

Sharing the Learning at the Macmillan Palliative Care in Prisons Conference

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Background

The Scottish prison population is disproportionately drawn from the most deprived areas in Scotland and have an increasing ageing population. The nature of offending and longer prison sentences means there is an increasing amount of prisoners who will be facing end of life in prison. In September 2018 the first Palliative Care in Scotland's Prisons Conference took place.



Aims

The aims of the conference was to raise awareness about the need for a Supportive and Palliative Care approach in Prisons and share the current work that was taking place in Scotland's prisons.

Approach

Invited speakers addressed the issues of why prisons should develop a supportive and palliative care approach. Both NHS and Prison Service staff shared the work they were undertaking in their prisons to address these issues.

HMP Kilmarnock

- ✓ To Absent Friends event 2017
- ✓ Seasons for Growth training

HMP Greenock

- ✓ Working collaboratively with Ardgowan Hospice and Compassionate Inverclyde Project
- ✓ To Absent Friends week 2018

HMP Edinburgh

- ✓ Working collaboratively with Marie Curie Hospice, Edinburgh
- ✓ To Absent Friends event 2018

HMP Glenochil

- ✓ Palliative Care Champions roles for SPS and NHS staff
- ✓ Developed End of Life Care pathway with local Health Board
- ✓ Multidisciplinary Supportive and Palliative Care meetings and register

Results

Increased stakeholder engagement with project

'I found that I made excellent contacts for taking forward SPS policy in Palliative Care'

'Re-invigorate my intention to work with NHS locally to improve and progress Palliative care provision in this prison'

'This has increased my awareness of issues affecting prisoners with palliative care need and their families. I need to consider the local issues for end of life care.'

'Informed my knowledge and would like to offer help to my colleagues in Ayrshire'

If you would like to hear more about this project or contribute to the Macmillan Palliative Care in Prisons Community of Practice please contact gail.allan1@nhs.net