

Representative one page profile

My strengths:

I'm a warm and compassionate person, with a strong interest in people, and the lives they live. I'm supportive to others and am a coach and mentor, helping people develop their skills and confidence. I have extensive NHS experience and a strong commitment to building world class healthcare services. I am energetic, enthusiastic and have a positive, can-do approach to my life and work.

What working style works for me:

I am collaborative and creative and enjoy utilising the energy and ideas that people generate to design inclusive solutions.

This is why I'm interested in cancer:

My sister was diagnosed with mesothelioma in her 40s. She was able to live well with her diagnosis for a number of years due to a personalised approach to her care. There were aspects of her care that were exceptional; but there were also aspects that could have been improved. It's key that we keep learning from patient and family experiences, and I wanted to bring some of my experience of the inequalities she faced into my role.

These are the groups and networks I am involved in:

I work with charities and community groups across the region. I also work with ICB colleagues in population health, and colleagues in primary and secondary care, and with arm's length organisations such as Health Innovation Network and NHS England.

This is what is important to me:

I am passionate about reducing inequality in our lives. I grew up in the North East, in an area of high deprivation and experienced first hand how life can be impacted by inequality due to place of birth. This experience has stayed with me and shaped how I view the world, and the legacy I would like to leave from my time here. I'm



committed to ensuring that we improve the access to information about cancer for those who need it most, and that the experience of cancer care is the same for everyone in this region, no matter who they are, and how and where they live.

What I am like when I am not at work:

I enjoy being at home and in my garden, growing vegetables and flowers. However, I also love to travel to new places and explore the world, using different means of transport and learning about new cultures. I love wild swimming and during summer months will happily jump into a lake every day. During the winter, its more of a trepidatious weekly dip, but I still go for the feelings of euphoria and wellness that it brings. I'm a mum to two adult sons, and I enjoy supporting them in their plans and setting up their homes. I like to spend time with my mother, and my parents in law. Older age brings challenges to daily living and our family is so important to us; my husband and I try to support their independent living as much as we can.

Any other information you should know about me:

I love to laugh and strongly believe that life is a dance. You'll often find me at music concerts and comedy gigs. Losing my sister in the prime of her life has taught me that we need to live as much of our lives as we can, while we can.