from the patient view.
- Reflected on our March away day and the actions to take forward.

Highlights this quarter



This quarter marked Volunteer Awareness Month. Our volunteers received a letter and a personal thank you to acknowledge how much we appreciate all they do and the difference they make. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in person in September!

We published our Annual Report this month. A huge testament to the great achievements of our Steering Group, Network and Reader Panel and a look to the future too. Read it [here](#).



Plans for the next quarter:

- Get together for our next in person away day
- Recruitment for a new Steering Group Lead

Snapshot of volunteer activity this quarter

- Our Reader Panel reviewed 2 items: a leaflet about Malignancies of Unknown Origins and another about Lung Screening and two possible non-cancer findings that can be found.
- Our current chair and Help & Care developed a role profile for the Steering Group Lead which will be advertised this quarter.
- Gave feedback on a Bowel Screening Awareness campaign.
- Steering Group members attended a Patient and Public Involvement event in London organised by CRUK. The topic was 'Leave no one behind: Ensure everyone benefits from research'.
- Contributed to a National Cancer Support Plan survey.
- Shared feedback on working with the Alliance / suggestions for improvement.

1 volunteer joined our Steering Group this quarter, taking our total to 11. 2 joined our Reader Panel, making 19 in total. 1 joined our Network, the total now stands at 36.



A partnership between Involving People
and Wessex Cancer Alliance

