

Date: 12 December 2014  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref:  
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Dear Colleague

## **PALLIATIVE CARE IN DEMENTIA – A training programme INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS**

We are writing to invite applications from social care staff to participate in this free Palliative Care in Dementia Training Programme.

The target audience for the programme are staff who are working with people who are living with dementia and who are working in:

- Care homes; and/or
- Care at home services

### **Background and Context**

Scotland's first National Dementia Strategy was launched in June 2010. The strategy identified key challenges that needed to be addressed to improve support, care and treatment for people living with dementia, their families and carers. It also outlined key actions to improve the dementia knowledge and skills of health and social services staff. This resulted in the development of *Promoting Excellence: A framework for all health and social services staff working with people with dementia, their families' and carers*<sup>1</sup> and the *Standards of Care for Dementia in Scotland* published in June 2011<sup>2</sup>. The second National Dementia Strategy (2013-2016) emphasises that services and support from diagnosis, and throughout the course of the illness, including supporting the needs of carers, must continue to improve, be person-centred and must understand care and support from their perspective. The palliative care programme is part of the wider workforce development plan NES and SSSC are taking forward to support implementation of *Promoting Excellence*, the *Dementia Standards* and delivery on the National Dementia Strategy.

### **Programme Information**

Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life and the eventual dying process for people with dementia and there is considerable evidence that it remains an area of dementia care that requires improvement.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/resource/doc/350174/0117211.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/350188/0117212.pdf>

To support the development of health and social services workforce capacity and capability in palliative and end of life care for people with dementia, NES/SSSC are working in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland Centre for Policy and Practice at University of West of Scotland to deliver this Palliative Care training programme, which is aligned to Promoting Excellence enhanced practice level. The programme is based on the established, award winning palliative and end of life course developed by Alzheimer Scotland.

The programme consists of 2 days face to face training delivered to two cohorts during March 2015. In addition to completing the work books, there is pre course work, including exercises before each of the training days and a final reflective account of 1500 words based on the implementation of an Action Plan. The training will be delivered on the following dates:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Group</b>	Glasgow	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	5 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Final submission date: end May 2015
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Group</b>	Edinburgh	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Final submission date: end May 2015

A total of **39 places** on the programme are now available.

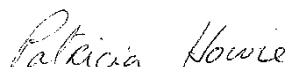
### Application Guidance

Eligibility Criteria	
Essential	Desirable
Staff members must :	It is desirable that staff members :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be working with people who are living with dementia and be working in a : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care home service; or</li> <li>Care at home service</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have attained SVQ Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7, or equivalent award</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have attained Dementia Skilled Practice Level before undertaking the Palliative Care in Dementia Training Programme, as the programme is intended to enable staff to attain Enhanced Practice Level in palliative care in dementia</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have the capacity to undertake training and study at Dementia Enhanced Practice level</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be committed, and have organisational support, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend 2 day face to face training.</li> <li>Embed a palliative care approach in their practice area.</li> <li>Participate in evaluation of the programme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embrace the aspirations and outcomes of Promoting Excellence</li> </ul>	

Please submit the completed applications on the attached form by **10th January 2015** at the latest.

If you require any further information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact us at the e-mail address provided below.

Yours sincerely



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