



### Help set priorities for the year ahead

Healthwatch Gloucestershire is asking local people to help shape its future work by taking part in a short survey.

What should it be focusing its work on in the next year? It could be mental health, children, older people or primary care issues.

Alan Thomas, chair of Healthwatch Gloucestershire, said: "Our organisation exists to ensure that people are at the heart of care. Our priorities are informed by what people tell us. This is a chance for the public to tell us what they think is important and help to shape our priorities for the next year."

Answer the [two-question survey here](#).

## Seeing first hand regional ambulance service at work



Staff from Healthwatch Gloucestershire visited the area's ambulance service to learn how it operates on a day-to-day basis.

The South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT), the main provider of emergency services in the South West, invited Healthwatch Gloucestershire to its Bristol call centre to listen to calls, learn about ambulance waiting times and see first hand how it responds to calls from the public.

Julia Butler-Hunt, Healthwatch Gloucestershire manager, said: "It was a good opportunity to learn how the 999 service works. We can now pass on this information to members of the public when we talk about ambulance services. The visit also meant we could share with SWASFT more about our role as a Healthwatch."



### We are a Disability Confident Employer!

Healthwatch Gloucestershire is making the most of the talents disabled people can bring to the workplace.

It's been recognised as a 'Disability Confident Employer' by a government scheme which helps organisations think differently about disability. The scheme also provides support to recruit, employ and retain both disabled people and those with health conditions.

For more details about the scheme visit:

<https://disabilityconfident.campaign.gov.uk/>

## Job opportunity



Do you know anyone who might be interested in a data protection role for Healthwatch Gloucestershire's parent company?

Evolving Communities is looking for a Data Protection Administrator for a temporary role. Applications close 11 March 2018. [More details.](#)

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## Out and about

Find out more about the impact Healthwatch Gloucestershire is making in the county and how you can join us in our work.



Staff and volunteers hope to meet you at:

- Matson Library, Gloucester, on Thursday 1 March, 10.30am-12.30 noon
- Tuffley Library, Gloucester, on Monday 5 March, 10am-12 noon
- Bourton Librray, Bourton-on-the-Water, on Wednesday 7 March, 10.30am-12.30 noon.
- Stow Library, Stow-on-the-Wold, on Wednesday 7 March, 1.30-3.30pm
- Quedgeley Library, Gloucester, on Tuesday 20 March, 2-4pm
- Roots Coffee Shop, Gloucester, on Wednesday 21 March, 9.45-11.45am

For an up to date diary visit the [events calendar.](#)

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Healthwatch Gloucestershire is the county's independent health and care champion.

We exist to ensure that people are at the heart of care.

Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers listen to what people like about local health and care services, and what could be improved.

These views are then shared with the decision-making organisations in the county, so together we can make a real difference.

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The Healthwatch Gloucestershire service is run by Evolving Communities CIC, a community interest company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 08464602. The registered office is at Unit 5 Hampton Park West, Melksham, SN12 6LH.

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