

Patient and Public Representatives Recruitment Pack

Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance

April 2024

What is Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance?

We are one of 21 Cancer Alliances in England, set up to improve services, care and outcomes for everyone affected by Cancer in Humber and North Yorkshire

We are part of, and accountable to, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). The ICB is a statutory NHS organisation responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of our population

Who we are

The Cancer Alliance is a collaboration of:

- Health
- Social Care
- Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations
- Patients and the public

We have around 30 core programme staff working in the Cancer Alliance. You can [meet the team](#) on our website

Our work

We cover a large geographical area, including the cities of Hull and York, and the surrounding areas of North Yorkshire, East Riding, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire

The Alliance works together with its stakeholders to address health inequalities by focusing on the patient pathway through the four identified workstreams of the Alliance:

- Awareness and Early Diagnosis
- Targeted Lung Health Checks
- Cancer Diagnostics and Innovation
- Treatment, Pathways and Personalised Care

To join the Patient and Public Representative
Group you must:



Live within the Humber and North Yorkshire area, or have received treatment for cancer by an NHS service in this area



Have been diagnosed with or treated for cancer. This includes those receiving ongoing treatment, and can be a primary or secondary diagnosis of cancer

OR



Have cared for or supported someone who has been diagnosed or treated for cancer in Humber and North Yorkshire

Who can join the Patient and Public Representative Group

The role of a Patient or Public Representative

As a Patient or Public Representative, your main role will be to use your knowledge and experience to give feedback on and advise about the impact on patients, of work being developed and undertaken by Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance

You will act as a critical friend to the Cancer Alliance, and use your voice to challenge the approach and thinking of those making decisions

You should challenge the Cancer Alliance in a way that is appropriate, remaining respectful and open to a wide range of opinions and thought processes

There are several ways you can share your experiences as a member of the Patient and Public Representative Group



Ways you can be involved as a Patient or Public Representative



Attending the bi-monthly Patient and Public Representative Group Meeting -

Cancer Alliance colleagues, patients, clinicians and partners come together to discuss key pieces of work, allowing you to input and challenge the decisions being made.



Sit on Cancer Alliance Programme Boards, Steering Committees or Working Groups, to represent the patient voice on a particular workstream that may be of interest to you



Represent the Cancer Alliance at community engagement events – speaking with members of the public about a screening service or raising awareness about a certain type of cancer during a campaign



Be involved in a specific project, by joining the project team and working with Cancer Alliance colleagues to co-produce pieces of work. This may relate to your own experiences or an area of particular interest, such as mental health support for cancer patients.



Provide feedback on materials to ensure they are patient and public friendly – such as advising whether a poster or material uses too complicated language



Completing surveys to give your views – reflecting on your own experiences as a patient, carer or member of the public or helping to create surveys to ensure the right questions are being asked

Please note, this list is not exhaustive and there will be opportunities to be involved in the work of the Alliance in other ways throughout the year, as and when these opportunities arise. If you have ideas on other ways to be involved in the group, please let the Engagement Team know.

Support for members of the Patient and Public Representative Group



Patient and Public Representatives will receive reimbursement for out-of-pocket travel expenses incurred as part of your role



You will be given support and learning opportunities to help you succeed in the role, including information on the Cancer Alliance and our programmes of work



You'll receive regular communication and support from the Cancer Alliance's Engagement Team, as well as regular drop-in sessions for you to meet with the team

Next steps



Complete an expression of interest form to share a bit about your experience of cancer and why you'd like to be involved



Once we've received expressions of interest, we'll be in touch to arrange an informal chat with you to discuss the opportunity further and see if it is right for you



If you then join the Patient and Public Representative Group, you'll be sent a couple of forms and policy information (such as claiming expenses) and be presented with the opportunity to 'buddy' up with a current representative