

Appendix A – Briefing Note from the North London Hospice on the Phasing Out of the Liverpool Care Pathway

The independent Neuberger review of the Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) recommended that the LCP be phased out by 14 July 2014. In response to the report, The Leadership Alliance for the Care of Dying People (LACDP) published 'One Chance To Get It Right' in June 2014. The document outlines a new approach to caring for people in the last few days and hours of life, that focuses on the needs and wishes of the dying person and those closest to them, in both the planning and delivery of care wherever that may be. The approach is based on five new Priorities for Care that will be the touchstone for every point of care for those in the last days and hours of life and their families – from frontline health and care staff to commissioners and regulators.

The Neuberger report identified that the pathway approach to end of life care was flawed, rather than the principles of care at end of life. The recommendation was removal of the pathway and implementing individualised care planning with patients and their loved ones in line with the five priorities of care.

The Five new Priorities for Care are:

1. The possibility that a person may die within the coming days and hours is recognised and communicated clearly, decisions about care are made in accordance with the person's needs and wishes, and these are reviewed and revised regularly.
2. Sensitive communication takes place between staff and the person who is dying and those important to them.
3. The dying person, and those identified as important to them, are involved in decisions about treatment and care.
4. The people important to the dying person are listened to and their needs are respected.
5. Care is tailored to the individual and delivered with compassion – with an individual care plan in place