

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER	Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel Committee	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	17th January 2014	
TITLE:	Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset update	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM LIKELY TO BE TAKEN IN EXEMPT SESSION		
List of attachments to this report: Please list all the appendices here, clearly indicating any which are exempt and the reasons for exemption		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 Update report from Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset

2 RECOMMENDATION

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

5 THE REPORT

healthwatch

Bath and North East Somerset

Report to the Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel 17th January 2014

The Healthwatch representative selected to give reports to the Bath and North East Somerset Wellbeing and Policy Development Scrutiny Panel is Marilyn Freeman. Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset now have 3 of the 5 volunteers for the Healthwatch Advisory group Diana Hall was selected as the rep to the Health and Wellbeing Board, Ann Harding as the rep for Enter and View activities and Roger Tippings as the Quality representative.

The next Advisory group meeting on 30 January 2014 will see the group agree the Terms of Reference, the Communication and Community Engagement strategy and agree the Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset work plan. The work plan has taken the priorities of NHS England, the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the JSNA and pulled from these documents the priorities to focus on. The Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset work plan needs to be fluid incorporate the issues coming from the public. So far there have been a variety of issues, most raised concern over primary care and generic mental health services and impatient services for children and adults with mental ill health. We have been working with a parent from the National Autistic Society Avon Branch with an issue over access to ophthalmic services for a child with aspergers syndrome and have heard from NHS England that the service is not funded, we are awaiting a reply to hear if the parent has a right of appeal.

Engagement in partnership with the Village Agents has begun with a visit to Chew Stoke and further visits are planned for the Spring, issues have been the lack of patient transport and the fact that the Chew Valley has no pharmacy.

New leaflets have been produced to give local people the opportunity to have their say through a freepost format, we also hear issues by phone, email, twitter, facebook and the website online form.

An event is planned for February half term to hear the issues and concerns of children and young people and these will be added to the work plan. Healthwatch has agreed with the local authority to hear the issues from 'children looked after' every 6 months and will contact the Youth Parliament to speak with them at the next meeting later in the year.

Healthwatch is taking part in the local authority Peer Challenge to feedback on Healthwatch and our place on the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The next Health and Wellbeing Network meeting on the 29th January will have 'Domestic Violence' as the topic and will feedback results into the February Health and Wellbeing Board.

Pat Foster
General Manager - Healthwatch
The Care Forum

6 RATIONALE

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8 CONSULTATION

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	Pat Foster – General Manager The Care Forum Tel: 0117 9589344 Email: patfoster@thecareforum.org.uk
Background papers	<i>List here any background papers not included with this report because they are already in the public domain, and where/how they are available for inspection.</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	