



Area Board Update - July 2016

Healthwatch Wiltshire is a local independent organisation which exists to speak up for people on health and care. We rely on local people to tell us about their experiences of health and care services so if you have used a service recently then we would like to hear from you. This could include hospital, a care home, or a dentist (for example). We use what people tell us when we meet with the commissioners and providers of services. Ultimately we want a health and care system which meets people's needs and your feedback is vital.

Wiltshire's Health and Wellbeing Groups

Healthwatch Wiltshire is pleased to be supporting the Area Boards with new Health and Wellbeing Groups and Older People's Champions. The Groups will create opportunities for local people to get involved in health and care, including new projects. They will have an important role in gathering the views of local people and work with community commissioners to identify the needs of the local population. Champions will have an important role in making sure that the voices of older people are heard. Most areas now have a Group set up and have identified their local Older People's Champion. Healthwatch Wiltshire will be offering the Champions support so that they can fulfil their role. If you would like more information about how to get involved in your local area on health and care matters then we would love to hear from you.



www.yourcareyoursupportwiltshire.org.uk

Currently the website averages 13,000 page views per month, with 2,000 users. We are updating the directory of services in the county for vulnerable people to include accessible transport options, foodbanks and activities like music, sports and leisure. The directory is informed by the voluntary sector organisations who run many of the services listed. Guides have been added: 'Paying for care', 'Paying for care in your own Home' and 'Paying for care in a Residential or Nursing home'.

Recently pages have been updated with information about Dementia Services across the county. Easy Read content produced by Wiltshire Council in collaboration with Wiltshire People First has been added too. There is now Easy Read information about safeguarding, advocacy, assessments, the Autism Strategy, Care & Support Accreditation, Direct Payments, national eligibility criteria and Personal Budgets.

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