



Objectives and activities of East Coast Hospice

Public benefit

The project to build the Margaret Chadd House is the most important current development in East Norfolk & East Suffolk: this being the last area in the country without a hospice for adults. We have the highest cancer death statistics in the East of England and there is no price you can put on the quality of a 'good death'.

Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft have some of the highest statistics of deprivation in the country and research has shown that in areas of deprivation it can take twice as long to build and establish a hospice. These coastal towns have an exceptionally high number of retired elderly people, therefore requiring higher levels of these services of end-of-life care.

We all see in the media on a regular basis, the importance of choice. Choice is one of the greatest gifts any patient can receive, especially at the end of life. Without the choice to move from home to hospice at the end of life the alternative is an acute hospital ward. The benefit and importance of a hospice in its own grounds will be, therefore, a huge benefit to the local community (to patients and their families) for generations to come.

The Trustees objectives are to continue to raise funds and work towards providing a new ten bed hospice with day care facilities and other holistic provisions for the people in the Great Yarmouth and Waveney area, the only area in the country without an inpatient hospice.

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EAST COAST HOSPICE

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

East Coast Hospice is committed to equal opportunities for all people, and everyone involved in the organisation must commit themselves to our policy, including the responsibility for taking positive action to achieve its effective implementation. The Policy's aim is to ensure that those who face discrimination feel welcome anywhere that East Coast Hospice operates and feel welcome to use our services.

The implementation of the Equal Opportunities Policy is the responsibility of everyone in the organisation, including volunteers, but it is recognised that those working at management and board level have a specific duty to set the standard and act as good examples. We will work to integrate the policy into all contracts, conditions of service, and all aspects of our work.

We recognise, however, that we are part of a society that discriminates unjustly and unfairly against some individuals and groups by restricting their access to services and opportunities. This discrimination is always both individual and institutional, where discriminatory attitudes, practices and policies have become incorporated and integrated into an organisation and its structures.

East Coast Hospice is opposed to discrimination and its effects and it vows to eradicate discriminatory policies and practices from its services which it aims to provide equitably and justly.

We recognise that harassment is a significant form of discrimination. We are opposed to harassment in all its forms, view it as a serious disciplinary offence, and will take all necessary steps to eradicate it.

East Coast Hospice is committed to positive action in alleviating and bringing remedy to the effects of discrimination. It accepts that equal treatment in itself is insufficient and that positive action is also necessary in such areas as the employment of people from groups that suffer discrimination.

East Coast Hospice recognises that this policy document is not definitive and final but will keep it under constant review and welcomes opinions on its comprehensiveness, improvement and the clarity of its wording.