

Welcome from Chief Officer

Welcome to our October Newsletter! This month has seen us host our Annual General Meeting with fantastic guest speakers and the team attended the Healthwatch Conference. Find out more about what projects we are working on and updates from partners below.

Happy reading!

Abdul Mulla



Annual General Meeting

On 22nd October 2019, Healthwatch BwD hosted their Annual General Meeting at Blackburn Central Library. It was a wonderful afternoon with two guest speakers, presentation of volunteer certificates and a look at our 2018/19 and current work. To review the slides from the meeting, please click [here](#).



Home Care Forum #2

On Tuesday 12th November we will be hosting the second Care at Home (Domiciliary Care) Forum. The Forum will be held at St John Ambulance, George Street, Darwen, BB3 0DQ at 1–2.30pm. Refreshments will be provided. The transcript from the previous Forum is available on the Healthwatch website [here](#).

Adult Mental Health Questionnaire

Healthwatch BwD is asking residents with lived experiences of adult mental health, in particular those who have experienced crisis point, to share their story and views of the services they received. The findings will be fed back to Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust. Responses given will be anonymous. To complete the survey, click [here](#). For more information contact us on 01254 292686.



Healthwatch 2019 Annual Conference

On 1st & 2nd October, Healthwatch England hosted its Annual Conference in Birmingham. It was very interesting to hear what other Healthwatch organisations have been doing across the country. We also heard from the Chief Executive of the NHS and former Department Health Minister. We are very pleased to announce that we were awarded highly commended in the category 'Giving people the advice and information they need' for a project we delivered in partnership with other Lancashire and Cumbria Healthwatch organisations.



Revisit of Children's Ward Report

In 2016–2017, together with Healthwatch Lancashire, we gathered feedback from children and young people being treated on the children's ward at Royal Blackburn Hospital. In September 2019 we revisited the children's ward. To read the full revisit report, please visit our [website](#).

PLACE at Hospital

We are proud to have two volunteers and one of our staff members trained for PLACE (patient-led assessments of the care environment) this year. They have already used their valuable skills and years of experience at Healthwatch in several assessments and have been given a more detailed insight in the operation of East Lancashire Hospitals Trust.



Dementia Cinema

Blackburn with Darwen Dementia Action Alliance is holding a free Dementia Friendly Film screening of Summer Holiday on Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 1.45pm in Thwaites Empire Theatre. Pick up free tickets from Age UK on King Street or Care Network Hub on Town Hall St. For more information please contact 01254 266620.



Easy Read Flu Leaflet

NHS England have released an Easy Read Leaflet about flu and flu vaccinations to help promote uptake of the vaccinations for those with learning disabilities. Please share with your colleagues, friends and family. To view the Easy Read Flu Leaflet, please click [here](#).



East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust and Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen are hosting a public meeting focused on patients' experience of care in hospital due to mental health issues particularly in Emergency Department and Acute Admissions.

We would love to know directly from patients, families and carers affected by mental health issues, what matters most to you, so that we meet your needs every time.

The public meeting will take place on:

Thursday, 28th November 2019 at 4pm-6pm

Park View Offices (entrance opposite KFC), Seminar Room 4, Learning and Development Centre, Royal Blackburn Hospital, Haslingden Road, BB2 3HH

Please help us to improve our services for patients affected by mental health issues.

Confirm your place at the public meeting by booking on Eventbrite via <https://bit.ly/34a5PjW>, ring Sal or Sarah at Healthwatch on 01254 292686 or email info@healthwatchbwd.co.uk

To obtain free parking at the event, please let us know your car registration number via email to the same address.



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ELHT Public Meeting

Together with ELHT, we are hosting a public meeting focused on patients' experience of care in hospital due to mental health issues. The meeting will take place on Thursday 28th November at 4–6pm at Park View Offices, Seminar Room 4, Learning and Development Centre, Haslingden Road, Blackburn, BB2 3HH. Please confirm your place through Eventbrite – <https://bit.ly/34a5PjW>

Darwen Healthcare Website Launch!

In November 2019, Darwen Healthcare are launching their new website based on the comments of patients. The new website will be easy to access and easier to read for patients. To access their website, please click [here](#).



16 Days Event

The 25th of November starts the United Nations 16 Days of Action to End Gender Based Violence. The Wish Centre will be hosting workshops on 27th November at 11.30am until 2.30pm. To register your interest, please contact info@bddwa.org.uk

HARRI

The HARRI (Health, Advice, Recovery, Resilience and Information) vehicle is travelling around Lancashire to talk to local communities and individuals. To find out where they will be next or to register your interest, please contact the LSCFT support team on 01772 695365 or recovery.college@lancashirecare.nhs.uk

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