

Community Partnerships Q2 update

During quarter two our Partnership Co-ordinator has met with over 20 leaders of local authority, community and voluntary sector to discuss closer working relationships and to raise awareness of Healthwatch West Sussex. In July, the **Supporting Community Based Solutions** consortia (SCBS) of Chief Exec's from nine local community organisations signed a set of [Principles for working with the voluntary sector](#), with the West Sussex County Council. Healthwatch West Sussex are part of the SCBS group who are working together to raise awareness of and solutions to issues facing our West Sussex communities. The consortia regularly feed into the Health and Wellbeing Board, other commissioners and networks to provide appropriate Voluntary and Community Sector intelligence.



The SCBS consortia are hosting a [conference - Strong & Vibrant Communities in West Sussex](#) - celebrating our voluntary & community sector on 22 November. This West Sussex conference is free to attend and designed for professionals and people using services, from across health and social care, the voluntary and community sector, local authorities, education and health.

The **Healthwatch West Sussex Community Fund** for local community and voluntary groups was launched in June, with the aim to gather insight into people's health and social care experiences. Awards of up to £500 with a simple process, so that the awards can make a difference to local people quickly. All applications have been judged on their own merits and in relation to how they contribute to improving people's health and wellbeing experiences.

The Community Fund has been promoted through the District and Borough Community teams, West Sussex Community and Partnership Team, Voluntary networks, local publications, and radio shows, who's support we are grateful for. During quarter two the Community Fund has been communicated throughout West Sussex in local newspapers such as: Village Tweets, Community Works and community e-bulletins and webpages, in all a circulation in excess of 142,000. Monthly notification of awards has been published in our Heads-Up e-bulletin, social media and webpage. <http://www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk/healthwatch-west-sussex-community-fund/>

Awards to date have been made across the County:



At the end of September, we have received 32 applications, and awarded 16 projects, 7 applications have not met the criteria, where possible supportive information has been provided. We are awaiting further information from the remaining 9 applications. The applicants we have awarded are:

- **My Sisters House** - for the project 'Mothers Apart'. (peer support sessions)
- **Selsey Community Forum** - for the project 'Selsey Care Shop'. (capturing experiences)
- **Home Start Arun, Adur and Worthing** - engaging with mums with children under 5 years.
- **CREATE** - young people connecting with the wider community and to identify the needs of young people in the Aldwick, Pagham and Bersted areas.
- **Sussex Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes (SEDS)(Crawley and Mid-Sussex)** - raise awareness of SEDS and to enable people to come together and share experiences so that together they have a louder voice.
- **Southwater Methodist Church** - capture insight from those who attend the Happiness Course.
- **COPD Support Group East Grinstead** - capture insight from those who attend.
- **Friends of Henfield Surgery** - capture insight from attendees of the Henfield Mental Health and Wellbeing Event
- **Rustington, East Preston, Angmering and Littlehampton areas (REAL) Patient Group** - engagement with attendees of the public meeting in October
- **Juno Project** - awareness raising of mental health support via the This Is Me programme
- **Phoenix Stroke Club** - engagement, awareness and capturing experiences project.
- **UK Harvest** - Surplus Suppers events, engagement, awareness and capture experiences project
- **Arundel Surgery Community Association** - engagement, capturing experiences from attendees of the public meeting.
- **Crawley Town Community Foundation** - awareness and capturing experiences for attendees of Crawley Town Football Club Move the Goal Post project
- **Westergate Leisure Center** - capturing experiences and awareness with the Cardiac Rehabilitation project
- **Sunbeam Swimming Club** - engagement, awareness and capturing experiences project.

Looking forward:

Our Community Partnership Co-ordinator will be presenting on the 4th October at the national Healthwatch England conference - Building Active Relationships with Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise organisations in West Sussex.



During October and November we will be attending a number of events with information and presentations including:

- Henfield Mental Health and Wellbeing event
- REAL Patients Group (Rustington, East Preston, Angmering and Littlehampton) public meeting in Littlehampton
- Safeguarding events in Swan Walk Horsham (14-16 November) - arranged by West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board and West Sussex Partnerships and Communities Team
- Social Enterprise in Partnership - event in Bognor
- Carers Rights Day, cross organisational events for Carers in Worthing, Littlehampton and Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex events
- Strong Vibrant Communities conference 22 November
- 4 Sight Annual General Meeting.

Additional meetings are planned with Sussex Oakleaf Manager, Multiple System Atrophy Trust, and The Disability Trust.



 **Carers Support West Sussex** - we continue to work collaboratively on several topics including our listening tours. This is having a positive impact on the number and quality of stories we collect.



Community Based Solutions Consortia - Healthwatch West Sussex are part of a consortia of Community Organisation Chief Execs (including Aldingbourne Trust, 4Sight, Independent Lives, Age UK West Sussex, Carers Support, Sussex Oakleaf, Independent Lives and Crossroad Care). The agreement of the **West Sussex County Council Voluntary Community Partnership Principles** has been agreed and was signed in July.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/news/county-council-pledges-to-boost-community-working/>

A significant collaborative event is being planned for later in 2018.



Midhurst Parish Church - [Midhurst Parish Church monthly Friendship Teas](#) provides an opportunity for young and older people to chat to each other (*cross generation conversations*) for mutual benefit. This is a model that fits well with the Royal College of General Practitioners - Tackling Loneliness - A Community Action Plan.



Pathfinder West Sussex (Mental Health Alliances) continues to develop. The Healthwatch West Sussex People with Lived Experience have now completed their involvement and provided Pathfinder's leaders with formal, written feedback which we have been led to believe has been well-received. We are keen to continue to support the vital work of this partnership as it continues to evolve.



West Sussex 4Sight Vision Support (Nik Demetriades, CEO) - recruited two Chichester University Interns to study the quality of patient experiences as they journey through the Eye Clinics in St Richard's and Worthing Hospitals. Consumer feedback highlights this is an ongoing area of concern. The new interns have received training to act as authorised Healthwatch West Sussex Representatives.

Better Births Programme

Having been invited to take part in a System Leadership project led by The Kings Fund, we are had meetings with the Better Births Local Maternity System (LMS) programme leadership team with a view to greater involvement of the community and voluntary sector in this programme. We were delighted to give an overview of the LMS and Healthy Child Programme to the July Health & Wellbeing Board.



The Disability Trust - A project to develop co-produced Health Discussion Aid Tools.

Raising Awareness Partnerships - Working Age.

South Downs Leisure: Our Raising Awareness Lead has been working with South Downs Leisure, the charity who run leisure centres across Worthing including Worthing Leisure Centre, Splashpoint, Field Place, Davison Leisure Centre and the Fitness Centre at Worthing College. South Downs Leisure have a strong focus on outreach and inclusion, alongside well-being for both their 450 strong staff and visitors to the site. An article about Healthwatch has been included in their staff newsletter and work is being done to maintain awareness of Healthwatch across the staff team, working with HR with their Health and Wellbeing sub-group. Healthwatch information has recently been taken to their Board as evidence of supporting staff in their Time to Change pledge.

South Downs Leisure will be displaying Healthwatch Posters across all sites and Healthwatch leaflets will be available in community info areas. They plan to share information across Facebook group and social media.

Future events allowing partnership work between Healthwatch West Sussex and South Downs Leisure include a Disability Day, attendance of the Phoenix Club coffee mornings and a presentation at Speakers Lunch. Healthwatch have also been given an open invite to have a physical presence at the Leisure Centre sites to promote any campaigns.

Southern Water: Work is underway to create a partnership with Southern Water who employ over 2000 people. Healthwatch West Sussex have visited their Worthing office to raise awareness, and shared information with approx 200 people. Further meetings are being arranged to discuss working alongside their Wellbeing teams. Southern Water is planning to disseminate Healthwatch information on their staff Facebook pages and have information available on their notice boards.

During our visit, team leaders were keen to take Healthwatch information to help support their colleagues.

The Dome Cinema: The Dome Cinema, Worthing is a busy independent cinema on Worthing seafront. It has 3 screens, ranging from to 500 seats and shows approximately 8 to 10 screenings a day. These screenings include regular Parent and Baby, Disability Friendly and Subtitled screenings.

Staff at The Dome Cinema are very supportive of Healthwatch West Sussex. They have supported the Premiere of our Youth Engagement Films and are showing a Healthwatch West Sussex advert during the pre-show slides of all their screenings. Healthwatch information is available in their entrance and we are welcome to use their foyer space for raising awareness promotions.

Sussex Oakleaf: We have met with Sussex Oakleaf several times during the Burgess Hill Listening Tour and their staff are interested in using Healthwatch information to support signposting their clients and including Healthwatch in events.

Raising Awareness Partnerships - young people.

Chichester College: Chichester College is a college of further education, age 16+ in Chichester, West Sussex, England. It has a second, campus at Brinsbury, near Pulborough. It is a member of the Collab Group which represents the largest colleges in England. The Chichester Campus has a large international student programme and the Brinsbury Campus has a significant number of students with Special Educational Need.

After meeting their CEO, Shelagh Legrave at a Chichester Chamber of Commerce meeting, Healthwatch West Sussex were invited to attend their three Fresher's Fairs. These events provided a good opportunity for raising awareness of Healthwatch with students but also proved very useful for networking with other organisations and the teaching staff as well as forging partnership links between Healthwatch West Sussex and Chichester College.

Various College Departments will use Healthwatch information as part of their displays to support students. These includes the Beauty Department, English Department, The Farm and the College Counselling Service.

Healthwatch information slides will be displayed on the College information screens and Healthwatch posters will be displayed around the College sites.

National Citizen's Service (NCS): Work is ongoing in building partnerships with the National Citizen's Service across West Sussex. The National Citizen Service (NCS) is described as an essential experience for 16-17 year olds, providing an opportunity to build skills for work and life while taking on new challenges. In West Sussex, NCS is divided into three areas, Bognor, Littlehampton and Chichester, then Crawley, Haywards Heath and East Grinstead, and Mid-Sussex.

Healthwatch West Sussex is working on developing a resource pack that can be used in NCS Social Action programmes.

We welcome partnership working with any community and voluntary organisation and businesses of any size to raise awareness of the information and advice available and to hear and amplify local voices, in relation to Health and Care. Working and sharing together makes our community stronger and individual voices louder. To find out more about our Community Partnerships work please do contact:



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