

Update from the Planning Ahead Service, Dec 22

My name is Jo and I am the Planning Ahead Coordinator for LS25/26 Primary Care Network. I work across the surgeries in the area and talk to patients and their families about planning ahead, especially thinking about if the patient was to become unwell or there was an emergency, including thinking about their future care and end of life planning.

I've had a good and busy first week in December with a combination of home visits, care home visits and joining the Leeds Bereavement Forum Annual General Meeting ([Leeds Bereavement Forum | Signposting bereavement care \(lbforum.org.uk\)](#))- a great organisation for supporting and signposting related to bereavement in Leeds.

I've seen a few families this week who have had a Recommend Summary Plan for Emergency Care and Treatment (ReSPECT) completed in hospital. I checked in with these families about the details on the ReSPECT forms, about plans for care if circumstances change, whether the families have arranged Power of Attorney for their parent and if there has been a will written or if they have thought about what their loved one would want for a funeral.

I've also had some similar conversations with patients who are residents of care homes, these residents sometimes have more complex health and communication needs. I've touched base with a couple of care home residents and their families, as well as asking residents for consent to work with them and their families. Sometimes patients have different records for planning ahead, including documents on primary care and hospital records, as well as paper documents in care folders. Part of my role is to collate this information and check that it is still relevant for the patient and their families.

This week I have also been granted consent to refer some patients to the amazing charity Swan Song ([Home - The Swan Song Project](#)). The Swan Song works with people to create songs, please see the link for more information.

For more information about the Planning Ahead Service in LS25/26, please visit our website, [Our Services - LS25/26 Primary Care Network \(ls2526pcn.co.uk\)](#).