

Partnership working in Leeds : NHS libraries working with the hospices and universities across the city

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Background to Leeds

- NHS libraries in Leeds working together since late 1990s in various guises
- Partners
 - Leeds HA / PCTs & Trusts – LTHT, LMHT
 - Approx 17500 WTE staff
 - 9 libraries
 - Universities x 2
 - WYETC & Deanery / WYWDC

The steering groups

- Formalised through FLIS and WYETC mapping exercise
 - Initial library strategy
 - Library catalogue
- The LLISPB (part of Information Modernisation Board)
 - New strategy
 - From the beginning of 2005 = LLISPT

Partnership group

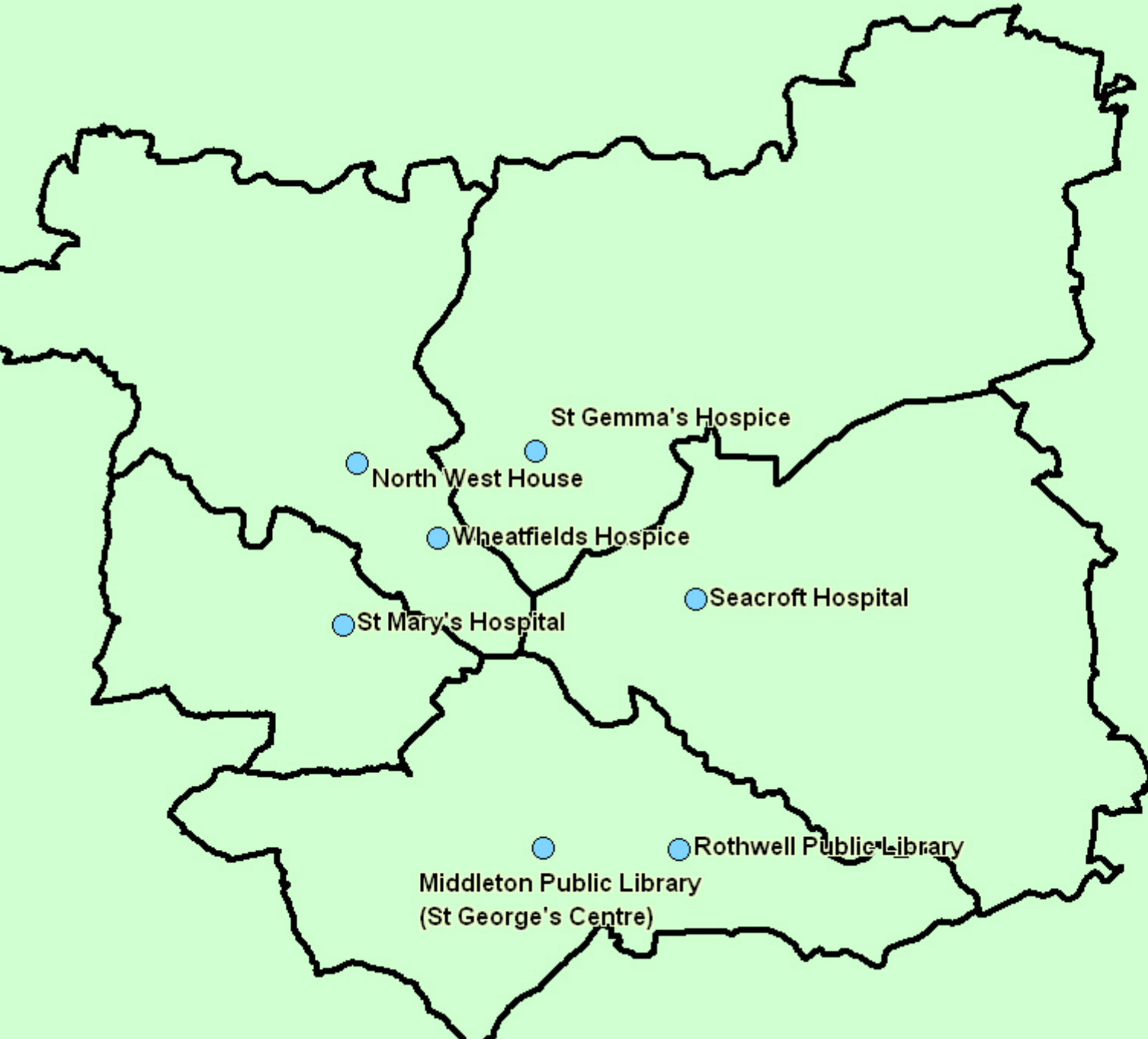
- Internal and external links
 - Best practice e.g. audit / PALS
 - ETD and e-learning
 - Public libraries
 - Hospices
 - Universities

Working with hospices

- Historic link with St Gemma's Hospice
 - As Leeds HA librarian, providing information and training about the regional database deal
 - On the local union list!
 - 32 beds – largest hospice in Yorkshire and one of the largest in the UK
 - Employs 200 staff – over 150 in direct patient care

Formalising the relationship

- As PCT librarian (Dec 2003) joint bid for funding from WYWDC for 4 PCs for the hospice library
- Bid devised in collaboration
 - Leeds Uni health sciences librarian, hospice consultant, citywide ETD and PCT library service
- Wide variety of users and uses
- Venue has parking and PCs!



St Gemma's Hospice

North West House

Wheatfields Hospice

St Mary's Hospital

Seacroft Hospital

Middleton Public Library
(St George's Centre)

Rothwell Public Library

More about St Gemma's

- Teaching hospice
 - CTRU – led by Mike Bennett
 - Yorkshire Palliative Medicine Regional Learning Group
 - District nurse education
 - Practice Enquiry sessions including critical appraisal training
 - Prout Conference Centre

Bid for Clinical Librarian

- Submitted (as yet unsuccessful) bid for Clinical Librarian in Palliative Care
 - To support all staff working in palliative care across the Leeds health community

Extending to other hospices

- Wheatfields Hospice
 - Meetings with education lead
 - Advertising Athens accounts
 - Delivered literature searching training for some of their staff (some PCT employed)
 - Critical appraisal and internet training booked
- Martin House Hospice
 - Work ongoing

Working with universities

- Working with Practice Learning Facilitators
- Working with Leeds University library staff
 - Exit / transferable skills lectures

Practice Learning Facilitators

- To cover all NHS trusts in Leeds
 - Originally met them by accident!
- Enabling placements
- Supporting mentors

Supporting mentors

- Attending mentor meetings
- Joint libraries stand at conference
- Arranging specific internet and literature searching sessions for mentors
- Acting as link for health informatics service

Working with Leeds Uni library staff

- Original plan was for “exit lectures”
 - Showing students that there is life after the university library
- Evolved into “transferable skills” sessions
 - Accessing NHS libraries and Athens account
 - National Library for Health & Core Content
 - Accessing databases via Dialog
 - Searching the web effectively (refresher)

Planning the training

- Written by:-
 - Alison Lahlafi (Faculty Team Librarian – Health) & Helen Thompson
- Delivered by:-
 - Alison Lahlafi & Deirdre Allen (pan Leeds Library & Knowledge Skills Trainer)
- Adult Nursing students – final year
 - Compulsory – but not all attended
 - Linked to current modules

What actually happened ...

- 3 x 2 hour sessions run Nov 2005
- After the first session
 - Students had not sufficiently developed their database searching skills in Ovid to make the leap
 - Students unaware of internet resources other than google

Taking it forward

- Sessions 2 & 3 more successful
 - How to use databases (Ovid refresher)
 - Demo and hands-on searching therefore switched to Ovid
- Learning points for us
 - Overwhelming message that students wanted the training earlier in their course
 - Any “exit lecture” to be done later in final year

Benefits of partnerships / 1

- Hospices
 - Improved access for hospice staff
 - Improved access (training resource) for PCT staff
 - Sharing best practice / skills etc
 - ? Clinical Librarian post

Benefits of partnerships / 2

- Universities
 - Supporting mentors out in the field
 - Closer working with university staff
 - Helped to embed library skills earlier into the courses
 - Enabling students to transfer skills into the workplace
 - Work transferable to Leeds Met

Has it all been worth it?

YES!

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