



New project: Accessing GP primary care in Somerset - what works and what doesn't?



We launched a new project this month to investigate people's experiences of accessing primary care through GP surgeries in Somerset. We want to identify the barriers that make it difficult for people to get the care they need and to highlight the ways that GP surgeries can make it easier for people to access care.

If you have visited a GP surgery in Somerset in the past 12 months, you can tell us about your experiences by completing our online by Friday 13 March 2020:

www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HWSomersetGP/. All feedback and responses will be anonymous. If you would prefer to complete a hard copy of the survey, please get in call us on 01278 264405.

Please spread the word and encourage as many people as possible to take part in our survey – thanks!



Job vacancy: Lead our exciting new 'Young Listeners' project

Application deadline extended - apply by 8 March to become our new Youth Engagement Officer (12-month contract or secondment opportunity).

If you are experienced in youth engagement work and passionate about empowering young people to have their voices heard, this is an exciting opportunity to join our small and dynamic team.

Full details are available on our [website](#) and Hannah Gray, Healthwatch Somerset Manager, would love to talk to you about the role, call 01278 264405.

Get involved: Somerset NHS seeks public feedback in review of health and care services



Somerset NHS is currently gathering public views on proposed changes to how it delivers community-based health and care services, non-emergency care, and mental health services across the county. You have until 12 April 2020 to

find out more and to share your thoughts and ideas to help shape the future of health and care services in Somerset.

Healthwatch Somerset was involved in the development of the Somerset NHS public engagement programme, which is called 'Fit for my future'. We are now raising awareness across the county and encouraging local people to get involved.

To find out more about the health and care services that are being reviewed and how to have your say, contact [Fit for my future](#) online, call 01935 384119 or email somccg.fitformyfuture@nhs.net.



Where to find us in March

We regularly visit libraries and community venues to talk to people and gather feedback about health and social care services. We have the following events planned for March:

Thursday 5 March, 10am-12noon

Talking Café, YMCA in Highbridge

Saturday 7 March, 12.30pm-2pm

Fit for My Future (Somerset NHS engagement event)

Williton Library

Monday 9 March, 10am-11.30am

Wellington Library

Tuesday 24 March, 3pm-5pm

Fit for My Future (Somerset NHS engagement event)

Burnham-on-Sea Library

Tuesday 31 March, 10am-12noon

Fit for My Future (Somerset NHS engagement event)

Watchet Library

Tell us about your health and social care experiences



Sharing your views and experiences of health and social care services can help services to become more effective or highlight where things are done well. You can talk to us when we are out and about in your community or contact us in the following ways:

- Phone: 01278 264405
 - Email: info@healthwatchsomerset.co.uk
 - Website: healthwatchsomerset.co.uk
 - Social media: click on the icons at the bottom of this bulletin
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Healthwatch Somerset is the county's independent health and social 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.



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