

Ambitions Partnership for Palliative Care and End of Life Care: Principles of Partnership

The following Principles of Partnership provide the criteria for membership of the Ambitions Partnership for Palliative Care and End of Life Care. These were agreed in December 2024 and will be reviewed in August 2026.

1. **Commitment to our purpose:** The Ambitions Partnership for Palliative Care and End of Life Care is a strategic partnership of national organisations, committed to improving the quality and accessibility of palliative care and end of life care for people of all ages in England, by:
 - Driving evidence-based transformation aligned with the **Ambitions Framework**
 - Identifying and influencing policy development with a collective voice, and
 - Collaboratively working on programmes and projects including impact projects, updates to the Ambitions Framework or development of any other relevant collective strategic document.

Partners are expected to attend Ambitions Partnership meetings twice yearly, either in person or online.

2. **Commitment to partnership working:** The Ambitions Partnership brings together members from the health and social care statutory sector, professional organisations, and the voluntary sector. The Ambitions Partnership requires a collaborative and collegiate approach to influencing. It requires member organisations to understand that the Partnership's influencing agenda, while focusing on cross cutting issues in Palliative Care and End of Life Care that affect all their beneficiaries, is distinct from but also complementary to that of individual member organisations.

Where Palliative Care and End of Life Care are not an influencing or policy priority for our members, we agree that the six Ambitions and eight Foundations set out in the Framework are congruent with our members' influencing agendas. Commitment to the Partnership requires agreement that no Partners may use their membership to promote their services for commercial purposes. Any new information or publication generated through joint working across the Ambitions Partnership shall belong equally to each member of the Partnership, subject to each partner's individual agreements/as permitted by partners' individual IP rights and license arrangements.

3. **Leadership commitment:** The Ambitions Partnership is Co-led by the National Clinical Director for Palliative Care and End of Life Care, NHS England, **with two Co-Leads from the Partnership: Advocacy and Clinical Practice / Workforce**. Co-leads will work closely together to drive evidence-based change, lead Steering Group meetings, and attend the NHS England Board for Palliative Care and End of Life Care on behalf of the Ambitions Partnership.

A strong and trusting **Steering Group** is at the heart of the Partnership. Steering Group members commit to attending regular meetings (quarterly). We understand that diary commitments may mean that Partnership members will not be able to attend a formal meeting and may have to delegate to members of their leadership teams, but this should be the exception not the norm.

4. **Commitment of time and resource to the Ambitions Partnership:** We require the support of Partners to support the NHS England Secretariat, to provide staff time and other resource as required. Any Partner may offer a meeting venue for an Ambitions Partnership meeting, or ad hoc sub-group working. The wider networks of Ambitions Partners bring strength to Ambitions projects, including influencing. Partners are expected to contribute staff time to engagement with those networks and groups which are relevant.

Annexe 1: **Joining and Leaving the Partnership**

1. Where an organisation wishes to **join** the Ambitions Partnership:

- Organisations can be proposed as new members by any member of the Partnership, or can approach the Partnership and request to join via the england.palliativeandendoflife@nhs.net email inbox an Expression of Interest.
- The Steering Group shall decide, in its absolute discretion, whether to put forward the organisation to the wider Ambitions Partnership for consideration for admission.
- If the Steering Group support the organisation becoming a member, the Co-Chairs will email the Ambitions Partnership asking if anyone has any objections to the organisation joining.
- If there are any objections this will be discussed at the next meeting of the Ambitions Partnership, the motion to permit the organisation to join shall be put to a vote, advance notice having been served. The motion shall require at least 75% of those attending to vote in favour.
- Any new organisation to join the Partnership must confirm acceptance of these Principles of Partnership by the Chief Executive or a Senior Director.

2. If an organisation wishes to **resign** from the Ambitions Partnership it shall inform the Partnership Co-Leads via england.palliativeandendoflife@nhs.net