



Supporting and working with community groups and clubs to promote a deeper understanding of local health and care needs and experiences

Spotlight on Midhurst Foodbank Centre

Midhurst Foodbank Centre (a satellite of Chichester District Foodbank) opened in September 2014 and provides crisis support. It is open on **Friday afternoons from 3.00pm - 5.00pm** (with tea and cake available).

Midhurst Foodbank Centre can provide 3 days' supply of food to meet the size of the family in need - whether a single person or larger family. The service is confidential.

The trained volunteers who run the foodbank are welcoming and supportive. The centre also provides information and signposting to other support services.

Local people can use this service by getting a voucher, which can then be exchanged for food, toiletries and other items. **Vouchers are given out by the following holders:**

- The Vicars of Midhurst and Easebourne
- The Methodist and Roman Catholic churches
- Headteachers of Midhurst and Easebourne Primary Schools
- Social services
- Health visitors
- The pastoral care team at Midhurst Rother College

The stories and views that were shared with Healthwatch West Sussex covered a range of topics. **The key topics people chose to speak to us about were:**

- Accessing Mental Health services
- Attending GP and hospital appointments
- Communication with health care professionals.

The insight from each person was collated and anonymised and forms part of the insight and evidence that Healthwatch gather to identify common themes around what works and doesn't work for local people. **This insight is used to influence service development and can feed into:**

- West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board
- HASC - Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee
- WSCC Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Safeguarding Adult Board
- NHS Sustainability Transformation Partnership workstreams (Sussex & East Surrey).

In this way, Midhurst Foodbank Center voices help to influence the ongoing development of Health and Social Care in our County.

Healthwatch West Sussex also share reports with the Care Quality Commission (who are responsible for the registration and inspection of services which deliver regulated activities) and to Healthwatch England to form part of the national picture used to influence national developments, such as the NHS70 10 year forward plan.

As well as collecting the experiences of local people, Healthwatch West Sussex also provide free information and advice - just call: **0300 012 0122**.
Email helpdesk@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk,
Website www.healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk.

The logo for Healthwatch West Sussex. The word "healthwatch" is in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The "h" is blue, "e" is pink, "a" is blue, "l" is blue, "t" is blue, "h" is blue, "w" is blue, "a" is blue, "t" is blue, "c" is blue, "h" is blue. The "o" is green. Below "healthwatch" is the text "West Sussex" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

You can also follow our social media channels:
Facebook [@healthwatchwestsussex](https://www.facebook.com/healthwatchwestsussex)
Twitter [@healthwatchws](https://twitter.com/healthwatchws)

If you would like to learn more about Midhurst Foodbank Center:

Email: midhurst@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk Mobile: 07826 397732

If you are setting up or would like to share news of a similar project we would be interested to hear from you. Please contact Cheryl Berry, Partnership Co-ordinator, email: cheryl.berry@healthwatchwestsussex.co.uk