

Healthwatch is the consumer champion to give adults, children and young people a powerful voice about health and social care services.

Healthwatch Sheffield's launch event

Healthwatch Sheffield held its official launch event on Monday 18 November 2013, and we were joined by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Cllr Vickie Priestley, who kindly opened our Information Hub in The Circle building.



Around 100 people attended to find out more about Healthwatch Sheffield, and to take part in the various activities, such as the Healthwatch washing line (which gathered people's feedback on their experiences of local services), the Human Fruit machine, Chairobics, and making pledges to the Pledge Tree.

Thank you to everybody who attended. A special thank you to the following organisations, that had information stalls and helped to make the event a success:

Sheffield Cubed; Sheffield Citizens Advice and Law Centre; Breast Cancer Care; Blood Transfusion Service; S.O.A.R ; Autism Plus; Sheffield Alcohol Advisory Service; Sheffield CCG; Right First Time; Health and Wellbeing Board; Activity Sheffield.



Healthwatch Sheffield

The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield S1 4FW

Tel 0114 253 6688

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info@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

www.healthwatchsheffield.co.uk



Looking back on 2013

Healthwatch Sheffield came into being in April 2013, and a lot has been achieved over the past eight months.

The team has worked hard to establish working relationships with key organisations, and consortium providers - Sheffield Cubed - have been reaching people in their local communities to find out what they think about services and adult social care.

Some highlights include;

- 162 meetings with local organisations
- 9 community events, including stalls at Sheffield Pinknic, Hillsborough Leisure Centre and Crystal Peaks Shopping Centre
- 3 discussion forums held
- 5,500 flyers distributed
- 1,345 hits on the Healthwatch Sheffield website
- 1,198 newsletters distributed
- 612 members sign up

What's coming up in 2014...

We are looking forward to a busy year ahead in 2014, with the appointment of our full Governing Body due to take place in April 2014. Once in place, the Governing Body will steer our work for the next two years. Other key projects include;

- Publication of our Adult Social Care report
- Training a team of Healthwatch volunteers
- More work with GP's on how to improve the experience of primary care
- Holding Healthwatch Community Roadshows across the city
- Launching our Public Forums
- Expanding our VAN and Readers Panel
- Continue to embed Children and Young People as part of Healthwatch's work

Want to get involved?

Volunteers are a vital part of Healthwatch Sheffield's work and activities.

Please get in touch to find out how you can get involved, or with your ideas of how you can support Healthwatch Sheffield's work.

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Discussion Forum: Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Plans for 2014-16 - Tuesday 4th February 2014

Healthwatch Sheffield is hosting a Discussion Forum, in partnership with Sheffield CCG, to look at the CCG's plans for 2014-16.

Please come along and give us your views on the CCG's plans make suggestions on what they should concentrate on during 2014-16. Members of the CCG will be there on the day to get involved and listen to your suggestions.

Date: Tuesday 4th February 2014

Venue: The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield, S1 4FW

Time: To make sure as many people as possible have the opportunity to contribute we are holding two sessions - 1:00pm - 2:45pm and 3:00pm - 4:45pm.

Please come along and have your say! Places are limited, so book early, letting us know which session you'd prefer and if you have any access requirements.

To book your place, please call (0114) 253 6688

Adult Social Care Review

Healthwatch Sheffield is currently carrying out a piece of work on the Sheffield City Council's Adult Social Care Review.

We have received 69 responses to our 'Have your Say' survey. Two discussion sessions were held on 6th December, in partnership with Disability Sheffield, which 45 people attended. Participants were asked a series of questions relating to social care, with some very in-depth discussions taking place. The most important thing to those present was *person-centred care*.

We are working in partnership with High Green Development Trust and Broomhall and Broomhill Churches Together project, who are supporting us to find out people's views in their local communities.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey, and congratulations to Ian Wallace who was the lucky respondent to receive £30 worth of High Street vouchers. We would also like to thank members of our Virtual Advisory Network (VAN) who publicised our work through their networks and membership.

We will be analysing the findings from our members and will be producing a report, and presenting our findings to senior members of Sheffield City Council at a public meeting, to be organised in the New Year.

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Making health and social care information accessible

NHS England has begun a programme of work to develop and implement an Information Standard for accessible information.

This guidance will inform organisations on how they should ensure that disabled patients/ service users and (where appropriate) carers, receive information in languages and formats that they can understand, and that they receive appropriate support to help them communicate, which may include advocacy.

NHS England wants to know what people think about its plans for making health and social care information accessible. Please take time to give your views on these plans - call 0113 8251324 to request a copy of their survey.

Have your say

We want to hear from you about your experience of using health and social care services in Sheffield.

You can give us your feedback:

Online:

Use the [Speak Out form](#) on the Healthwatch Sheffield website

By email:

info@healthwatchsheffield.co.uk

By phone:

(0114) 253 6688

Season's Greetings!

The Healthwatch Sheffield team wishes you a very merry festive season. We look forward to continue working with you in 2014.

Please note, the Healthwatch Sheffield office will be closed from Monday 24 December 2013, and will re-open on Monday 6 January 2014.

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