Your local health and social care champion

News and updates



Join our team! Board member and volunteering opportunities

We have some fantastic volunteering opportunities for 2024 here at Healthwatch Northumberland! We're looking for board members to help steer the direction of our work, and for volunteers to help our staff team to carry out that work.

Calling potential board members!

We need people from all of our communities and with different skills and experiences to join our board. Board member positions are voluntary and unpaid and reasonable travel expenses are paid. The board meets four times a year.

Would you like to know more? Read our board member information pack which can be found on our website, or ask for a postal copy. Please apply by Wednesday 7 February.

Volunteer with us



As a volunteer you can make a difference to people in Northumberland who use NHS and social care, whilst meeting new people and gaining new skills.

You can volunteer to help at events, listening to people's experiences of care and giving information on services, or you could help us with admin or communications, surveys or mystery shopping.

We're excited to be expanding our Enter and View work this year, where we visit health and social care services and see them in action.

Could you help us find out what people living in care homes in Northumberland think is good about their care, and what could be improved? If you are a great listener and want to make a difference to local people, we'd love to hear from you!

Find out more about these roles and how to apply on our website, or get in touch via one of the ways listed overleaf.

Share your experiences of health visiting services

All families expecting a baby or with children aged 0-5 years are offered a universal health visiting service. In Northumberland this is delivered by Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust.

We want to hear about your experiences of using the health visiting service - what has worked well and what has not worked so well?

Your feedback will remain anonymous and we will use it to report to the NHS what you feel is good, and help identify how to improve the service for parents and carers.

You can find the short survey on our website or by scanning the QR code below.. If you would like to tell us your views over the phone or would like a postal copy of the survey, please get in touch. Please leave your feedback by Sunday 25 February 2024. We will share our findings later in the year.



Online events for you



British Liver Trust information session, Friday 9 February 1pm-2pm

We'll be hearing from the British Liver Trust about the UK liver disease crisis, preventable risk factors, tips on how to 'love your liver' and free support for anyone affected by a liver condition.

Cancer support information session - Friday 16 February 1pm-2pm

Coping with Cancer North East will talk about the myths around cancer and give information on the care and support available for people in Northumberland.

Care homes forum, Tuesday 20 February 10am-11am

If you have a relative living in a care home or have used respite care, join our forum to meet others with similar experiences and get support and information.

Please get in touch to book a free place on these sessions.

Harbottle GP clinic proposal



Patients of The Rothbury
Practice and local residents
are being asked for their views
on a proposal to move the
GP/nurse clinic, that is
currently provided from
Harbottle Village Hall, into a
mobile healthcare unit.

The unit could also be used for things such as vaccination clinics, annual health checks and blood pressure checks.

Read more about the proposal and how you can give your views on our website (or call for more information). The deadline for giving feedback is Friday 23 February.

Berwick Veterans' Warm Hub



The Veterans' Warm Hub meets on the last Wednesday of every month at Berwick Voluntary Centre, with the next Warm Hub taking place on 31 January.

This free session is open to ex-British Forces to enjoy a hot drink in a relaxed atmosphere and meet other veterans. The Warm Hub can also provide information of where to get other support.

To find out more contact North Northumberland Voluntary Forum: call 01289 304 141 or email bvforum@hotmail.co.uk.

Here to Hear drop-in sessions



Morpeth Library: Wednesdays 24 Jan and 28 Feb, 11am-1pm

East Bedlington Community Centre: Fridays 2 Feb and 1 Mar, 10am-12pm

Weavers' Court, Alnwick: Thursdays 8 Feb and 14 Mar 10.30am-12.30pm

Hirst Welfare, Ashington: Wednesday 21 Feb, 9.30am-11.30am

Prudhoe Spetchells Centre: Thursdays 15 Feb and 21 Mar, 11am-1pm

Get in touch

To unsubscribe from this newsletter or to contact us with feedback or a question, please get in touch.

Call: 03332 408468 **Text:** 07413 385275

Email: info@healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk **Website:** healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk

Write to: FREEPOST Healthwatch Northumberland,

Adapt (NE), Burn Lane, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 3HN **Social Media:**







