



**Leeds Palliative
Care Network**



**LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY**

Update on Leeds Dying Well in the Community Project

Ruth Gordon



Overall aim

*To improve the transfer of patients between
all providers to ensure continuity of
care and patient experience*

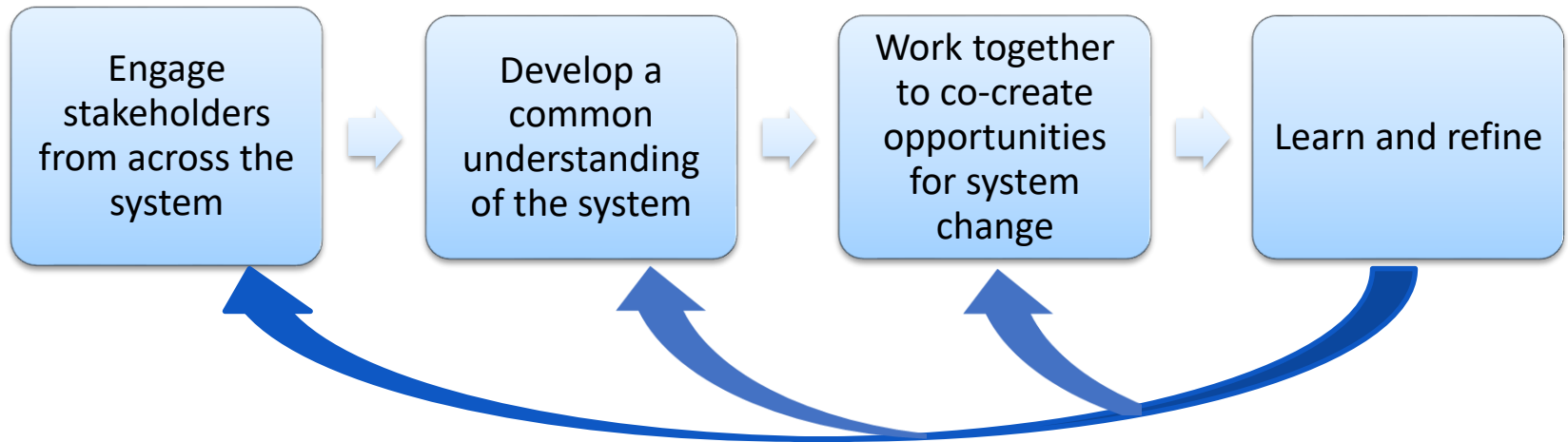
The project has two phases

- Phase 1 is to use a Whole Systems Approach
 - To develop a shared understanding of the whole system for end of life care within the community in Leeds, including interface with hospital-based care.
- Phase 2 is to ensure effective service redesign
 - to make the best use of the resources available to deliver the most effective and compassionate care outside of hospital for those people who are dying and for their carers and families. This will address the findings of the work in Phase 1

Who is involved?

- The work is led by LPCN and funding is by LAHP who have procured Leeds Beckett University to undertake the WSA element.
- This is supported by a System Wide Steering group with a full PID and regular meetings.
- Members include: LCH CCG, hospices, voluntary sector (including carers organisations), LTHT
- Ethics has been approved and clear governance is in place.

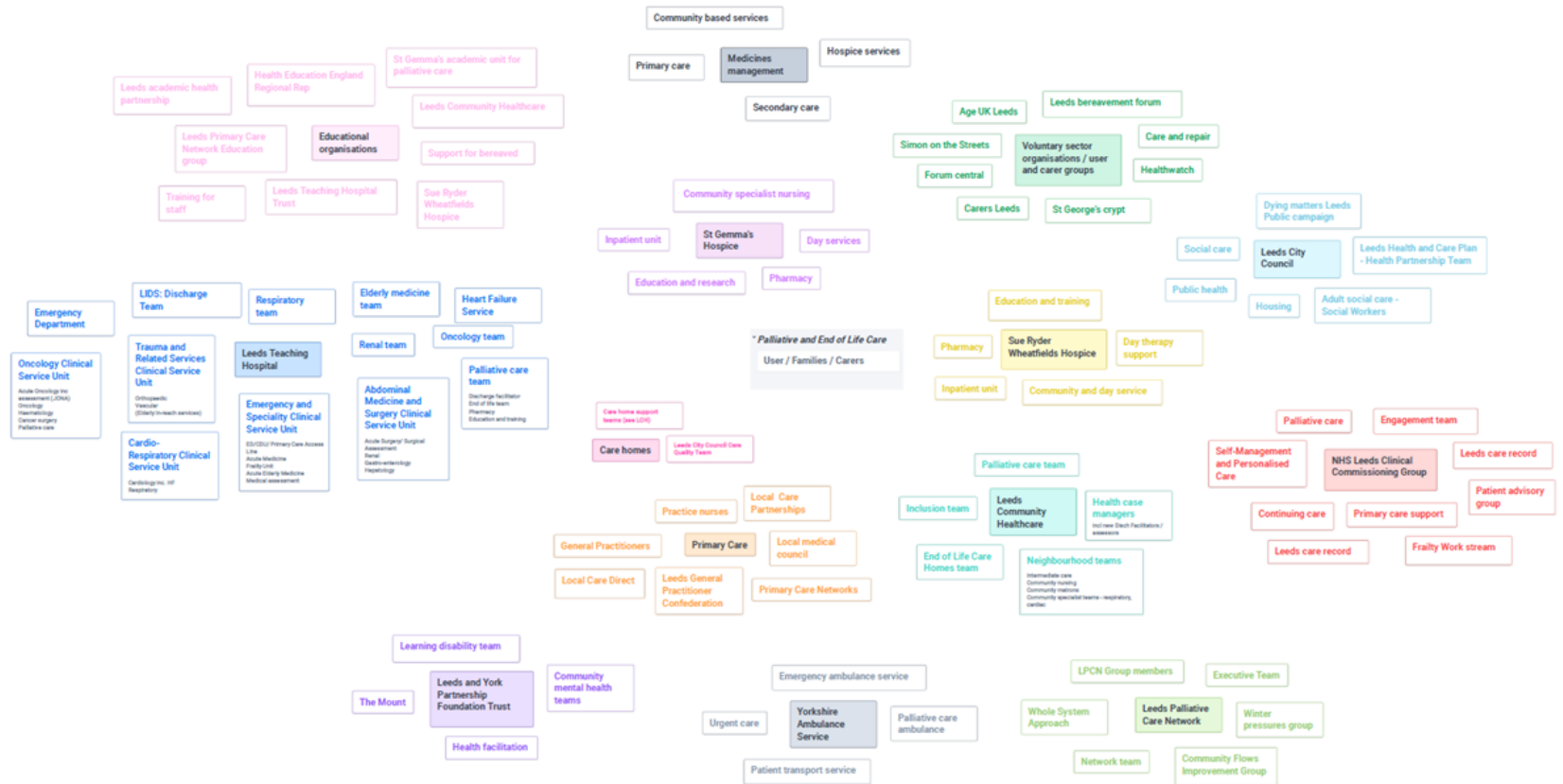
Whole System Approach methodology



Progress so far

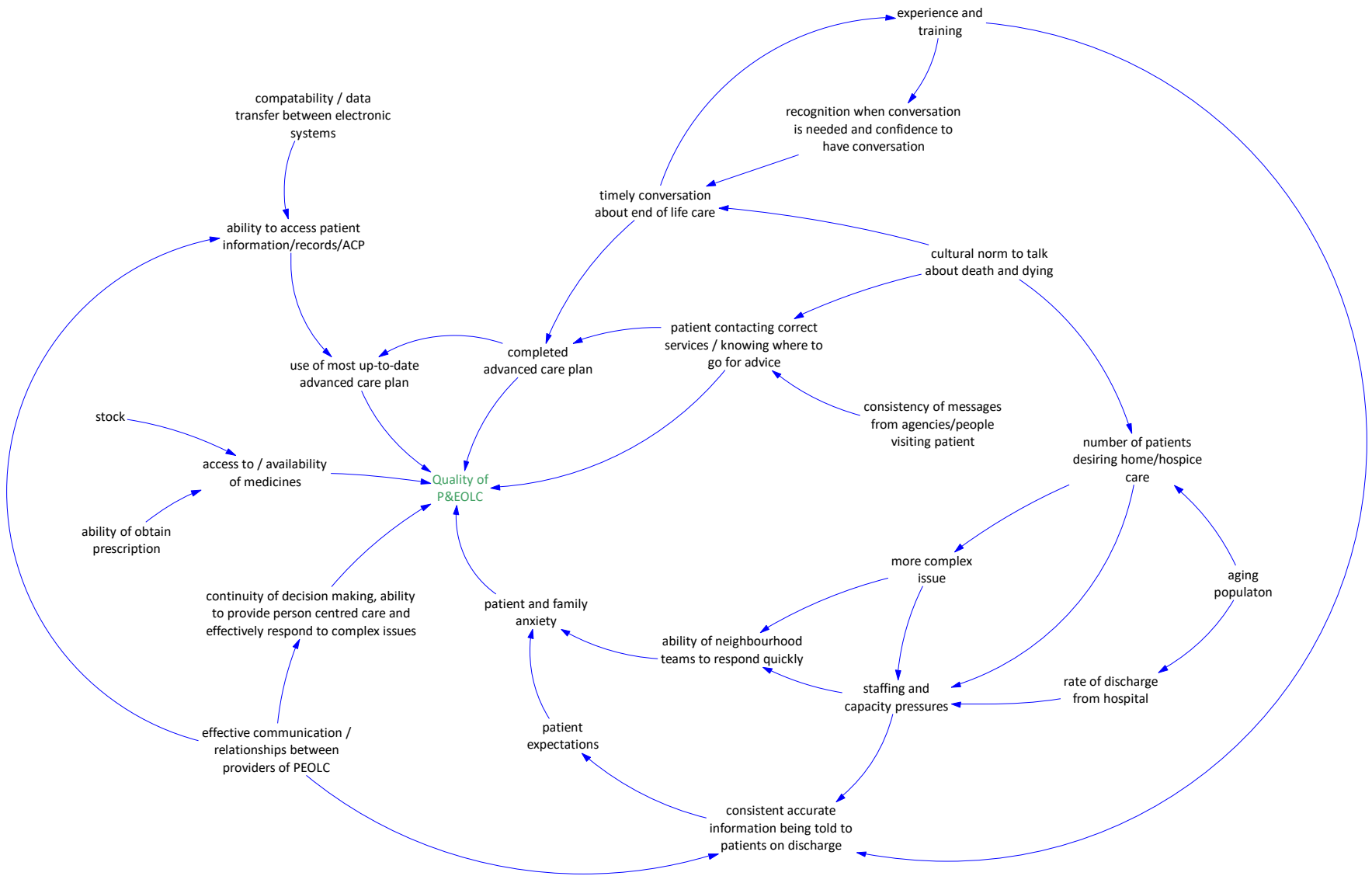
- We have held 8 events with over 100 people from acute and community health, social care, care homes and voluntary and independent organisations joining
- Work to gain the public (especially carer's view) was commissioned from Healthwatch
- Stakeholder and systems maps have been developed
- Headlines from this work has identified lots of positives as well a few key areas to consider for Phase 2

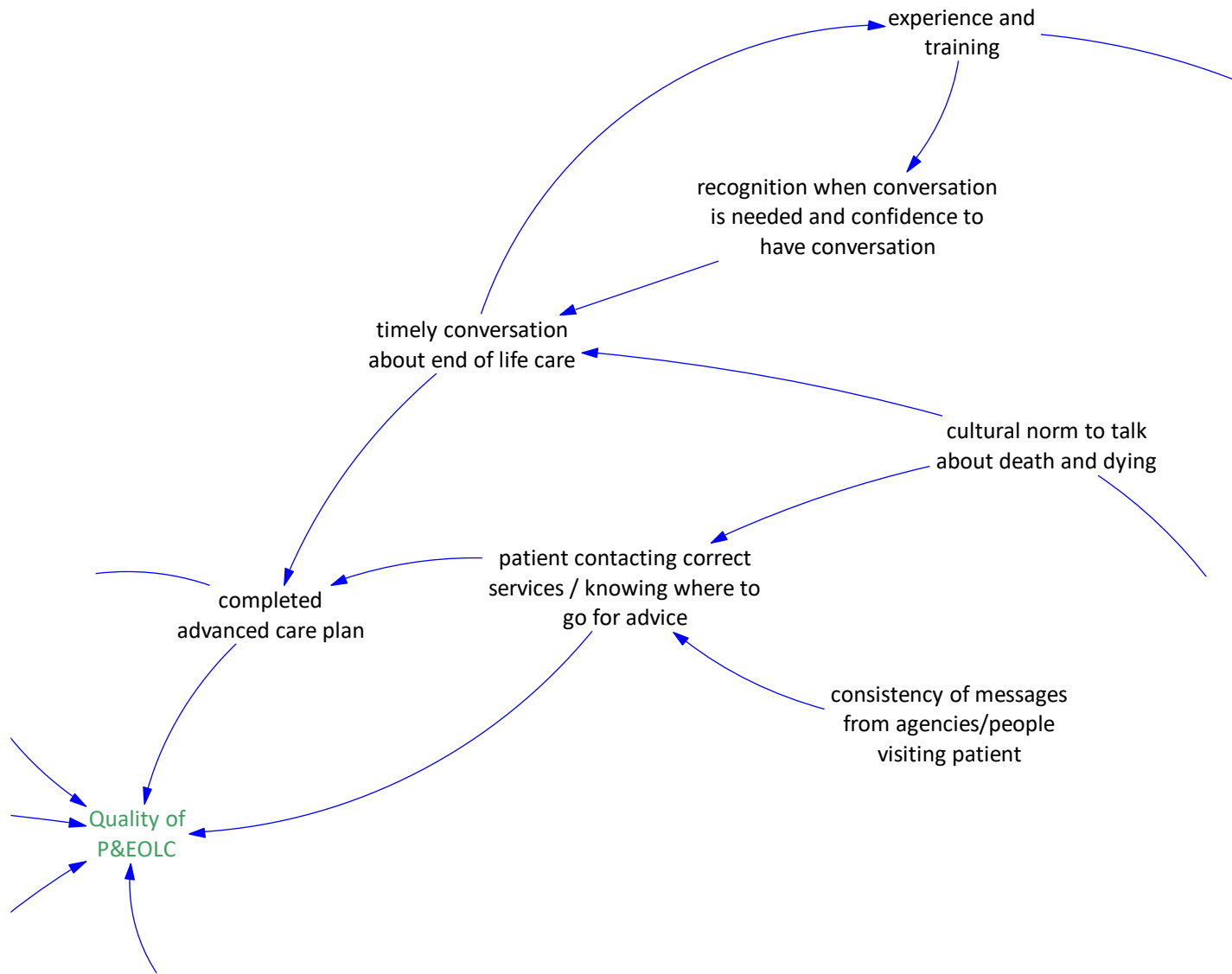
Stakeholder Map

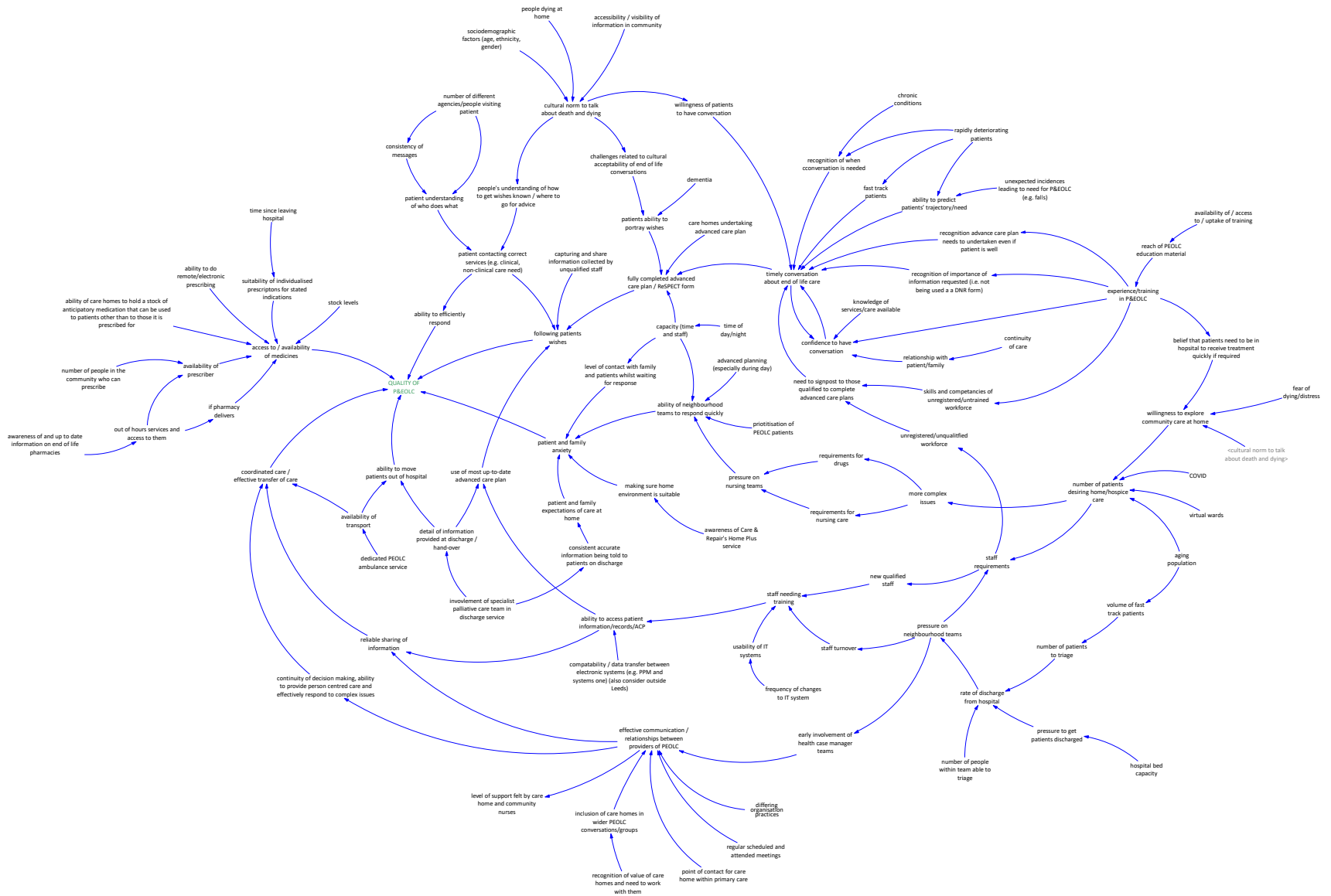


Systems mapping

- A visual representation of a system and their interrelationships
- Engages people in systems thinking
- A representation of stakeholders understanding of the system
- Identifies points to intervene
- Demonstrate how a wide variety of people can contribute
- Identifies knowledge gaps







Work with patients and carers

- We commissioned Healthwatch to undertake a survey (31 responses) and develop case studies (15) to understand people's recent experience of end of life care
- Experiences were reported with a 50/50 split of positive and negative experiences
- Key themes
 - Dignity, kindness and compassion
 - People asked for 2 things, to be with their loved one and for the loved one not to be in pain
 - People reported feeling they had to 'battle' for things which was exhausting at an already difficult time
 - There was also often confusion over the number of people who 'go up the path', who is in charge of care?

A public version of the report from the survey results will be available soon, along with a showreel and a series of short videos using quotes from some of the interviews.

Workshop and family/carer headlines

- Access to medicines
- Sharing of information
- Patient knowledge of who does what
- Having an ACP
- Issues of capacity and adequate staffing
- Early recognition of deterioration
- Willingness to explore care at home
- Ability of neighbourhood team to respond

Headline	What could be done
Patient and professional knowledge of who does what	<p>Clear service offer</p> <p>Ensuring that a clear case manager/named nurse is identified – what is already commissioned? Workshops and public engagement work suggest it is not always available across the city</p> <p>Process to clarify continuity of decision making – including response to increase in complexity</p> <p>Clear processes at transition points</p>
Advance Care Planning	<p>Advance Care Plan – needs to be up to date, useable and accessible</p> <p>Process to ensure there is only one ACP (not multiples) using same or similar format across the system</p> <p>Training for staff</p> <p>Clarity about where the latest version is stored – paper vs electronic</p> <p>Is everyone confident to start/have the conversation?</p> <p>More understanding of different cultural norms around death</p>
Early recognition of deterioration	<p>Can we start conversations “if the treatment is not successful” very early on?</p> <p>The right people to have the conversation are the ones the patient and family knows well – need to ensure that they are skilled, knowledgeable and confident</p> <p>More systematic recognition process for identification and recognition of the start of end of life</p>
Willingness to explore care at home	<p>Clear service offer</p> <p>Ensure that information which patients are told is accurate</p> <p>Development of SPA</p> <p>Updated patient and carers information across all community providers</p> <p>Keeping improved MDT process especially when home is a care home</p>
Issues of capacity and adequate staffing	<p>Development of a gap analysis of service delivery – with capacity vs demand and desired role / level of intervention by each agency</p> <p>Compare this to commissioned services</p> <p>Develop preferred service model</p> <p>Develop new commissioning intentions</p>
Access to medicines	<p>Keep anticipatory medicines available in care homes (national issue)</p> <p>Work to speed up supply of medication on discharge</p> <p>Support for carers on what to do (who to contact) if new symptom e.g. increased pain arises (clear process)</p>

Next steps

- Finalise key findings with full analysis to share with all those involved in the workshops
- Develop the options for the focus of Phase 2
- Work with the Community Flows Improvement Group to identify the area(s) for Phase 2
- Develop a full action plan for Phase 2
- Within this we recognise the impact of COVID-19 on the shift of care into the community (LCH reporting 30-40% increase on caseload for EOLC) and increased partnership working. There is already a new normal!

Further Reading

- Below are two published articles for further information:
- <https://www.leedsacademichealthpartnership.org/news-and-events/leeds-launches-novel-approach-to-improving-palliative-and-end-of-life-care/>
- <https://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&edid=a522a40c-885e-4ae6-8778-6600fa998bbc>