

Social Worker

A diagnosis of cancer or a life-threatening illness can be devastating and disruptive to existing lifestyle and routines. It may affect your finances, employment, relationships or physical abilities causing additional or unforeseen difficulties.

The Cancer and Palliative Care Social Worker can listen to concerns and offer advice and support where possible. With close links to other hospital staff and external agencies, including Social Services, Department of Work and Pensions, Housing Teams and Macmillan, referrals to appropriate services can be organised.

Social Work Support

Support may include:

- Information about available financial and practical help, including housing and employment concerns.
- Referral to trained benefit advisors who can visit you at home and complete application forms
- Information and advice about local statutory and voluntary services, and referrals to them where appropriate
- Support during your hospital treatment or inpatient stay

The dedicated support of the Social Worker is available to any individual, and/or their family/carers known to the hospital's Cancer Support or Palliative Care Nurse Specialist.

Contact Details

The Cancer and Palliative Care Social Worker is available 8.30am-3pm on a Tuesday and Thursday and 8.30am-midday on a Friday morning. If you or your family wish to speak to me please call me on:

020 8546 7711 ext. 3280

(Direct Line: 020 8934 3280)

An answerphone is available and is used during working hours as I am often away from my desk. Please do leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. If urgent, please contact your Nurse Specialist.

I am employed by the Royal Borough of Kingston but work solely with patients and family members known to the hospital's Cancer and Palliative Care Teams, regardless of their address.

Demographic details and written case notes of all referrals are kept on the IT system, used by Royal Borough of Kingston Adult Social Services Team.

Cancer Support Services

Kingston Hospital provides the following services for cancer patients and their carers:

Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centre

Ground Floor
Sir William Rous Unit
Kingston Hospital
02089735001

Cancer Counsellor

Sally Parr
02089342114
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
10am-2pm

For further information, please speak to your Nurse Specialist or contact the Macmillan Information and Support Centre on (020)89735001

If you require this leaflet in a different format, size or language, please ask.

Useful Contacts

Macmillan Cancer Support

Tel: 0808 808 0000
www.macmillan.org.uk

National Cancer Action Team

www.nhs.uk/ips

Support with Finances

Benefits Enquiry Line

Tel: 0800 882200
Textphone: 0800 243355

Disability Living/Attendance Allowance Helpline

Tel: 08457 123456

Employment and Support Allowance Claim Line

Tel: 0800 0556688

Tax Credits Helpline

Tel: 0345 3003900

Pension Credit Helpline

Tel: 0800 991234

The Citizens Advice Bureau offers free advice and assistance to resolve legal, money, housing and other problems. Your nearest office can be found at:
<http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Kingston Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust



Social Worker

Cancer & Palliative Care

Catherine Hitchcock
020 8934 3280

A guide for patients and carers.