

Join our Strategic Advisory Group

We're looking for new members

What is the Healthwatch Sheffield Strategic Advisory Group?

Healthwatch Sheffield is your local health and social care champion. From Stocksbridge to Mosborough and everywhere in between, we make sure leaders and decision makers hear feedback which can help to improve health and social care services. We bring the views and real-life experiences of Sheffield people to the discussions that are shaping services for the future; we believe that involving people in how services are designed and run, is vital to ensure they work for those using them.

Our Strategic Advisory Group are volunteers who meet regularly to shape the strategic direction for the Healthwatch staff and volunteer team. We are looking for people to join the group who can contribute ideas, knowledge, experience and enthusiasm, to help us succeed in our demanding task. You will have the skills required to work effectively with key organisations in the city, ensuring that they hear and take account of the views and ideas of people in Sheffield- you will also bring your own understanding of health and social care, which may have been gained through personal experience, work and / or volunteering in Sheffield.

In the last year, the Group has connected the views of Sheffield people into conversations about plans and strategies such as the NHS 10 Year plan, and the city's new [Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#). Alongside this, they have helped steer our work on a wide range of issues, including Long Covid, Sexual Health services for young people, and experiences of health and social care in Tinsley.

Our work is for people of all ages, and includes both health and social care. We focus on the issues that people tell us matter to them, and are committed to giving more of our time and resource where there are the greatest inequalities, with communities that are experiencing the poorest health outcomes. With this in mind, the Strategic Advisory Group helps us set our priorities and stay on track with our workplan.

So, can you work with us? Do you have ideas and energy to bring? We are looking for committed and pragmatic people who are passionate about improving the health and wellbeing of people across ALL of Sheffield. If you are a local resident or work or volunteer in the city and want to see the best health and social care services for Sheffield, we want to hear from you!



“Can you work with us? Do you have ideas and energy to bring?”



Role description:

The **Strategic Advisory Group** is collectively responsible for:

- Working with the staff team to set the strategic direction, the vision, mission and values of Healthwatch Sheffield.
- Ensuring that the Healthwatch strategy and workplan is driven by what's important to local people.
- Ensuring that people's experiences and voices are connected into strategic conversations and decision making in the city.
- Reviewing the impact of Healthwatch Sheffield's work on Health and Social Care in Sheffield.
- Ensuring that Healthwatch Sheffield meets its [statutory duties](#).
- Working in partnership with the Board and senior leadership of Voluntary Action Sheffield (as host organisation for Healthwatch Sheffield).

What we ask of members:

- To regularly attend and participate in SAG meetings, looking at papers beforehand – the group meets **monthly**, currently **4 in person** meetings per year (2 hours each) plus **8 virtual meetings*** (1 hour).
- To join in discussion and decision making as part of the group.
- To bring their own unique insight and perspective into the group, drawing on their knowledge of people and communities in Sheffield, and their understanding of health and social care services.
- To contribute to strategic discussions related to Healthwatch work – ensuring that we stay focussed on what matters to people in Sheffield.
- To champion the importance of co-production and involvement as a way to create better services for people.
- To act as an ambassador for Healthwatch – this may include attending meetings on behalf of Healthwatch Sheffield.
- To support and encourage Healthwatch Sheffield staff in the delivery of their duties.

*** if you are unable to access virtual meetings at home, we can make arrangements for you to get online and join meetings from the Healthwatch office, with support from the team.**

This is a volunteer role, but expenses (e.g. travel, food) will be paid. Additional expenses that we cover include Childcare costs, PA costs, and relevant training courses.

We are looking for people who have:

- An active interest in health and social care – for example as a patient, a carer, or as someone who has worked or volunteered in relevant services (including the voluntary sector).
- An ability to think strategically about health and social care, while staying focussed on what this means for people's lives.
- Good understanding of involving people in decision making.
- Strong communication skills – able to listen to others, able to talk confidently with a range of people in different settings.
- The ability to challenge constructively to bring about improvement.
- The ability to analyse information quickly to support decision making.
- A commitment to quality and raising standards.
- Time to carry out the responsibilities of the role – this *may* include sitting on committees, working groups and other bodies (time commitment over and above the SAG meetings is optional).
- A commitment to working inclusively – elevating the voices of groups and individuals from communities which are often excluded from decision making.
- A commitment to working in an anti-racist way.

Access and inclusion

We especially encourage applications from people in communities which are often underserved by health and social care services. This includes people from racially marginalized groups, young people, LGBTQ+ and disabled people. If you need any adjustments in the application process, or have questions about how you will be supported in this role, please get in touch.

What's the time commitment?



How to apply

If you would like a conversation about the role, contact Lucy Davies (Chief Officer) 0742 7394101 or email l.davies@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

You can also talk to Judy Robinson (Chair of the Strategic Advisory Group) – please make an arrangement for this via Lucy Davies, contact details above.



How to apply:

Apply online – Scan QR code or go to [Application for Strategic Advisory Group 2022 - Google Forms](#)

Email or phone for a word or paper copy of the form (contact Lucy Davies on details above)

The closing date for applications is 5pm on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025**. Interviews will take place on **Thursday 1st May 2025**.



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