

May 2019 e-bulletin

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healthwatch
Dorset



Welcome to the first edition of Healthwatch Dorset's new ebulletin! This monthly email will give you a round-up of the projects we are working on; the results of the feedback you have given us and highlight local events and engagement activities around health and social care services. If you have any feedback on this, please do get in touch!



Birthday celebrations for Healthwatch

Healthwatch Dorset has celebrated six years as the county's independent health and social care champion. Healthwatch Manager Louise Bate said, "We're here to make sure that those running services, and the government, put people at the heart of care."

“We find out what people want and champion for services that meet the local community’s needs. These views are then shared with the decision-making organisations in the county, so together we can make a real difference.” [Find out more...](#)

New provider for Healthwatch Dorset



Evolving Communities has been awarded the contract to run Healthwatch services in Dorset.

Following a recent tender process, Dorset Council and BCP Council appointed Evolving Communities to provide Healthwatch services across the region from 1 April 2019.

Ian Price, interim CEO of Evolving Communities, said: “We are delighted that Louise Bate and Lucy Cribb continue to support the work of Healthwatch Dorset. Louise is taking up the role of Manager and Lucy will be Healthwatch Dorset’s Engagement Officer.

“We look forward to continuing to work with local people on the health and care issues which matter most to them and build on the excellent work already established in the county.” [Find out more...](#)



A new local office for Healthwatch Dorset

We are moving into a new office in Dorset at The Bridge, Littledown, Bournemouth BH7 7DX from 3 June 2019 to ensure there is a local presence in the county.

The phone number, email and web address will remain the same:

0300 111 0102

www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk

enquiries@healthwatchdorset.co.uk

NHS figures reveal thousands of people with dementia are being admitted to A&E in Dorset

Thousands of people with dementia are being rushed to hospital emergency departments in Dorset, according to NHS statistics.



More than 5,386 people over the age of 65 and living with dementia in Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset county were admitted to A&E in 2017 to 2018, and now local carers and families are being sought to share their experiences and views on the NHS services supporting people living with dementia.

Independent health and care champion Healthwatch Dorset has launched What would you do? to encourage people in the county to share their views about what changes to local NHS services should look like.

Healthwatch Dorset is also keen to hear from people about how other health services could improve, including those that support people with mental health conditions, cancer, heart and lung diseases, learning disabilities and autism.

You can share your views via this online survey: www.healthwatch.co.uk/what-would-you-do or [find out more...](#)

Volunteers Week

Healthwatch Dorset will be saying a big thank you to its dedicated volunteers for their fantastic contribution as part of Volunteers Week next month (1-7 June).



There will be a Volunteer Drop-In Day on Wednesday 5 June 10-2pm at Healthwatch Dorset's new office (The Bridge, Littledown, Bournemouth BH7 7DX.) Healthwatch Dorset Manager Louise Bate said: "This event will be open to all our existing volunteers and anyone who's interested in volunteering with us - pop in to find out more about Healthwatch Dorset!" [Find out more...](#)



Where are we this month?

Staff and volunteers will be out and about in Dorset this month to listen to your views on local health and social care services.

We will be at:

- 8 May 2-4pm: Patient Participation Group Networking Events on **Kinson Community Centre** and 9 May 6-8pm at **Blandford St Mary School**
- 14 May, 10.30am - 2pm: Healthwatch Dorset Stand at **Weymouth College**
- 22 May 12 noon - 3pm: NICE Question Time & Board Meeting at **Poole Hospital Education Centre**
- 4 June 1-4pm: Brain Tumour Support Group at the Grove Hotel, **Bournemouth**

For more details visit our [events diary](#)..

Healthwatch Dorset 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 Dorset** 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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