Ludlow Hospital League of Friends
Clinical Data Update Report – 1 April 2026 to 31 October 2026

Severn Hospice remains enormously grateful to the Ludlow Hospital League of Friends for your very generous £25,000 donation this summer. Your support makes a real difference and helps us continue to provide care, comfort and support to patients and their families when they need us most.

I thought it would be helpful to share our latest figures for South Shropshire, giving you an update on the number of local people who have accessed our services so far this year and demonstrating the reach of hospice care across the community.

This summary includes the total number of patients and referrals receiving Severn Hospice care from the South Shropshire area during the period 1 April – 31 October 2026.

For the purposes of this report, the South Shropshire area consists of the following postcodes: SY5 – 9, DY14, WV15-16.

During this seven-month period, 170 patients had 653 referrals into different Severn Hospice services and 24 patients had a total of 28 admissions.

Hospice Services accessed:

Service	**Referrals 01.04.26 to 31.10.26**	**Referrals 01.04.25 to 31.03.26**	**YTD as % of prior full year**
Community Services	228	441	51.7
First Contact	179	330	54.2
Community Day & Night Care	84	124	67.7
Therapies	72	200	37.5
Patient & Family Support Service	38	55	69.1
In-Patient Unit	28	42	66.7
Virtual Hospice	18	19	94.7
MND service	3	5	60
Specialist Medical Advice	3	8	37.5
TOTAL	**653**	**1,224**	**53.3**

The table above demonstrates that the level of hospice support being accessed across South Shropshire remains broadly consistent year on year.

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One particularly notable area is the Virtual Hospice, which in just seven months has already supported almost as much activity as was recorded throughout the whole of the previous year. This highlights the growing importance of a service that enables seriously ill patients to remain at home for as long as possible, while continuing to receive specialist support from a consultant-led hospice team.

For people living in more rural communities, this model of care is particularly valuable. It helps ensure that distance is not a barrier to accessing specialist hospice support and enables patients and their families to receive the right care, in the right place, at the time they need it most.

As a reminder of each service category:

Community Services = Nurse Practitioners, Nurse-Led Clinics, Early Intervention, Creative & Art Therapy, Creative Workshops, Consultant out-patient appointments and home visits.

Therapies = Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy for in-patients and community patients, Complementary Therapies for in-patients and community patients, and breathlessness outpatient support.

Patient & Family Support Service = Social Work and Chaplaincy/Spiritual & Religious Care for in-patients and community patients.

In-patient Unit = Specialist hospice care providing 24-hour assessment, symptom management, and end-of-life care for patients with complex needs.

First Contact = The first point of access to Severn Hospice Community Services from external referrers, offering assessment, advice, and coordination of care to ensure patients and families receive timely support and are signposted to the most appropriate hospice service.

Community Day & Night Care = Specialist hospice hands-on patient care and support provided in a patients' homes, helping patients remain comfortable and cared for day and night and who are deemed to be in the last 6 weeks of life.

Virtual Hospice = Specialist palliative care support delivered through face to face/remote assessment, advice, and coordination, helping patients receive expert hospice care in their preferred place of care during a period of crisis.

MND Service = Specialist support for people living with Motor Neurone Disease, providing symptom management, care planning, and emotional support for patients and families throughout their illness journey.

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Specialist Medical Advice = Expert palliative care advice and support for patients with complex symptoms, helping to optimise comfort, treatment, and care planning. Also support other healthcare professionals across the wider healthcare network in support and advice who are caring for patients with complex palliative care needs.

We hope this report provides a useful insight into the scale and reach of Severn Hospice care across South Shropshire, and the difference this support makes to local patients and families.

If you would like to know more, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be delighted to attend another League meeting to share more about our work and how your support is helping us to be there for people across the South Shropshire community.

With very best wishes

Tracie

Tracie Harrison
Director of Income Generation
Severn Hospice

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