

**Biography for Stephen Parsons MBA; AHSM  
Director, National Cancer Action Team**



Stephen is employed as the Director for the National Cancer Action Team. Prior to this he has been employed as the National Coordinator for Cancer Peer Review since January 2004.

In his role Stephen is responsible for leading a programme of system-wide change, supporting the NHS to implement the actions in the Cancer Reform Strategy. He also has responsibility for leading the development of world class commissioning for cancer services working on partnership with the DH, cancer networks, their PCTs and specialised commissioners. In addition he oversees a number of programmes including Cancer Peer Review, which has the aim of quality assuring cancer services across England, programmes to drive improved clinical outcomes and reduce inequalities and programmes concerned with raising public awareness of cancer and achieving earlier diagnosis.

Stephen joined the NHS in 1973 and prior to his current role has held a wide range of posts including management of acute hospitals and management of child health and community health services. He has also held a number of commissioning management roles, which included for a number of years responsibility for the commissioning of cancer and specialist palliative care services in the South East of England.

In addition to these roles Stephen has wide experience in public speaking and in lecturing on health service management courses.

Stephen lives in Kent and lists his interests as cooking and walking in the Lake District.

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