

CANCER ALLIANCE NEWS



WELCOME WORD FROM YVONNE ELLIOTT

to work and also had a huge impact on how we live. The pandemic has meant that our teams delivering cancer services are continuing to work hard across the Alliance to respond to the ever changing landscape.

Our colleagues in both primary and secondary care are working tirelessly to continue to diagnose, treat and care safely for patients who have or may have cancer ensuring all essential services are maintained at this challenging time.

One positive change is that patients can now access their care via

telephone and electronic platforms. This means they don't have to travel to their GP or hospital, minimising the risk to cancer patients.

Within this update, Dr Vince Rawcliffe, GP Lead talks about the importance of contacting your GP during Covid-19 if you are worried about a symptom of cancer.

Across Radiology services, we are delighted that we have been able procure home working stations for home reporting of images across the area which supports our staff who are self-isolating to

continue to provide this importance service.

It is important that our Cancer Alliance is there to offer support and assistance to all our stakeholders in these demanding and ever-changing times

We can only do this by you sharing what is happening from your organisation, so please do get in touch with us if you have something that you would like to have featured in the next edition.

- Yvonne Elliott,
Managing Director
Humber, Coast and Vale
Cancer Alliance

Welcome to the latest Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance Newsletter which I hope will give our stakeholders important news and relevant updates from across the Alliance.

I join the Alliance at an unprecedented time where Covid-19 has changed the way each and every one of us has

NHS VOLUNTEER RESPONDERS

If you or someone you know is shielding at home because of coronavirus, you can request support from [NHS Volunteer Responders](#).

An 'army' of thousands of volunteers have stepped up to support vulnerable people in England who are at most risk from the virus. The help on offer ranges from support with grocery shopping and collecting prescriptions to 'check in and chat' phone calls. Volunteers can also help the NHS with patient transport and transport of medical equipment and supplies.

Call 0808 1963646 to self-refer or visit nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk to find out more.



HELPING TO SUPPORT CANCER DIAGNOSIS THROUGHOUT THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance has accelerated the procurement of radiology home working stations to enable the reporting workforce within our region to report from home during Covid-19.

Thirty home working stations, which have been funded through transformational monies, will be placed in reporters homes across Humber, Coast and Vale region to help alleviate any pressures caused by staff needing to self-isolate or reduce travel into acute sites.

The Cancer Alliance has worked with Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust, York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust to agree where these stations are placed

for maximum impact. As well as supporting the continuation of cancer diagnosis in line with national guidance during covid-19, the home working stations will also support service delivery in the immediate post Covid-19 period and will enable collaborative working and increased capacity for reporting in the longer term.

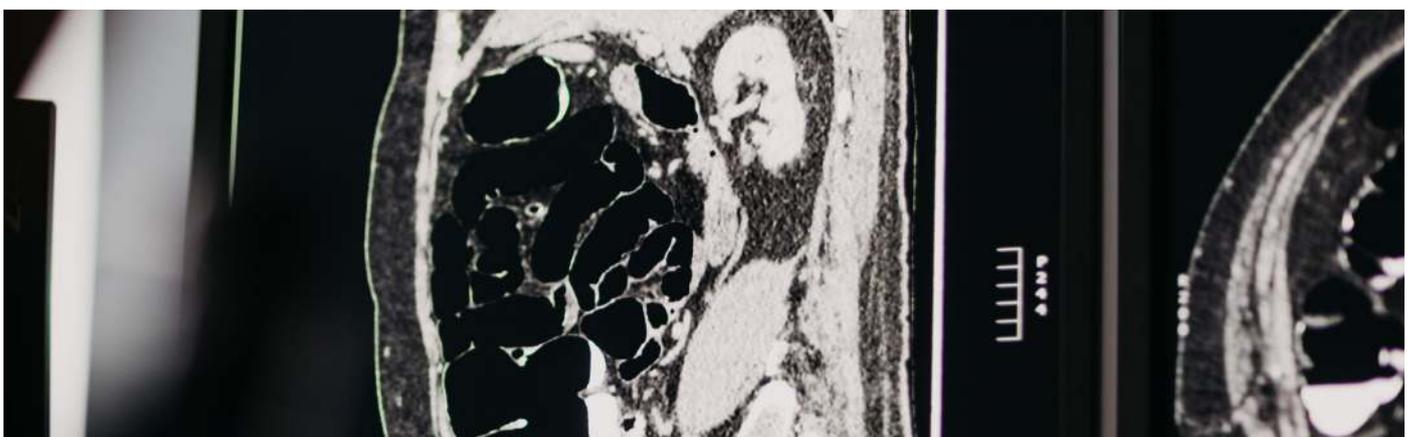
As the Alliance move forwards, the work stations will form part of the Humber, Coast and Vale collaborative reporting solution, described below by Dr Oliver Byass, Clinical Director for Radiology at Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust:

“The collaborative reporting solution sits above our independent PACS and work stations within the various trusts and will allow us as individual radiologists

to report the ‘right test first time’ seamlessly across our organisations and that is going to be transformational as to how we work in the future. Our work in modern radiology is a lot about diagnostics and trying to get the patient diagnosis both safely and as quickly as soon as possible and we are very fortunate in the fact

that modern radiology, CT, MRI and ultrasound have amazing diagnostic capabilities”

This work will help support the Alliance ambition of earlier diagnosis and better outcomes for patients, whilst delivering sustainable diagnostic services across the area.





'DO NOT DELAY CONTACTING YOUR GP' IF YOU NOTICE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CANCER

GPs across the Humber, Coast and Vale region are urging people not to delay getting in touch during the Covid-19 pandemic, if they are worried about changes which may be cancer.

If you, or anyone you know, have any cancer symptoms including:

- changes in bowel habits;
- blood in pee or poo;
- unexplained weight loss;
- a lump in your breast;
- moles that appear to change; or
- a cough that you have had for three weeks or more

It is important that you contact your GP as soon as possible.

The symptom might not be due to cancer. But if it is, the earlier it's picked up the higher the chance of successful treatment.



Dr Vince Rawcliffe, GP Lead across Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance, said:

"Please do not delay contacting your GP if you are worried about symptoms of cancer.

"The impact of Covid-19 may cause people to delay contacting health professionals however,

it is important to know that although GPs and their teams are assessing patients in new ways, we are still here to help.

"In Primary Care we still want to hear from patients with symptoms that may indicate early signs of cancer, sooner rather than later and GP surgeries are offering online consultations and remote triages so that you do not have to attend in person unnecessarily."

The plea from doctors comes as evidence suggests that some people are not contacting hospitals or GP practices because they know that healthcare services are busy or because they are worried about visiting

healthcare services in case they contract coronavirus. But doctors are urging people not to delay seeking medical help for serious health conditions, because the sooner they seek help the better the outcome is likely to be.

If are asked to see a GP or specialist, they will follow strict guidance on infection control to protect themselves and other patients. This might include wearing personal protective equipment.

To find out about the common signs and symptoms of cancer, please visit [macmillan.org.uk](https://www.macmillan.org.uk)

RAISING AWARENESS OF CANCER IN EDUCATION

Over the last few months, we have been continuing to raise cancer awareness with a particular focus on extending our engagement to secondary schools, colleges and universities.

Prior to temporary closure of educational establishments due to Covid-19, our Cancer Champion Volunteer Co-ordinator and Project Officers had visited several secondary schools and colleges across the Humber, Coast and Vale region to deliver cancer champion awareness sessions to students.

John Leggott College in Scunthorpe was one of the first colleges to offer a Cancer Champion session to students and Wendy Siddall, the college Wellbeing Officer, said:

“It is important that our students are aware of what support is in their local community, by taking part in the training they are more aware of cancer and have the knowledge to encourage others to seek the support from their GP.



“The training was interesting and well delivered.”

Cancer Champion training was also delivered to Health and Social Care students at East Riding College and when asked to name one thing that they would take away from the training, the students said:

- Not to feel too scared and to be open about cancer
- If worried about symptoms get them checked
- Being more confident to discuss
- Symptoms of different cancers

Rachel Foot, Industry Work Placement Co-ordinator, said:

“Emma delivered training to our medical academy learners at our Bridlington campus, and subsequently delivered the session again to our Level 3 Health and Social Care learners in Beverley. I cannot thank Emma enough as this really was an informative session, not only for

our learners but for all staff that attended.”

Although Covid-19 has resulted in a pause of training sessions, Cancer Champion Volunteer Co-ordinator, Emma Lewin, is thanking all those who are continuing to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of cancer in their communities:

“We understand that you may be anxious about Covid-19 however, we want to stress the continued importance of diagnosing cancer early at this current time.

“It is vital that if you are experiencing any signs or symptoms of cancer, or if something is either persistent, unexplained or unusual for you, that you discuss this with your GP.

“To all of our current Cancer Champions, thank you for your ongoing support in helping to raise the importance of early detection and awareness.”



PERSONALISED FOLLOW UP FOR BREAST CANCER PATIENTS

All three hospital trusts in the Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance have met the national target of having a personalised stratified follow-up protocol and pathway in place to enable breast cancer patients to receive the follow-up after their treatment which is appropriate for them, by March 2020.

This achievement is due to the hard work and commitment of many nurses, clinicians, managers and others who are to be congratulated.

As a result of the personalised stratified follow-up pathway, rather than a “one size fits all” approach after the end of treatment, most patients will be enabled to safely “self-support” while still receiving regular mammograms and any other tests they require.

To enable this to happen, they will be offered elements of the personalised care package – holistic needs assessment and care plan, treatment summary which details the treatment they have

received and it’s possible on-going impact, information about “red flag symptoms” to look out for and who to contact with any concerns, and health and well-being information, education and support.

Where this approach is not appropriate for a patient, they will continue to receive regular follow up appointments.

For more information, about personalised care, please visit <https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/>

LUNG HEALTH CHECKS IN HULL



Coronavirus Update

With pressures across the system and in line with national guidance, the Lung Health Check service has temporarily stopped.

The service will resume as soon as we can safely do so and following national guidance .

We would like to reassure people who have had their appointments cancelled, that you will be the first to be invited back to the Service once it starts again.

Please check the [Lung Health Check website](https://lunghealthcheck.org.uk) for updates.

lunghealthcheck.org.uk

WELCOME: LIV GRIFFITHS MACMILLAN COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT ASSISTANT



Liv joins Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance from a marketing agency background where, for the past two years, she led on content and social media campaigns for clients across the UK.

In her new role, Liv will be supporting the delivery of the Cancer Alliance’s Communication and Engagement Strategy through management of

the Cancer Alliance website and social media accounts, as well as developing content and co-ordinating events. Liv said:

“In my new role, I’m looking forward to doing something that will make a positive difference for those affected by cancer, as well as meeting all my new colleagues when the time finally comes!”

STAY CONNECTED

Follow the Cancer Alliance on social media:

 [hvcanceralliance](https://www.facebook.com/hvcanceralliance)

 [@HVCancer](https://twitter.com/HVCancer)

CANCER CARE CENTRES

SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH CANCER DURING CORONAVIRUS

Across the Humber, Coast and Vale region, Macmillan Information Centres are adjusting what they do to continue to provide valuable support for those affected by cancer.

While the centres are temporarily closed, people with cancer can be assured that support is still available. Cancer Care Centres at York Teaching Hospital NHS Trust, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust are offering support to patients, their families and friends over the phone.

Pat Chennells, Macmillan Information Facilitator for Scunthorpe, Grimsby and Goole Hospitals, said:

“It’s understandable that those affected by cancer may be anxious



about the impact of coronavirus but I want people to know they are not alone.

Macmillan Cancer Support has placed COVID-19 guidance on their website, and Cancer Care Centres within the Humber, Coast and Vale region have adapted their services to ensure emotional support is still available via telephone.

“I’d like to encourage people to get in touch if they are worried about the impact of COVID-19.

We are still here to provide a listening ear and offer support to those who need it.”

Contact information for Cancer Care Centre within the Humber, Coast and Vale region:

Cancer Care Centre York Hospital

Telephone: 01904 721 166
Lines open between Monday and Friday, 9am – 4.30pm

Cancer Information and Support Scarborough Hospital

Telephone: 01723 342 606
Lines open between Monday and Friday, 9am – 4.30pm

Macmillan Information Centre Castle Hill Hospital

Telephone: 01482 461154
Lines open between Monday and Friday, 9am – 4.30pm

Macmillan Information Centre Grimsby and Goole Hospitals

Telephone: 03033 305372 or 07858 924283
Lines open between Monday and Friday, 9am – 4.40pm





SUPPORT GROUP DIRECTORY

HELPING THOSE AFFECTED BY CANCER WITHIN OUR REGION

Many patients value the input of others who can help support their health and well-being in addition to their clinical team, during and after treatment. However, while there are many different organisations and support groups in existence, both locally and nationally, they may not be sure where to find them or know what they offer.

specific support groups, including Macmillan Cancer Support and 5k your way, Move Against Cancer.

If you know of a group or activity which can provide support for those living with and beyond cancer and their families and would like to know more about the directory, please email Karen at karenlindley@nhs.net.

Macmillan Living With and Beyond Cancer Project Officer, Karen Lindley, has begun to develop a Directory of Cancer Support Services for the Humber, Coast and Vale area. This aims to be a comprehensive tool which will be easily accessible on the [Cancer Alliance website](#) for patients, their family, carers and health providers.

It will include a wide variety of organisations from tumour



SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH CANCER DURING COVID-19

If you're someone affected by cancer, it's understandable you might be worried about coronavirus.

While the nation stays at home, the pandemic is changing how organisations offer their help, but it doesn't mean support is unavailable.

[Click here](#) to find examples of how organisations patients and others affected by cancer can find help and support from the safety of their homes.



CANCER ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

The first Humber, Coast and Vale Cancer Alliance Conference took place at York Racecourse on Thursday 5th March 2020.

Over 150 people attended the event including people living with and beyond cancer, healthcare professionals and representatives from organisations such as Intelerad, Cancer Research UK and Healthwatch.

The aims of the event were threefold.

1. To recognise and celebrate the exceptional work taking place across the Alliance.
2. To look to the future, including the impact of the NHS Long Term Plan and the Alliance's Annual Delivery Plan.
3. To facilitate relationships and networking across the patch.

The event consisted of snapshot presentations which showcased and celebrated the work that is taking place across the Alliance.

Among the speakers was David Fitzgerald, National

Cancer Programme Director from NHS England who spoke of the impact of the [NHS Long Term Plan for cancer](#).

To view a video of the event, speaker presentations, a feedback report and photos, please visit hvcanceralliance.org.uk.

