

INTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Lead Cancer Nurse

North East London Cancer Alliance | Band 8d | 2 days per week

Job title	Cancer Alliance Lead Cancer Nurse – North East London Cancer Alliance
Band	NHS Agenda for Change Band 8d
Hours	Two days per week (0.4 WTE)
Arrangement	Secondment / fixed-term expression of interest (12 months in the first instance, subject to review). Backfill will be provided to the releasing organisation
Reports to	Chief Medical Officer, North East London Cancer Alliance
Base	NEL Cancer Alliance, 20 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf E14 5HJ, London (hybrid working, with travel across north east London)
Closing date	5pm Friday 2 nd October 2026
Informal enquiries	Odewale.Femi@nhs.net , Cancer Alliance MD

The opportunity

North East London Cancer Alliance (NELCA) is a partnership that bring together healthcare organisations, staff, and patient advocates to coordinate and improve local cancer care. We are seeking an experienced and influential senior cancer nurse leader to join the Chief Medical Officer's (CMO) office as Lead Cancer Nurse, two days per week. This is an exceptional development opportunity for an established Lead Cancer Nurse to shape nursing and quality leadership at system level across one of the most diverse populations in the country, working across Barts Health NHS Trust, Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT) and Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The role is offered on a secondment basis, with backfill provided to the releasing organisation.

Supported by the Cancer Alliance Programme Leads, the post holder will provide senior professional nursing leadership and visible clinical voice within the CMO office. The post holder will provide senior nursing and Allied Health Professional (AHP) leadership across the Alliance's core programmes, ensuring that quality, safety, patient experience, workforce considerations and health inequalities are embedded in programme design, delivery and assurance.

- The Early Diagnosis programme focuses on increasing cancer screening uptake, improving referral pathways and supporting earlier diagnosis.
- The Diagnosis and Treatment programme drives improvements in the timeliness, quality and efficiency of diagnostic and treatment pathways, including pathway transformation and learning from clinical harm.
- The Personalised Cancer Care programme supports people to live well with and beyond cancer through personalised care, psychosocial support, rehabilitation, prehabilitation and supported self-management.

Across these programmes and the Alliance's Expert Reference Groups, the Lead Cancer Nurse will provide professional nursing and AHP leadership, advise programme and governance groups, champion evidence-based practice and support workforce development across North East London.

Key responsibilities

Reporting to the Chief Medical Officer, the Lead Cancer Nurse will support the CMO office to lead on the following portfolio:

- **Professional nursing leadership:** provide senior professional nursing leadership in the implementation of national cancer policy, the National Cancer Plan, NHS priorities and Alliance strategic objectives. Act as the senior nursing advisor to the Cancer Alliance Board, Programme Executive Group and clinical leadership teams
- **Health Inequalities:** working within existing structures, provide clinical leadership for reducing inequalities in cancer experience and outcomes, supporting targeted interventions for underserved communities across North East London.
- **Quality and nursing:** establish and lead a North East London Cancer Nursing Leadership Forum and provide senior nursing leadership across the Alliance, acting as the professional voice for cancer nursing and driving a system-wide focus on quality, safety and equity of care.
- **Governance and assurance:** includes quality, clinical harms.... provide nursing leadership for cancer quality governance across North East London, supporting assurance, learning from incidents, risk management and quality improvement activities across providers.
- **Clinical harm reviews (Diagnosis & Treatment): to have an awareness and oversight of the themes:** provide clinical oversight and assurance of clinical harm review processes across the providers, ensuring learning is captured and acted upon.
- **Cancer-related complaints:** provide senior clinical oversight of cancer-related complaints across the system, supporting themed learning, duty of candour to better support improvements in patient experience.
- **National Cancer Patient Experience Survey (NCPES):** working with providers, lead the Alliance's response to NCPES results, translating patient feedback into targeted improvement across the system.
- **Workforce and AHPs:** lead delivery of the Alliance's cancer nursing and AHP workforce priorities, including ACCEND implementation, uniform job descriptions and support for the CNS community across North East London.
- **Personalised Cancer Care:** chair the Alliance's Personalised Cancer Care group, providing senior clinical leadership to the delivery of personalised care interventions, psychosocial support and prehabilitation.
- **Education and the NEL Cancer Academy:** contribute to the Cancer Academy by providing clinical leadership to the development of education and training, including the NEL Cancer Academy platform, aligned to ACCEND and the Alliance's workforce strategy.
- **Patient stories and deep dives:** lead a programme of patient stories and deep-dive reviews, bringing the lived experience of patients and carers to Alliance boards and embedding insight into service improvement.

Who we are looking for

This role is open to senior cancer nurses currently working within North East London. The successful candidate will:

- Be a registered nurse (NMC) currently working as a senior / Lead Cancer Nurse at a senior level, with substantial post-registration experience in cancer care.
- Have a Master's degree or equivalent experience and Leadership qualification
- Evidence of ongoing CPD
- Have demonstrable senior clinical leadership experience, with the credibility to influence at executive and board level and across organisational boundaries.
- Have experience record in quality governance, including harm reviews, complaints oversight, duty of candour and clinical assurance.

- Bring experience of workforce development, education and multi-professional team leadership, ideally including AHPs and the CNS workforce.
- Be a confident chair and communicator, able to lead system-level groups and engage patients, carers and clinical teams with equal skill.
- Demonstrate a visible commitment to reducing health inequalities and improving patient experience across diverse communities.

What we offer

You will join a high-performing, nationally recognised cancer alliance with a strong track record of innovation and improvement. This role offers protected senior leadership development at system level, direct working with the Alliance CMO and Managing Director, and the opportunity to shape cancer nursing across North East London while retaining your substantive role. Backfill funding will be provided to the releasing trust for the two days per week.

How to express an interest

Please submit a short expression of interest (maximum two sides of A4) setting out your relevant experience, your motivation for the role and what you would bring to the portfolio above, together with a current CV, to nelondonicb.nelcanceralliance@nhs.net by 5pm Friday 2nd October 2026.

Applicants should confirm that they have discussed the secondment with, and have the support of, their line manager before applying. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a panel interview end of October/early November 2026.

For an informal conversation about the role, please contact Femi Odewal, Cancer Alliance Managing Director via odewale.femi@nhs.net
