

# Hospice UK Wales Strategy Consultation Meeting

## Hospice UK strategy consultation

Sarah West (Director of External Affairs, Hospice UK) gave an overview of strategy survey feedback, noting:

- The regional spread was good, with the highest number of responses from the South East and London regions. Scotland exhibited great engagement proportional to the number of hospices in the region.
- Most respondents (30%) were chief executives, through Hospice UK received many responses from hospice Trustees, chairs, clinicians, and other professions as well. The pattern was broadly similar across Children's hospices.
- Data was highlighted as a priority for the sector, which is a refreshing surprise given that it has only become a priority within Hospice UK in the last year.
- Many comments from Children's hospices noted that they want to see greater differentiation between Together for Short Lives and Hospice UK.
- Workforce was also highlighted as an area that Hospice UK could support local hospices with, though work is more recent than commissioning.
- Equitable access and reducing barriers to equal and inclusive access was also raised as a critical area of work.

Sarah West then opened up the floor up to questions and comments.

### What are we doing well?

- The survey results resonate with issues that Welsh hospices are facing. Hospice UK is moving in the right direction in terms of priorities outlined in Sarah's presentation.
- Matthew Brindley (Policy and Advocacy Manager Wales, Hospice UK) does great work in pulling Welsh CEOs together – they would struggle to work across hospices without this support. Several hospices reiterated Matthew's importance.
  - Welsh hospices feel engaged with Hospice UK through Matthew B – it was suggested that this may be the reason for reduced levels of engagement with the head office.
- Hospices have seen the shift in the messaging from Hospice UK and in the challenges we're focusing on for hospices across the UK.

### Where could we improve?

- It would be good for Hospice UK to facilitate more sharing of best practice. We need to think about the best way to do this.
  - In response to this, Sarah W highlighted the work we are doing to share best practice already, and suggested that perhaps we need to work on making sure people are aware of this.
  - A link to the Examples of Innovation webpage was shared in the chat
- It can sometimes feel (especially in the past) that Hospice UK is focused on England.

- Hospices asked that Hospice UK ensure the continued support of Matthew, as his role helps to keep focus on Wales and the different landscape Welsh hospices are working with.
- Sarah W agreed with the historical focus on England and asked that Welsh hospices let us know when we're not getting it right.
- Hospice UK does lots of work that Welsh hospices don't utilise, especially within our clinical workstreams. We need to work a lot harder at reaching out to clinical teams in Wales, as they could really benefit from our work.

### Considering Hospice UK's place

- Hospices asked that Hospice UK consider where they can be most beneficial in discussions within Wales, especially with the Welsh government.
  - There are places where Hospice UK's involvement can create a barrier, and others where Hospice UK's presence can act as a facilitator – we need to identify these points. Often our benefit is in providing a national voice.
- Hospice UK needs to consider where it fits in with Hospices Cymru.