



Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset report to the Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel 17th May 2013

- The Care Forum has been awarded the contract for Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset
- Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset will be an influential and effective voice of the public in relation to health and social care
- Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset will be significantly different from LINKs both in the remit and the organisations, there will be no host organisation

Healthwatch will:

- Be representative of local people, representing the diversity of the Bath and North East Somerset, engaging with the widest range of people and children and young people
- Have powers to request information from commissioners and providers of health and social care and to enter health and social care premises
- Have a seat on the health and wellbeing board and actively participate in local decision making
- Signpost people to information about local health and social care services and how to access them
- Alert Healthwatch England or the Care Quality Commission on health and social care matters
- Have a role in the NHS Equality delivery System and Quality Accounts
- Produce an annual report

Since the Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset contract was signed The Care Forum have been:

- Setting up operational systems

- an email address info@healthwatchbathnes.co.uk
- a website www.healthwatchbathnes.co.uk
- Developing Health Independence have agreed hot desking venues and we have been identifying venues, Healthwatch meetings will be held in local areas around Bath and North East Somerset
- An information resource – Well Aware
- Establishing a governance structure
- Establishing a monitoring and review framework
- Recruiting new staff – Volunteer support and Research and Evaluation Officers
- Identifying the voluntary sector network of network and mapping gaps
- Asking interest, community, voluntary, equality, locality and partnership groups for volunteers to be involved in Healthwatch and identifying volunteers who may wish to move across from LINK
- Building relationships with the NHS CCG and Local Authority

Healthwatch Governance

- Gives everyone the opportunity to have their say on their health and social care services – lay representation
- Works within a skills and competencies framework for volunteers
- Recruit volunteers who will speak on behalf of their community
- Induct volunteers
- Support lead volunteers for each priority area (children and young people, quality, equality, enter and view and rep on the Health and wellbeing Board)
- Select volunteers to represent Healthwatch Bath and North East Somerset on NHS and LA partnership boards and groups
- Select and manage a pool of volunteers to become authorised representatives for 'Enter and View'
- Select five volunteers to become part of the Healthwatch Advisory Group
- Train volunteers

Governance Structure:

