

Nov-Dec 2017

Perfect Patient Pathway (PPP) Test Bed Programme extended until July 2018

We are pleased to tell you that this NHS England funded project will continue into the Summer. The project aims to help people with long-term conditions use technology to keep well and avoid unplanned hospital admissions.

Healthwatch Sheffield supports a fantastic group of volunteers, the Test Bed Advisory Group, to provide patient and carer perspectives. The group informs and influences the design and delivery of the programme.

The group have worked closely with Good Things Foundation and created a series of Digital Health Workshops. These workshops offer training to healthcare professionals to boost their confidence when talking to patients about digital technology to manage their long-term conditions.

Get involved

The Test Bed Advisory Group's input is vital to ensure that the digital health workshops will benefit patients and suit their needs, but we want to hear from you too.

Tells us about your experience of using technology to manage your health or share your views by email: l.cook@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

Healthcare professionals can register here to attend workshops:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digital-health-workshops-tickets-39078696433>

All comments will be shared with the Good Things Foundation and feed into the development of their training model.

Your story could also be used as a case study in a national guide about digital health which is being produced for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) as part of the Foundation's NHS Widening Digital Participation Programme.

VCF Forum— 'Together for Good'

Our Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Forum met to talk about commissioning for health and wellbeing. Continuing from a previous discussion where voluntary organisations said that they thought their skills and talents were not fully harnessed, especially their contribution to prevention and promotion of health and wellbeing.



We were very pleased that the deputy leader of Sheffield City Council, Councillor Olivia Blake came to speak about the Council's commissioning processes. Councillor Blake wanted to know about barriers which VCS organisations experience and she acknowledged that the Council does need more feedback from VCF organisations. She also explained about the reviews of commissioning that are happening currently.

'We need to be listening to what the VCS has to say.' Councillor Olivia Blake.

Professor Mark Gamsu spoke to the Forum about how health systems need better understanding of the contribution of voluntary organisations and their unique access to evidence and experience about local needs and opportunities.

Local IBS research

'My research aims to explore everyday life for individuals with IBS, exploring how symptoms are negotiated in everyday routines, practices and relationships.'

Lauren White, Healthwatch Sheffield bank worker and a Social Research Student from The University of Sheffield, is researching the social experiences of living with Irritable Bowel Syndrome.



Contact Lauren if you're interested in participating in the project:

lwhite2@sheffield.ac.uk

For information on Lauren's work, go to the website: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/socstudies/>



We've launched our Arts Competition!

'Our self-worth is related to the degree of self-esteem and self acceptance of who we are. It is our evaluation of our self as being a worthwhile person.'

As part of Young Healthwatch's new project on Self Worth and Wellbeing, our YHW volunteers have created an Arts competition for Under 25s, #RealMeSheffield. Young Healthwatch Sheffield wants to know what self-care and self-worth mean to you. To accompany the competition, we're planning on delivering some workshops and have designed a new survey to circulate at schools and youth groups.

Please see our website for terms and conditions and to learn about how you can enter the competition. If you have any other questions about entering, get in touch: YHW@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk



We've had our second Student Healthwatch meeting, and we have an exciting series of different topics which our Student Volunteers are choosing between. We will be taking a break for the Christmas period, but they will start to receive their volunteer training in January, and begin doing research and engagement relating to their project.

Dates for your Diary:

Young Healthwatch meeting
16th January

Health & Wellbeing Board Public Meeting
25th January

Healthwatch Sheffield Advisory Board Meeting
6th March

VCF Health & Wellbeing Forum
8th March

Get in touch:

Tel: 0114 253 6688

Email: info@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

Website: www.healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

Outstanding Outpatients

On Friday 22nd November we attended Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Outstanding Outpatients event. Staff, governors and patient representatives from across the Trust came together to kick start improvements. It was great to see patient experience was at the very centre of discussions.



We were really impressed with the way that staff engaged with the feedback we shared with them about patient experiences at Outpatients.

We were so well received that we were invited back to an Ophthalmology away day the following week! We've also been having follow up conversations with hospital departments to help them to include patient experience in their improvement plans. We look forward to continuing to work with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and to hearing more stories from patients and carers as the services change.

'I attended due to my relative having chemo, the staff are very knowledgeable and helpful; however, the car parking is dire.'

Weston Park Hospital Outpatients

'I was fearful when I got diagnosed but the great staff put me at ease. I visit regularly and I am really happy with the service provided.'

Royal Hallamshire Hospital Outpatients

'When going for tests it takes weeks before results come back; just left worrying.'

Northern General Hospital, Huntsman, Radiology

'There is always a minimum of 90 minutes delay although you have an appointment...This is not an isolated incident it happens every time.'

Weston Park Hospital Day Care Unit