

Board meeting – 20 January 2025

Summary minutes

Date: The Healthwatch Dorset local Board met on Monday 20 January at 10am, via Zoom.

Board members present: Viv Aird (Chair), Margaret Guy (Vice Chair), Amanda Shirlin-Brown, Judy Crabb and Helen Webb.

In attendance: Louise Bate, Healthwatch Dorset Manager.

Apologies: Jack Welch and Sue Warr.

1. Declaration of interests: There were no declarations of interest and no comments on previous meeting notes.

2. Matters arising: The updated Quality Assurance Plan will be presented at the next meeting.

a) New website: planning for launch at the end of January and will include copies of board minutes.

b) Dash Review: Hoping to be published in March/April.

3. Progress report: The Manager updated the Board on the progress of the current work projects.

a) Hospital at home/Virtual Ward: this project is now up and running with calls planned for Feb/March and a report hopefully out in June.

b) Boscombe Voices: Community engagement report due out in February.

c) Pharmacy Report: Due to the overwhelming response, still working on pulling the conclusions together. Full report due out in March.

d) 'Blue Monday': Interview with Michael about how he lives with depression.

e) Healthwatch England Impact Award: Unfortunately, we were not shortlisted on this occasion.

f) Homelessness Report Update: Presented at ICB meeting and NHS Dorset has drawn up an action plan to meet all HWD recommendations.

4. Strategic Plan: Points raised over the last few Board meetings will be brought back together to the next meeting for discussion by the Board.

5. 2025/26 Priorities: Priorities need to have a clear outcome and impact and at least one needs to have a universal application. 'Enter & View' can be used as a tool to support data in a key priority area. The Board will consider a 5 year plan as well as this year's plan so can review in March each year. Possible projects for next year could include:

- a) Weymouth College Youth Project and Emergency Care
- b) Dorset Council Day Opportunities Transformation Project
- c) Maternity and Neonatal Voices
- d) Eye Care Services
- e) Blue Badge Applications
- f) Discharge Times from Hospital
- g) Information and Communication and Digital Divides

Next steps: Discussion through a refined list of each of the projects (with scoring) will take place at the next Board meeting

6. Any Other Business: The Manager to feedback the impact that has been made from recommendations on reports at the next board meeting.

Viv Aird, Chair of the Board, thanked everyone for their time today and the group agreed the date for the next board meeting, Monday 17 March 2025 in Dorchester, as a face-to-face meeting.

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