

# August 2018 Heads Up



## ADVICE AND INFORMATION

Helping you to find the answers -0300 012 0122

- **What is NHS data opt-out:** Patients and the public who decided they do not want their confidential patient information used for planning and research purposes can now set their national data opt-out options. NHS England has produced a range of [guides](#), including one so voluntary sector organisations can support local people to understand their rights around data.
- **Making a difference to peoples' lives:** Sophie one of our dedicated engagement workers was really chuffed to meet again a lady we'd previously given some advice and information too at a recent event. She'd asked for help regarding a walking aid and assessment for help as she felt she wasn't coping too well and had followed on the advice. She'd hired a rolling walker from the Red Cross. She'd also had an assessment from Age UK and has now applied for Attendance Allowance and should shortly be £40-£60 a week better off.



- This is an accreditation standard that is built on best practice, the latest research and business sense. Over a thousand organisations have been accredited and as a result have made a real and meaningful commitment to the health and wellbeing of those who work there.

This improves productivity, makes organisations look more enticing to perspective employees and makes the working day more enjoyable. Healthwatch West Sussex has now been added as one of their trusted partners in offering staff Advice and Information.

## Hearing from our communities

### What's coming up...

- Heads Up our team and dedicated volunteers will be highlighting our touring of Burgess Hill in September. Our tours help us to listen to local peoples' view, experiences and ideas on health and care. **If you'd like us to visit your group or organisation in October** please call or email [cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk](mailto:cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk)
- Together with [4Sight](#) we're surveying Ophthalmology patients visiting Southlands and St Richard's hospitals, so we can better understand peoples' experiences at these eye clinics.



We're currently working with East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey Local Pharmaceutical Committees' representatives to finalise our communication campaign around raising awareness of how local people can have conversations with a pharmacist in private. Our aim is to get information out locally this month.



Find out more about our work and activities at  
[www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk)





West Sussex County Council published the results of the [Adult Social Care Peer Review](#) carried out by the Local Government Association in May. Dave Sargeant, Interim Director of Adults' Services said of this review: *We commissioned the review because we wanted to make sure the services we provide to adults in West Sussex were safe and of good quality. The review highlights some very good work that we are doing but also a number of areas where we need to make changes.*

The County Council is implementing an action plan to address key areas where change is needed and one such area is in how it works with the voluntary and community sector. We are pleased to see the [announcement](#) of a set of partnership principles that organisations can expect to see applied in future interactions with the County Council.

- Ahead of the cabinet member's decision on the **proposed changes** to West Sussex County Council's own services for Adult Services we will be facilitating events for the voluntary, community and commercial sector to use the principles agreed to look at the opportunities and challenges on the horizon. If your organisation would like to be involved, email [katrina.broadhill@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk](mailto:katrina.broadhill@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk).
- Our collaborative [Financial Fairness Report](#) highlights the challenges local people have experienced when being assessed to identify if they should contribute toward their local authority funded adult social care costs. The report details what West Sussex County Council and the service provider, Capita, are doing to address some of the issues raised.
- We recently spent time talking to young people and families in **Worthing**, exploring their views on wellbeing and how accessing health services. We'll be putting together a short case study and will use our learning to inform future discussions with young people.



- We're currently editing videos of the young actors, filmed in a various West Sussex location last month. Our filming and work with [Tori Productions](#) and the young actors will be continuing this month with a Summer Workshop and we hope to be rolling out the red carpet on these productions in September.



## Recent articles you may have missed

- <https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/report/2018-07-30/what-do-people-want-social-care> includes a summary briefing from Local Healthwatch to inform the green paper
- <https://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/cancer-drug-for-children-recommended-after-becoming-cost-effective-for-nhs-patients> NICE 12 July

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