



Supporting and working with community groups and clubs to promote a deeper understanding of local health and care needs and experiences

Spotlight on Olive Tree Cancer Support

The Olive Tree Cancer Support has been in existence for 28 years. Our Crawley Centre is in the grounds of Crawley Hospital. In September 2019 we opened our Information Hub at Horsham Hospital.



Receiving a diagnosis of cancer can be difficult, stressful and emotional for the patient and those around them.

The Olive Tree aims to provide a range of services to support from the point of diagnosis, through treatment and beyond, in fact for as long as people need us.

The Olive Tree Centre in Crawley is a place where patients and carers can come, meet and speak with others who understand and can help. Our Hub provides a different type of service, providing the initial contact for people in the Horsham area, supplying information and advice on local services as well as those available in Crawley.

The majority of services we offer are available to all at our Crawley Centre and include:

- **Emotional support** - Counselling, hypnotherapy and therapeutic art, which help with the emotional impact of a cancer diagnosis. We also have a successful coaching programme.
- **Complementary therapy** - A wide range of therapies form part of the Centre's holistic approach to cancer care. These therapies complement orthodox treatments, promote a feeling of wellbeing and help relieve symptoms of stress and anxiety.
- **Information** - we do not provide clinical or medical information but more practical concerns such as finance, benefits, returning to work and travel.
- We also have a full programme of additional activities, such as yoga and meditation classes, educational speakers, courses and workshops. Some of these are already being offered in the Horsham area and are co-ordinated by the Hub team. Please visit our website and social media pages for further details. You can also sign up for our newsletter by entering your email address in the box at the bottom of our home page.

It is important to add that patients and their families can also self-refer by telephone to book an appointment. All services are provided free of charge to those who are affected by cancer, although donations are always gratefully received.

The insight we hear from each person is collated and anonymised and forms part of the evidence that Healthwatch gather to identify common themes around what works and what could be improved for local people.

This insight is used to influence services development and can feed into:

- West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board
- HASC - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
- WSCC Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Safeguarding Adult Board
- Sussex Health and Care Partnership workstreams (the NHS Integrated Care System for Sussex).

Healthwatch West Sussex also share reports with the Care Quality Commission (who are responsible for the registration and inspection of services which deliver regulated activities) and to Healthwatch England to form part of the national picture used to influence national developments, such as the NHS70 10 year forward plan.

For more information about the Olive Tree Cancer Support: -

Crawley Centre - 01293 534465 and office@olivetreecancersupport.org.uk

Horsham Information Hub - 01403 672424 and horsham@olivetreecancersupport.org.uk

Website - www.olivetreecancersupport.org.uk

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Not only do we collect the experiences of local people, but we can also provide free information and guidance just call: **0300 012 0122**.

Email helpdesk@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk,

Website www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk.

healthwatch
West Sussex

You can also follow our social media channels:

Facebook [@healthwatchwestsussex](https://www.facebook.com/healthwatchwestsussex)

Twitter [@healthwatchws](https://twitter.com/healthwatchws)

If you are setting up or would like to share news of a similar project we would be interested to hear from you. Please contact Cheryl Berry, Community Partnership Co-ordinator, email: cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk