

**Overview**

St Mary's is a 10 bedded hospital, run by Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, situated on the Isles of Scilly and provides care to the 2200 residents from across the 5 inhabited islands.

Care is provided from birth to death from the small team which consists of RNs, HCA's, GSA's, a hospital cook, administrator and a handyman. Medical support is provided by the Island GP's.

The multi-disciplinary team work within the hospital but also cover community nursing providing continuity of care to patients, with a privileged insight into their homes and support network, leading to excellent personalised care.



**The Lighthouse Suite**

The hospital has a palliative care suite with an adjoining room for friends, relatives and pets so they can be with their loved ones, and in some situations continue to provide supported care that they may have been providing at home for some months. The formerly known "pink room" holds a special place for many of the

islanders, with views of the sea and an outside courtyard. Through the Gold Standard Framework accreditation, they recognised that the room would benefit from some more comforting items and asked on the local Facebook group for donations. They were inundated with gifts, and it has enabled them to really improve the facilities provided for patients and their families. After engaging with the islanders, the room also now has a new name of "The Lighthouse Suite" – signifying safety, strength and hope.



We are proud of our skilled and dedicated team and feel privileged that we get to know our patients and their families so well to provide the best possible personalised end of life care.  
Staff nurse



**Dignity and Respect in End-of-Life Care**

Gold Standard Framework has supported us with implementing advanced care planning with our patients to ensure we deliver the highest quality of care in the final days, that is personal to them, dignified and in their preferred place of death. When a patient has died, we offer ongoing bereavement support to their loved ones and carry out visits at home. The flag is set to half-mast on the island as a mark of respect.

Our patients are often known to us and might be friends or family, therefore its even more important that we offer peer support to each other when caring for patients at end of life. The team are very supportive emotionally in these situations and empathetic to colleagues needs and feelings.  
HCA

