

## **CAMPAIGN FAQs**

### **Why can't the hospice continue as it is?**

The lease for the Cransley Hospice building adjoining St Mary's Hospital ends in November 2023. It will not be renewed.

In any case, the unit is cramped, overcrowded, poorly laid out and lacking storage space. It does not offer the facilities for families and carers that other hospices can provide, such as private rooms for discussions with families.

The hospice urgently needs to find a new home, if people in the north of the county are to continue to have access to end-of-life inpatient care close to home.

### **Why is the best option thought to be a new hospice development?**

If we are to continue to provide high-quality end-of-life inpatient care, we need facilities which are fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, it's very difficult to find a ready-made building which is suitably located and can meet our needs.

We also know that because of our growing population, the number of specialist palliative care beds in North Northamptonshire will need to double to 18 by 2028. This means we need to build in the potential for expansion.

For these reasons, the hospice trust has concluded that a new build is the best solution, following a detailed analysis of the options. This could involve a stand-alone hospice building, or its inclusion within a bigger new development.

### **What happens if the money isn't found for a new hospice?**

As Cransley Hospice cannot continue in its current building beyond 2023, our existing hospice beds in the north of the county will be lost if we cannot find a suitable new home in time.

This would leave all of North Northamptonshire without any hospice beds, forcing people needing inpatient hospice care to travel to Northampton or beyond. This would be especially difficult for anyone without their own transport. It's vital we don't allow this to happen.

In theory our other services, including Hospice at Home, could continue. However, without the inpatient unit, our fundraising to pay for those services would be significantly compromised.

### **How is the hospice currently funded?**

Hospice services in Northamptonshire are jointly funded by charity and by the NHS.

Cransley Hospice Trust works in partnership with Cynthia Spencer Hospice in Northampton and the county's NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups – Nene and Corby – to commission hospice services for the whole county. This involves working out what services are needed and paying for them.

Cransley Hospice Trust raises funds for services in the north of the county – providing £1.4m in 2018. Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is paid to provide these services.

### **Why should the NHS bail out the hospice?**

“Bailing out” is not the right way to look at it! Hospice services in Northamptonshire are already paid for collaboratively by the two hospice charities and the NHS, through Nene and Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups. The CCGs recognise that specialist end-of-life care and support are essential.

This funding is for the cost of running hospice services on a daily basis. The financial backing we're seeking to help us sustain hospice beds in the north of the county is a separate issue. It requires a one-off investment rather than ongoing support, and Cransley Hospice has committed to raising at least £3m – more than a third of the total needed.

Our services not only help our patients, there are also major benefits for the NHS and social care.

Our care – both at the hospice and in people's homes – regularly prevents the need for urgent NHS involvement. For some patients, this can be frequent. Every time our care averts an unscheduled trip to hospital, we help to ease the major pressures on our local NHS. Any loss of hospice beds in the north of the county could therefore lead to considerable extra pressure on Kettering General Hospital.

This preventive work by Cransley Hospice also delivers significant potential savings to the NHS:

- £250 per 999 ambulance journey
- £50-£400 per A&E visit

- £400 per day for a hospital stay

The hospice is seeking opportunities for our local NHS and social care system to provide financial and other support, to safeguard hospice beds in North Northamptonshire.

### **What can I do to help the hospice achieve its plans?**

There are various ways you can help:

- Actively show your support for the hospice and our plans. We have set up a special pledge charter for you to do this.  
<https://www.cransleyhospice.org.uk/cransley-hospice-charter/>
- Spread the word amongst your friends, family and work colleagues, and recruit them as supporters too. You can do this through conversations, and by following us on social media and sharing our posts - @cransleyhospice on Twitter, Cransley Hospice Trust on Facebook and LinkedIn

### **Can I donate or fundraise for the new hospice building?**

We're grateful for any such offers, but we're not publicly fundraising for this project at this stage. It wouldn't be honest, while we're still at the stage of trying to ensure that our vision is achievable. The last thing we want to do is to accept donations and then not be able to use them as intended!

If we can secure the support we're seeking from the local health and care system, we are likely to launch a fund-raising appeal at that point.

In the meantime, we welcome all donations to help us continue our important work – both in our existing inpatient unit and in people's homes.