

Care. Compassion. Community.

POSITION STATEMENT: Assisted Dying

The Prince of Wales Hospice is the local charity for specialist palliative end of life care in the Five Towns and surrounding areas of Wakefield District. We recognise the views of our staff, volunteers and trustees will reflect the full spectrum of views on assisted dying that exist in society. **Whilst this may be the case, we all share the same vision and mission:**

OUR VISION

Our vision is to enable everyone in the community to live well and die well knowing their loved ones are supported.

OUR MISSION

We provide specialist care for adults with a terminal diagnosis. We focus on the person and not just the illness, supporting them and those around them.

We understand that people and organisations have strong opinions on this sensitive and emotive issue. It is not our role as a hospice charity to either support or oppose a change in the law.

As the national debate intensifies around potential changes to the law, we will engage with sector events and other opportunities to understand the implications of any potential change in the law on the hospice sector.

Hospice UK estimates that one in four people currently do not receive the specialist palliative care they need because of marginalisation and exclusion, exacerbated by a postcode lottery of patchy, uneven services and funding. We believe that the assisted dying debate must include discussion about how we can make good palliative care available and accessible to everyone, whoever they are and wherever they live. We will continue to champion fairer funding mechanisms in West Yorkshire to ensure it remains available to our local community.

