

Compassionate Communities: Mobilising Death Literacy in Norfolk and Waveney

Once upon a time, as a society we saw dying as a medical event and the sole responsibility of health and care professionals.





Everyday, the growing demand for palliative and end-of-life services was challenging our capacity to deliver the standard of care we'd like for our family and friends.

One day, a group of like-minded citizens decided to come together to work with the NHS England ambition statement: Each Community is Prepared to Help.





Because of that, we worked alongside schools, businesses, community groups, charities, and statutory services to connect and advertise opportunities to access and receive local support.

Until finally, our citizen-led Community of Practice enabled more local residents to die in their preferred place following a transfer from hospital. This was attributable to an enhanced interface with care services and increased social cohesion at a community level.