

November 2017 e-bulletin

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Explaining Healthwatch in just one minute

A short animation has been created to help the public understand the role of Healthwatch Gloucestershire and encourage people to give feedback on local health and care services.

The animation 'Healthwatch Gloucestershire in 1 minute' will be shared on the organisation's social media channels, its homepage and will also be shown at public meetings and focus groups around the county.

Julia Butler, Healthwatch Gloucestershire Manager, said: "One of the things we often hear

is that people don't know what a local Healthwatch does and we thought a short animation would help to illustrate our work in a fun and memorable way.

"It has the novelty factor which we hope will make people better understand what we do and the impact we can make on health and care services if we work together with local people." The animation can be viewed [here](#).



Warm welcome to Kay

New Volunteer Officer for Healthwatch Gloucestershire Kay Bunyon aims to recruit more people to join the organisation to help shape local health and care services.

Kay, from Gloucester, joined the team in October and her main role will be focusing on recruiting new volunteers and supporting existing ones.

Said Kay: "I'm looking forward to being able to bring all of my skills and knowledge of working with volunteers to this role and making the most of what it has to offer. I'm really looking forward to building on what Healthwatch Gloucestershire already has in place." [Find out](#) more about volunteering opportunities.

Polish Healthfest event gathers feedback

An event organised to give the local Polish community in Gloucestershire the chance to find out more about health and wellbeing services in the county has proved to be very popular.



Polish Healthfest, organised by Healthwatch Gloucestershire and the NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, was held at Kingsway Community Centre in Quedgeley and featured workshops on topics such as men's health, maternity, children's healthcare and mental health and wellbeing.

Alan Thomas, Chair of Healthwatch Gloucestershire, said: "The event was a great success with a good turn out from the local Polish community. It was an opportunity for local people to find out about the wide range of services the NHS provides, and how to access them.

"We also gathered lots of feedback from people about their own experiences of accessing local NHS services. This will be shared with the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group later this month."



Dates for your diary

Staff and volunteers from Healthwatch Gloucestershire will be out and about in Gloucestershire this month to raise awareness about the work it does.

They will be outside the **Co-op** at Coleford Market Place, Coleford, on Thursday 16 November and at the **Gloucestershire Carers Rights Day** event on Friday 17 November, 10am to 2.30pm, at Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road in Churchdown.

For more events visit www.healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk/events

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.



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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