

## **Assisted dying - professional leads working group: service development and delivery**

### **Group members**

Medical Director

Chief Nurse

Chief Pharmacist

Interim Chief Allied Health Professional

Director of Mental Health & Adult Social Care

Associate Medical Director for Prevention, Primary and Intermediate Care

Accident and Emergency Consultant – GMC lead contact

Associate Director, Health Policy - Health & Community Services (HCS)

Senior Policy Officer - Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance

*Observer:* Chief Inspector of the Jersey Care Commission.

### **Terms of reference and governance**

#### Background

1. The States Assembly agreed, in principle, that the GoJ should bring forward arrangements to provide for an assisted dying service in Jersey (November 2021) and instructed officers to lodge detailed proposals for debate by the States Assembly. Pending the outcome of the debate, preparation of a draft law will commence.
2. The Minister for Health and Social Services is the lead Minister for assisted dying; SPPP is leading on strategic policy and legislation development; the HCS Department is the key lead on matters relating to assisted dying service development and delivery; GOJ will work in consultation with the Jersey Care Commission regarding matters related to the regulation of an assisted dying services and the health professionals operating within that service.

### Purpose of the working group

3. To help ensure that, in the event that the States Assembly adopt legislation permitting assisted dying:
  - a. that a safe, high quality, patient-centred assisted dying service can be provided to Jersey residents in accordance with the provisions of the law
  - b. that the necessary protections and standards are in place for medical and care professionals engaged in the provision of the assisted dying service.

Note: A representative from the Jersey Care Commission will be invited to attend the professional leads working group meetings in the capacity of an observer and to support discussions about regulation of an assisted dying service.

### Functions of the working group

4. The HCS professional leads working group (“the working group”) is established to:
  - a. Consider and advise on an outline service delivery model for an assisted dying service in Jersey
  - b. Within this, give consideration to matters related to the development of an assisted dying service including the formulation of associated recommendations. These matters may include:
    - involvement of HCS staff (and/or staff of key delivery partners) in provision of an assisted dying service
    - provision of an assisted dying service to Jersey residents
    - development of clinical pathways
    - clinical governance
    - training
    - engagement / consultation with HCS staff and non-HCS medical professionals
  - c. give consideration to, and provide advice to Ministers about matters including:
    - legal definitions (inc: conscientious objection, terminal illness, unbearable suffering) and eligibility criteria
    - safeguards, including pre-approval process, consent management, advance directives
    - regulation
    - medical ethics
  - d. have oversight of liaison with relevant professional registration bodies and other relevant agencies in to ensure that:
    - registered professionals in Jersey (whether or not HCS employees), can participate in delivery of an assisted dying service in accordance with the requirements of their professional registration body and the associated standards
    - the necessary professional indemnity insurance arrangements are in place.

Reporting and governance

5. Discuss and agree reporting lines for each item during its consideration at the relevant working group meeting.
6. The Working Group will escalate proposed recommendations as required to the HCS Executive Leadership Team for final determination (note: this may not be required in all circumstances where the members of the working group have the necessary authority to determine recommendations without onwards referral, in which case the Working Group will keep the ELT team informed of the work of the group).
7. Where final recommendations relate to matters of strategic policy (as opposed to non-political operational or clinical matters) the Working Group will provide advice and/or recommendations to the HCS Minister, for their political determination in consultation with COM colleagues.
8. Where final recommendations relate to matters other than strategic policy, the Working Group will ensure the HCS Minister are fully briefed.

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