

Report to the HOSC January 2024 – Priorities update

| Priority | Update |
|---|--|
| <p>Recruitment of volunteers</p> | <p>Our Advisory Group (5 members) meets regularly and have been participating in our public activities.</p> <p>Our team continues to increase the awareness of Healthwatch and to look to recruit volunteers. We are actively looking for young people aged 18- 25 to be part of the Healthwatch Youth.</p> |
| <p>GP access project</p> | <p>Most of our work since October has been focused on our GP access project. This covers the 3 areas within Berkshire West and so will produce results for each local authority area, as well as collectively. We have recruited a member of the advocacy team to analyse the data and draft the report, using additional hours payments from posts that have been vacant during the year.</p> <p>We have received over 150 surveys, with additional narrative feedback from focus group participants on new ways in which GP practices are operating, care navigators and experience of the NHS app.</p> <p>We have engaged through:</p> <p>Primary Care Networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North PCN – Twyford, Wargrave, Woodley – Loddon Hall and Woodley Church - East Wokingham – Wokingham MC, Burma Hill and Woosehill – Community Hub - Earley PCN – Brookside Practice – Radstock Community Centre - South – Swallowfield and Finchampstead - Arborfield Hall <p>Community and VCSE Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link Visiting - Mind in Berkshire - CLASP - Promise Inclusion - Share (Foodbank) - P3 People, Potential, Possibilities (youth hostel) - Project Salama (domestic abuse) <p>We have also held two online events and had a pop up stand at Waitrose one afternoon where we spoke to shoppers and café staff.</p> |
| <p>Dentistry and Learning Disability</p> | <p>We undertook a survey with members of CLASP to find out more about the experiences of people with learning disabilities around accessing and attending the dentist. We had 14 participants; the report is due to be published at the end of February.</p> |
| <p>Healthwatch Priorities Survey Responses</p> | <p>Our Health and Social Care Priorities survey will be shared at the end of February to find out from the public what they would like us to look at 2024/2025 to help inform our workplan.</p> |

