

Could you be a Community Champion for Older People or Carers?

Warminster Area Board wishes to identify champions who will have a key role in representing the views of older people and carers at both a local and county-wide level. There will be champions in each community area funded by Wiltshire Council. Up to £1000 is available for the champions (£500 each or £1000 if a joint role) for out of pocket expenses per annum.

Champions will talk and seek the views of older people or carers in Warminster on matters related to services provided by the Council or NHS and represent these views at area boards.

They will work with area boards and local voluntary groups to encourage joint working and share experience to help new local groups set up.

A champion can be an individual or a group who can represent the views of older people or carers in their area and who will already have contact with older people or carers with an in depth knowledge of issues facing older people or carers.

Champions will be able to advocate for older people or carers and be a focal point for identifying what service improvements or developments are required.

They will link with and report to the Warminster Community Engagement Manager, Jacqui Abbott.

Each Area Board will have an annual budget of £1000. Reasonable expenses for the Champions will be met from this budget with approval being authorised by the Community Engagement Manager.

The Role of the Community Champion:

Champions will talk to older people or carers to obtain their views about services. They will represent these views at Area Board meetings or other meetings as requested and discuss with the Council and CCG Commissioners the priorities for older people or carers and work with them on service improvements and developments. They will also enhance community engagement with older people and carers and help to drive forward community projects and initiatives.

The main duties of Champions will be:

1. To talk with and seek the views of older people or carers in local communities on matters related to services provided by the Council or NHS
2. To provide a focus for the exchange of views and information between older people or carers and the Council's adult care and housing services.

3. To attend meetings including the Area Board and occasionally the Council, reporting back on older people and carers issues.
4. To work with the Area Board on service improvements and developments to meet the needs of people in community areas
5. To identify community development solutions for older people and carers alongside the Community Engagement Manager