

June 2019 e-bulletin

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Celebrating our volunteers

Cakes, strawberries and hot drinks were on the menu at a drop-in event held to celebrate Healthwatch Dorset's amazing volunteers.

One of the volunteers to join in the celebrations at The Bridge, Littledown, was retired city banker Bob from Poole (pictured). Said Bob: "When I retired I wanted to give something back to the community. It gives me a lot of satisfaction knowing that we are helping the public to have their say on local health and care services." Do you want to join Bob? [Find out more...](#)

Hundreds share views on local NHS services

Over 300 people have told Healthwatch Dorset what they think would make the NHS better.



Staff and volunteers have been speaking to people throughout Dorset about how they would like to see the changes set out in the NHS Long Term Plan implemented.

The feedback will now go into a report (to be published next month) and this will be Dorset. [Read more...](#)



Welcome to Holly!

Our new Volunteer Officer Holly Drinkwater (pictured) is looking forward to recruiting more local people to join the Healthwatch Dorset volunteer team, as well as supporting current members.

Holly, 26, from Boscombe, previously worked for Live Well Dorset as an Engagement Coordinator and Training Lead, running events to talk to people about health and wellbeing. Holly said: "I find working in the health and charity sector very rewarding and get a real kick out of helping others.

"I have been a volunteer myself working with The Wave Project in Bournemouth and I'm excited to see how I can help Healthwatch Dorset's current volunteers feel supported in what they do, as well as looking to get more local people volunteering with us."

School pupils talk about diabetes

The subject of diabetes and the work of Healthwatch Dorset has been shared with hundreds of school pupils as part of Diabetes Week (10-16 June).



Pupils from Oak Academy in Bournemouth took part in assemblies to help raise awareness about the condition. 14 year old Nicole, who has type 1 diabetes, said: "Having diabetes affects every aspect of my life, from what I eat to the career I'll have as an adult. Having type 1 diabetes means I can't join the army, it affects your life choices.

"The one thing I'd like to get across to everyone at my school is please don't make assumptions about my diabetes and don't bully me about it – just ask me if you have any questions."



Have your say on enhancing health and wellbeing facilities at hospital

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust is inviting people to join a workshop on Tuesday 2 July, 12.30-3.30pm, to discuss ways to enhance the health and wellbeing of all those who visit the 54 acre site. To book email: hannah.cripps@nhs.net [More details...](#)

Out and about this summer

Staff and volunteers will be joining community events this summer to find out local people's views on health and care services. We will be at:



- Wed, 19 June - Healthwatch Dorset is meeting with **SEAP Advocacy** at The Bridge, Littledown, Bournemouth.
 - Sat 13 July, 10am-5.30pm - come along and meet Healthwatch Dorset at the **Bourne Free Festival** and tell us your experiences of local health and social care services. Our information stand will be in the Lower Gardens.
 - Friday 26 July - Come along and meet the Healthwatch Dorset team at the **BCHA Festival of Wellbeing**. It will be a free and fun packed afternoon, featuring activities for all the family including face painting, live music and a free raffle that will be drawn for top prizes.
 - Visit the [events calendar](#) for all the up-to-date events.
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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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