

# Statement of Purpose

## Marie Curie Hospice and Community Services North East

Date: January 2026

Date due for review: January 2027

### Service Provider details:

Name: Marie Curie

Address: One Embassy Gardens  
8 Viaduct Gardens  
London  
SW11 7BW

Email: [info@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:info@mariecurie.org.uk)

Website: [www.mariecurie.org.uk](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk)

Main telephone: 020 7599 7777

CQC provider ID: 1-102643321

Marie Curie is a charitable organisation, registered with the Charity Commission, which raises funds to offer care and support through terminal illness.

First established in 1948, we have been caring for people living with any terminal illness, and their families, for over 60 years. We offer expert care, guidance, and support to help them get the most from the time they have left.

Our Caring Services operations includes the Marie Curie Hospice and Hospice Care at Home Services located across the UK. All services are free of charge.

The people we help are referred to us from the NHS for symptom control, end of life care and respite. This is delivered both night and day by Marie Curie Nurses and Healthcare Assistants trained in palliative care in patients own homes and in our hospice by a specialist multi-disciplinary team of staff.

### Legal status of provider:

Organisation details: Incorporated organisation

Company number: 507597

Charity number: 207994

### Location details:

Name:	Marie Curie Hospice and Community Services North East
Address for service:	Marie Curie Drive Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6SS
Email:	<a href="mailto:newcastle.hospice@mariecurie.org.uk">newcastle.hospice@mariecurie.org.uk</a>
Website:	<a href="http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/hospice-care/hospices/newcastle">www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/hospice-care/hospices/newcastle</a> <a href="https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/nursing-services">https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/help/nursing-services</a>
Main telephone:	0191 2191000
Location ID:	1-11939970
CQC Service type:	Hospice services
Service users:	Adults (aged 18+) with a terminal illness and their families.
Number of overnight beds:	18 beds
Registered Manager:	Gillian Raine
Registered Manager contact details:	As above (address for service)

### Regulated activities:

- Treatment of disease, disorder, or injury

### Aims and objectives:

The Marie Curie Hospice and Community Services in the North East provide specialist palliative care for adults living with terminal illnesses. Our purpose is to promote and maintain the best quality of life and offer high quality end-of-life care. Occasionally younger patients (under 18 years of age) may be referred, and acceptance of the referral is considered on a case-by-case basis. A decision is made at senior clinical management level, based on our ability to ensure we can provide safe care to younger patients.

#### Hospice Services

We specialise in providing individual holistic care for people with terminal illnesses and offer care and support to patients requiring symptom control, psychological support, rehabilitation, and end-of-life care. In addition to a team of highly experienced doctors and nurses, the hospice has specialists in a wide range of roles including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, and bereavement support.

Our Wellbeing Centre offers a variety of services which can be delivered face to face in the hospice or other locations, virtually or via telephone. We also offer a number of group support sessions. Our care is extended to family, friends and carers during a patient's stay and carries on into bereavement.

The Bereavement Service based at the hospice offers both pre- and post-bereavement support to people from across the North East. This outpatient service offers both individual and group support and includes a Children and Young Person (CAYP) Bereavement Service which is accessible to those aged 3 to 21 years. The CAYP service also offers support to local schools and colleges.

## **Hospice Care at Home Services**

The emphasis of care is community focused, enabling patients to be cared for and to die at home if this is their preferred choice. Our Health Care Assistants (HCA) generally provide one-to-one nursing care and support overnight. This care is provided by HCA's working under the guidance of a Registered Nurse.

## **Companion Service**

Our Companion service offers those with terminal diagnosis support and comfort in their own home or hospital for up to three hours each week. This service is a volunteer led service with all volunteers receiving support and palliative care training. Companions may help with small tasks around the home, help with shopping or help individuals continue with activities which they enjoy.

Respecting patients' privacy, dignity and choice is of paramount importance. All members of staff are bound by a duty of confidentiality and there is a specific policy in place to manage the protection and use of patient information.

## **Hospice facilities:**

The Marie Curie Hospice, Newcastle currently provides inpatient and outpatient care. There are 18 inpatient beds. Patients can use their own mobile phones if desired. All accommodation is either in single sex bays or side rooms with dedicated bathroom facilities.

We also provide a multi-faith reflection room for patients. Our hospice chaplain provides non-denominational support for all patients and liaises with a wide network of religious faith leaders who can be called on to meet individual patient needs via virtual methods.

The Garden Café is accessible to visitors and patients and provides a range of hot meals and snacks.

Outpatient services are provided from our Wellbeing Centre which includes a gymnasium, consulting rooms and complementary therapy area.

Bereavement support is provided in our Bereavement Hub. This included a dedicated Children and Young Persons Counsellor service.

## **Community Services**

The Marie Curie Hospice Care at Home Service, North East is commissioned to provide services in the North and South of Tyne and County Durham localities. Services have been developed in conjunction with NHS commissioners to meet specific needs. One to one care is delivered in the patient's home on a single patient per shift basis.

When necessary staff will work under the clinical leadership of other specialist paediatric care providers or community teams to ensure appropriate care and support can be given.

## **Staffing:**

Annette Weatherly, Chief Nurse & Executive Director of Quality & Caring Services, is responsible for the Marie Curie Hospice and Community Services throughout the UK. Annette is a member of the Marie Curie Executive Board and joined the Team in Jan 2024. Annette Weatherly is the CQC Nominated Individual.

Gillian Raine, Head of Nursing and Quality is the CQC Registered Manager and provides leadership and support for all clinical staff working across the North East and ensures that governance, training, and clinical standards are of high quality. Gillian has management responsibility for Nursing and Allied Healthcare Professional teams within the hospice and has over 25 years experience as a Registered Nurse with a strong background in cancer and palliative care nursing.

Dr Simon Challand leads the Hospice medical team. He has MBBS, MRCGP Dip Pall Med, a CESR in Palliative Medicine, and many years of specialist palliative care experience including developing advanced lung disease and Parkinsons Plus clinics. Dr Challand is supported by a Nurse Consultant, Michelle Butters, Specialty Doctors, postgraduate trainees and Advanced Clinical Practitioners.

Victoria Wharton is the Director of Caring Services North of England and is the Accountable Person for Health and Safety. She provides leadership and support for all staff. Gill White, Head of Operations – North East is the Controlled Drugs Accountable Officer. Gill has worked at the Newcastle hospice for over 20 years, previously as Facilities Manager before moving to her current role in 2024.

The Allied Health Professional team at the Hospice is key to the success of the Multi-Disciplinary Team and consists of Social Workers, Chaplain, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapist and Therapy Assistants.

Our nursing staff undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, references are taken up and a comprehensive induction programme and training is provided. The registered nurses are all highly trained and complete various in-house and external qualification on an annual basis. All health care assistants hold a qualification in either palliative care or health and social care.

Managers ensure that all staff are clear about their own roles and responsibilities and have appropriate support. They are responsible for regularly reviewing performance and identifying ongoing training and development needs via Marie Curie's My Plan and Review process. Hospice led training plans ensure that skills and competency levels required to deliver the services are maintained and developed.

## **Feedback - Comments, Compliments, Concerns, Complaints and Surveys:**

We value and proactively seek feedback from people that experience Marie Curie services, this includes, visitors, family, friends, patients, carers, and staff.

People that experience Marie Curie services can give feedback to us directly though completing one of our surveys (available in the information packs sent to community patients, via QR codes visible on posters and information leaflets in our hospices, on our website, or from a member of staff delivering care) or by sharing a concern, raising a complaint, giving a compliment or comment. All feedback received is used to measure different aspects of care and support and are used to drive service improvement.

Our policy for addressing complaints makes sure that all complainants will receive an acknowledgement within two working days unless a full reply can be sent within five working days. Every endeavour will be made to provide a full response to the complainant within 20 working days. If this is not possible, a revised timeframe will be agreed with the complainant.

Details of these processes are incorporated into our patient information leaflets which are offered to all patients referred to the service. Details are also included in bedside patient folders provided to every hospice patient.

We undertake quality visits and patients', and carers' views are also sought to make sure we continue to provide the services they want and need.

We are inspected by the Care Quality Commission, the Health and Social Care Regulator for England. The Marie Curie Hospice and Community Services North East was rated as Outstanding during the last inspection in January 2024 the full inspection report is available on the CQC website, or on request.