

Assisted Dying Statement

Living Well Dying Well is committed to working with people through the dying-time, helping them access appropriate resources and to steer a path that brings comfort or a sense of completion. We respect everyone's right to bodily autonomy and self-determination and are willing to enter into difficult conversations, so that informed choices can be made. However, in relation to the practice of assisted death we maintain the position that LWDW End of Life Doulas do not actively participate in enabling or facilitating the ending of a life.

While the choice of assisted death is not open to people in the UK and is currently illegal, we do anticipate the law will eventually change. Given the Canadian experience and impact on the physically, emotionally, socially and financially vulnerable when assisted death is offered, we are deeply concerned about the potential consequences for humanity and society, as this procedure becomes more widespread and normalised. We recognise the complexity of this issue for individuals, clinicians, law makers and politicians. We hope the precautionary principle will prevail and that any future debate includes full and accurate information from the experience of Holland, Belgium, Germany, Canada and some US states.

Reviewed: June 2024

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