

How to access us

- You can telephone The Beacon Centre on 01483 783400 Monday-Friday between 9am - 4.30pm. You can leave a message for us, or if the telephone line is busy, you may leave a message on the answer phone. AIOI messages are responded to quickly during the working week.
- If you wish to leave a message for the Health Care Assistant after 5pm who is due to visit you that night, please contact your Twilight Community Nursing Team who may be able to contact the Health Care Assistant direct. (Guildford & Waverley Twilight Team Tel : 01483 449827 Blackwater Valley & Hart Tel: 01483 782739)

If you have any comments about the care you or your relative receives, please contact:

Susan Folan, Public Involvement Lead at The Beacon by phoning 01483 783400 or by letter.

*We welcome any Donations to our charity,
"The Beacon Appeal"
to support the ongoing work of this team.
Thank you.*

The Beacon

Community Cancer and Palliative
Care Service
The Beacon
Gill Avenue
Guildford GU2 7WW
Phone: 01483 783400
Fax: 01483 783401
Email: the.beacon@shb-tr.nhs.uk

The Beacon Services are part of:
Guildford & Waverley PCT
Broadmede House
Farnham Business Park
Weydon Lane
Farnham GU9 8QT
01252 305700

The Beacon Care at Home Team

**(Supported by Marie
Curie Cancer Care)**

Local Care and Support at Home

**Specialist Community Cancer
& Palliative Care Service**



The Beacon Care at Home Team

Who we are

We are a small local team of experienced and trained Health Care Assistants who provide short term personal care and support for people coping with cancer or other progressive illness.

We help at times of crisis such as in later stages of illness and towards the end of life, supporting people and their families at home alongside the District Nurses attached to your GP Practice.

We cover the area of Guildford and Waverley, Blackwater Valley & Hart and Surrey Heath.

We work as part of a Specialist Community Cancer and Palliative Care Service based at the Beacon in Guildford.

We also work in close partnership with Marie Curie Cancer Care.

We are funded primarily through donations to The Beacon Appeal with some funding from the NHS and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

How we can help

We can help you and your carer/partner at home during later stages of illness and towards the end of life. Usually this is for a period of several weeks, during which team members provide care and support overnight as well as during the day.

We can help by providing:

- Direct care to support your physical and social needs such as personal care, washing and dressing.
- Assistance with daily activities such as gentle exercise, preparing snacks and drinks.
- Emotional support and time to listen to any concerns.
- The opportunity for your carer or partner to have time for themselves, to go shopping, attend appointments, collect prescriptions etc.
- Care or monitoring overnight so that your carer or partner can sleep.

How we work

Your District Nurse has asked if we can provide short term care and support for you at home. This is in addition to the support you receive from your District Nurse (DN) who is responsible for planning your care.

We provide care and support overnight between 10pm and 7am in the same way as the Marie Curie Nurses, and for up to 2 hour periods during the day according to your needs.

We usually provide this level of care and support for a limited time, typically several weeks. During this time we liaise with your DN on a weekly basis about your care needs.

After this time, your District Nurse will review any ongoing care requirements that you may have and will discuss with you other services that may be able to help.

As we provide short term care and support during periods of crisis, the demand for our service is very high. We try to meet as many of the requests for help as possible, subject to our availability and workload commitments.