northern cancer alliance

Working together to improve cancer care across the North East and North Cumbria

NHS

10 YEARS OF PROGRESS

A decade of working together to improve cancer care across the North East and North Cumbria

Celebrating 2016–2026 | Looking ahead to 2036

ONE SYSTEM • ONE AMBITION • BETTER CANCER CARE

Alison Featherstone | Managing Director

Northern Cancer Alliance

Built from partnership, shaped by place

2016 | OUR FOUNDATIONS

The Alliance began with a shared belief: no organisation could transform cancer outcomes alone.

SUMMER 2016
Initial regional engagement and agreement on Alliance leadership

OCTOBER 2016
First Board meeting and a clear system-wide mandate

A STRONG START
The Strategic Clinical Network and tumour pathway groups provided the foundation

EARLY INVESTMENT
Transformation funding supported digital imaging, pathology networking and community grants

Finding cancer earlier, closer to home

A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Prevention, awareness, screening and faster diagnostic pathways moved earlier diagnosis to the centre of regional action.

FIT

Bowel screening and primary care referral pathways

LUNG

Targeted screening and community outreach

CDCs

More diagnostic capacity closer to home

HPV

Prevention and the ambition to eliminate cervical cancer

Community Cancer Awareness

This year, 11 workers • 463 events • 7,874 people engaged • 141 education sessions targeted at communities of inequality

Innovation has changed what is possible

A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT

From precision diagnostics to more targeted treatments, science and technology have moved rapidly into everyday cancer care.

GENOMICS	Tumour profiling and biomarker-led decisions
PRECISION MEDICINE	Treatment increasingly matched to the biology of each cancer
IMMUNOTHERAPY & CAR-T	New options and durable benefit for some cancers
RADIOTHERAPY	Greater precision with less impact on healthy tissue
RPA	Automating routine tasks so teams can focus on more complex work

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The achievement is not one technology. It is the systems ability to adopt, learn and spread innovation together.

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Care beyond treatment

A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Cancer care increasingly supports the whole person: preparing for treatment, living well during it and rebuilding life afterwards.

PERSONALISED CARE	Holistic needs and individual priorities
PREHABILITATION	Physical and emotional readiness for treatment
LIVING WITH & BEYOND	Information, support and community connection
PATIENT EXPERIENCE	Feedback used to improve care
WORKFORCE	ACCEND, new & equitable roles and skills for the future

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The common measure of success: what matters to people, not only what is done to them.

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Working together has been our greatest achievement

THE GOLDEN THREAD

Clinical leadership, patients, communities, providers, commissioners, research and charities acting as one regional network.

SHARED PURPOSE	better outcomes and reduced inequalities
RESILIENCE	maintaining and restoring pathways through COVID-19
SPREAD	turning local learning into improvements
TRUST	relationships that make change possible

From a decade of progress to a decade of transformation

2026 | THE NEXT CHAPTER

The National Cancer Plan puts patients first and uses partnership, science and technology to reshape the whole pathway.

NATIONAL AMBITION

3 in 4 people diagnosed in 2035 cancer-free or living well five years later

HOSPITAL → COMMUNITY

Diagnostics, follow-up and support closer to home

ANALOGUE → DIGITAL

NHS App, digital pathways and real-time PROMs

SICKNESS → PREVENTION

Personalised risk, screening and earlier intervention

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2036: A system where every person benefits

The next ten years, built around five connected commitments

1	2	3	4	5
PREVENT	**DETECT**	**PROFILE**	**TREAT**	**LIVE WELL**
personalised risk, vaccination and targeted screening	earlier, faster diagnosis in communities	timely genomics for inherited risk and treatment	precision medicine, trials and advanced therapies	a personal cancer plan, neighbourhood support and real-time outcomes

OUR GOLDEN THREAD

People, places and organisations working together so innovation reaches everyone, inequalities narrow and care feels personal.

A healthier future for everyone, created together.

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