

A statement on the revision of the 2015 NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines made on behalf of:

- the Association of Hospice & Palliative Care Chaplains (AHPCC)
- the College of Health Care Chaplains (CHCC)
- the Network for Pastoral, Spiritual, & Religious Care in Health (Network)
- the UK Board of Healthcare Chaplains (UKBHC)

NHS England have shared with us the following summary of the process and timetable for re-writing the 2015 NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines along with details of who will chair the steering group and the purpose of that group.

NHS England and NHS Improvement have begun the process of commissioning an external provider to re-write the NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines, last published in 2015. A re-write is required to capture key developments in the field and to ensure due consideration into how high quality pastoral, spiritual and religious care can be delivered equally to patients of all religions and beliefs.

The target date for the publication of the updated guidelines is April 2022. A Steering Group is being stood up to assist with the development of the guidelines and critically to ensure the provider hears the views of a wide range of people, networks and interest groups. The first meeting of the Steering Group will take place in September and includes members of key networks and representative bodies, patients and working chaplains.

The steering group will be chaired by the Reverend Professor Mark Cobb, Clinical Director Therapeutics and Palliative Care, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The steering group will include representations from the:

- Heads of Patient Experience Network
- Nursing Director or equivalent at Trust level with the responsibility of overseeing Chaplaincy services
- NHS Employers
- CQC
- NHS England and NHS Improvement policy teams
- Health Education England
- Chaplaincy Networks
- Working Chaplains
- Patient Representatives

As the main chaplaincy bodies relating to NHS chaplains in England, the AHPCC, the CHCC, the Network and the UKBHC recognise the need for ongoing development of guidance as the profession evolves. Having, through the Chaplaincy Forum, had opportunity to comment on and shape the process for the re-writing of the guidelines, we support the broad plans NHS England have put in place.

Each of the following are very happy to be contacted by members/registrants of their organisations in relation to the rewriting of the guidelines.

Simon Betteridge (Chair, UKBHC) Simon.Betteridge@uhcw.nhs.uk
or admin@ukbhc.org.uk



Mark Burleigh (Chair, the Network) chair@network-health.org.uk



**Network for Pastoral, Spiritual &
Religious Care in Health**

...transforming patient experience

Simon Harrison (President CHCC) president@healthcarechaplains.org



Keith Morrison (President AHPCC) keith.morrison@ahpcc.org.uk



Association of Hospice & Palliative Care Chaplains