


Healthwatch Telford & Wrekin

Agenda Item: 06.01	
<p>Healthwatch Telford and Wrekin Board Meeting</p>	
Date:	6 nd October 2014
Title:	Joint Chairs Report
Author:	Jane Chaplin, David Bell
For Information X	For Information
Executive Summary:	
Financial Implications:	None specifically
Equality and Diversity:	None specifically
Public Engagement:	None specifically
Legal Impact:	None specifically
Recommendations:	None Specifically
Is there a need to consider inclusion in the Corporate Risk Register?	No

Joint Chairs Report for the Public Board on 6 October 2014

We are pleased to welcome Carolyn Henniker and Gill Stewart to our Board to join Jane, Tina, Martyn and David. We are also receiving other applications for Board membership. The Board met in public on the 4 August 2014 and held a discussion meeting on the 12 September in advance of the first Autumn Contract meeting on the 22 September which planned the steps for our future independence.

We as usual have been busy with the many meetings that Board and staff members attend including a wide range of engagement events for Future Fit which is a very important programme, working on the shape of future hospital and other health services for the future. We are particularly seeking to ensure that Telford voices and Telford based services come strongly out of the process.

We are trying to “ lift the lid ” and make more widely known not only the plans for Future Fit and Better Care but also what goes on and the outcomes from the Health & Wellbeing Board, Scrutiny, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals Trust.

We held our usual Bi Monthly meeting with members of the CCG Board on the 4th September and attended & spoke at the Telford & Wrekin CCG AGM at the Football Club on the 9th September.

We have continued with our wide range of engagement events including two evenings at T Live concerts as well as our usual events at Supermarkets and Telford United Football Club, The Princes Royal Hospital Friends Café and the new Women & Children’s Unit, meeting students at Telford College of Arts and Technology including the “Fresher’s Fayre’s” and Tesco Madeley, Madeley Green Day and Dawley Christian Centre. We are working to hold engagement events in the more rural and far flung areas of Telford too - and Chris our Engagement Officer is working to meet harder to reach and minority groups.

We are working with the Care Quality Commission who has launched a major inspection of the Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals Trust. And on the 24 September we attended the CQC Local Healthwatch Advisory Conference which discussed Overseeing Adult Social Care, the Joint Brief on how the CQC will work with the Healthwatch network, joint work on Enter and View and a new ‘special measures’ regime for GP Practices.

Our Enter & View programme (with Carolyn Henniker as Chair of the Enter and View committee) is advancing strongly with a programme of visits to local hospital wards, GP practices and Care Homes. We need even more trained volunteers for our Enter & View programme and for other roles in Telford and Wrekin Healthwatch. We are starting to work more closely with the CQC and Local Authority Safeguarding & Inspection teams.

We work closely with Shropshire Healthwatch with whom we share our hospitals and other services. We are also working with the NHS Area Team and with the Stoke, Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthwatches on a GP Appointment Survey as this a major concern voiced in our Speak out Forms and at Engagement events. We are also finalising our Accident & Emergency joint survey with Shropshire Healthwatch.

On 24th September we presented our annual report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, the report was well received, Jane Chaplin and Kate Ballinger spoke to the report outlining not only the report itself but

also the work which is continuing to make Healthwatch Telford & Wrekin a much higher profile organisation within the Borough and further afield.

We have been starting to research projects into Young Peoples Sexual Health services and into a range of Mental Health issues, This is in addition to our ongoing work on Information & Advice, Signposting, Engagement, Enter and View, Representation, gathering trends data and Influencing.

The autumn is going to be a very busy period for Telford & Wrekin Healthwatch as we work with Parkwood Healthcare & Telford & Wrekin Council to plan for independence. This will include finalising financial resources for 2015/16, reorganising our IT and database and a wide range of other issues. This is an exciting time of change in local health service provision and in the future shape and roles of Telford & Wrekin Healthwatch. A meeting with Parkwood Healthcare, Telford and Wrekin Borough and Healthwatch Telford & Wrekin was a positive development of the work that needs to be undertaken during the rest of 2014.

We also welcome Bart to the staff team, he joined as an Administrative Officer currently on a short term appointment, and he has already proved to be a very useful addition to the staff team.