



Volunteers needed to help develop new university course

Do you currently use or have used physiotherapy services in a hospital, out-patient clinic, school or community setting?

If the answer is yes, then Healthwatch Gloucestershire would like to hear from you! We are helping the University of Gloucestershire gather patient views which will shape a new BSc programme in Physiotherapy, set to launch September 2019.

Eve Scarle, Physiotherapy course leader at the University of Gloucestershire, explained: "The role of a physiotherapist in the NHS is changing all the time and we want to design a degree programme that fits the needs of the local NHS, service users and the growing role of a physiotherapy in health promotion and long-term condition management." [Find out how you can get involved.](#)



Urgent Treatment Centres - your views wanted

A regional health assembly wants to hear about people's experiences of local Urgent Treatment Centres.

The South West Clinical Senate, an independent body which offers clinical advice to commissioners, wants to know about the good and bad experiences people may have had at a local treatment centre.

The centres, set up by the NHS to ease the pressure on A&E units, are GP-led and are equipped to deal with many of the most common ailments people visit A&E for. [Share your views](#) with Healthwatch Gloucestershire by November 17 to take part.

Report published on healthy eating habits

People living in an inner-city area of Gloucester have been sharing their ideas on how to get more locals to eat healthy and stay active.



Cooking classes, community food growing and more physical activity opportunities would help to improve the lifestyles of those living in the community of Podsmead, according to its residents.

These ideas have fed into a [report](#) for Gloucestershire Public Health as part of the Food & Families Project – a short-term research project jointly led by Healthwatch Gloucestershire and Evolving Communities. [Read more....](#)



Say hello to Vicky - our new team member!

Our new team administrator Vicky Barnard (pictured) has lived and worked in various countries thanks to her husband's job in the Armed Forces - and is keen to bring her experience to Healthwatch Gloucestershire.

Vicky, who now lives with her family on the outskirts of Gloucester, has worked in various admin roles in the army camps, as well as local hospitals in Gloucestershire.

Said Vicky: "I am very excited about my new role. I will support the team with any administration tasks they require. I think the role will be very varied and hopefully I will get the opportunity to get out and meet people in the community as well.

"I have an interest in mental health and I would love to see more support and help for people who have mental health problems."

Get involved as trusts plan joined up healthcare

2gether NHS Foundation Trust and Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust are working towards a merger and they are now on the lookout for new members to join.



As an NHS Foundation Trust, 2gether has a membership programme, with trust members being able to have their say in the way the organisation is run, through electing Trust Governors.

The trusts are keen to get people from all sectors of the community - those with an interest in both physical and mental healthcare.

[Get in touch](#) if you want to find out more...

Feedback this month



You have been sharing your experiences of local health and care services with us this last month. All feedback is recorded and we look for the common themes, which are then presented to the local decision-makers in the county, so your voice is heard.

Here's a selection of what you have been saying:

"At no point had I been told I was on the cancer pathway, until I received the first letter, where it was plain to see the appointment was with a cancer specialist."

"Telephone consultations at my GP Surgery are very good and save a lot of time."

"I am over 100 years of age and I love the activities here in my care home and I try them all – age is no barrier to having fun!"

"Carers of people living with Dementia need the opportunity to speak to doctors on their own in hospitals, as often they do not have the full picture."

"Having to wait 40 minutes to speak to someone about transport, only to be asked to go through the same set of questions every fortnight is ridiculous, as I am 91 years of age and partially sighted, so will always require transport."

Where are we this month?

We visit local communities each month to listen to the views of patients and their families on health and social care services. This month we will be at:



- Pittville Court, Cheltenham, on Wednesday 14 November, 7-8.30pm.
- Carers Rights Day, Churchdown, Friday 23 November, all day

Visit our [calendar](#) for an up to date list of 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 4 Hampton Park West, Melksham, SN12 6LH.



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