

Palliative Care and Care Around Dying Draft Strategic Priorities

Engagement May – June 2026

What is palliative care?

- Supports people of all ages living with life shortening conditions
- It focuses on what matters to the person and those who are important to them
- Can start at diagnosis, supports people to live well with life shortening conditions, and includes care when someone is dying, and into bereavement

Why does this matter?

- More people than ever need palliative care.
- Experiences are not always equal
- There is a growing need to improve the coordination of care across all ages and all settings

Who provides palliative care?

- Families and carers, communities, and volunteers
- Health and care staff in all settings
- Specialist teams in hospital and hospices support people with more complex needs

Palliative care is everyone's business

Key facts

- Around 89% of people who die have palliative care needs
- In Greater Glasgow and Clyde this equated to 11,628 people over 1 year
- In Scotland, over 16,700 children are living with a life shortening condition
- When a person dies at least 5 people are affected by bereavement

What is driving this strategy?

- National Policy, NHS GGC priorities, and local lived experience
- It responds to Scottish Government strategy Palliative Care matters for All (2025-2030)
- It has been informed by engagement with people with lived experience, carers, and staff from a wide range of organisations.

What people told us

In 2025 over 200 people shared their experiences and views, they told us what was important around palliative care and care around dying

- early planning
- honest conversations
- comfort and dignity
- support for carers
- co-ordinated care in the place that feels right to them

Priority 1

Early identification and person-centred care planning of palliative care needs

How this should feel;

I am confident that health and care staff will recognise and help me plan my care needs or the care needs of my child, if diagnosed with a life shortening illness.

Priority 2

Equitable, coordinated, responsive care across all settings

How this should feel;

I or my child will have easy access to appropriate, coordinated services to meet my or my child's care needs, where I am treated with dignity and respect, pain and symptoms are well managed, and my health and care team are quick to respond to changes in my or my child's condition.

Priority 3

Enhance access to information, digital inclusion and community empowerment around palliative care

How this should feel;

I feel able to get information about palliative care in the way I find easiest to access and most helpful for myself or my child. I feel confident to manage my, or my child's condition with the help of health and care professionals, and I know what supports are available within my community. I feel my community is more aware of palliative care and care around dying, so I (my child) feel "seen" and supported.

Priority 4

Ensure accessible and compassionate bereavement support for all

How this should feel;

If I suffer a bereavement, I know what support is available and can access this easily if I need it.

Priority 5

Supported, Skilled and Resilient Workforce.

How this should feel;

I am confident that all health and care teams involved in my care, or my child's care, have the training and support they need to provide high quality palliative care regardless of where I am.

Your voice matters

- Are the priorities clear and easy to understand?
- Do they cover everything?
- Have we missed anything important?
- How will we know this is working well for people and families?

Feedback survey

You are invited to give feedback on the strategic priorities through this survey

<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/03F8ED57552C09A4>



Should you need support please access our resources listed below;

Palliative care

[Palliative Care - NHSGGC](#)

Bereavement

[Bereavement Information and Support - NHSGGC](#)

NHS Inform

[Bereavement and grief self-help guide | NHS inform](#)

Cruse

[Home : Cruse Scotland](#)

For information in other formats please contact Public.Involvement@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Thank you for your time and engagement