

Report for information

Title: Healthwatch Somerset Annual Report

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Summary:	This report is to present the annual report from Healthwatch Somerset (HWS)									
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board receives our annual report for information. 2. That the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board members share their opinions on our workplan suggestions for 23/24. 									
Reasons for recommendations:	HWS has a statutory requirement to publish its annual report before 30 th June. It is good practice for us to consult with our stakeholders before creating our workplan.									
Links to The Improving Lives Strategy	<p>Please tick the Improving Lives priorities influenced by the delivery of this work</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="544 1482 1465 1951"> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1482 1289 1615">A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services</td> <td data-bbox="1289 1482 1465 1615"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1615 1289 1738">Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment</td> <td data-bbox="1289 1615 1465 1738"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1738 1289 1823">Fairer life chances and opportunity for all</td> <td data-bbox="1289 1738 1465 1823">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="544 1823 1289 1951">Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer</td> <td data-bbox="1289 1823 1465 1951">X</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Health and Social Care Act of 2012 put people at the centre of their health and social care. To help realise that ambition, a Healthwatch organisation was set up in every local</p>		A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services		Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment		Fairer life chances and opportunity for all	X	Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer	X
A County infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services										
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Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer	X									

	<p>authority area across England. Each one is a key part of its local community, and works in partnership with other organisations in its area. For Healthwatch Somerset, this includes Somerset County Council, the NHS, local hospitals and voluntary organisations.</p> <p>Healthwatch Somerset is the county's independent health and care champion. It exists to ensure that people are at the heart of care. We serve the geographical area of Somerset County Council, which includes the districts of Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and Somerset West and Taunton.</p>
Financial, Legal, HR, Social value and partnership Implications:	Healthwatch Somerset would like to ask the members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to promote our service as an independent health and care champion who represents the voice of the local population within the health and social care system.
Equalities Implications:	Our Vision, Mission and Values underpin our equalities.
Risk Assessment:	Our key risk is around funding for our service, however this comes from central Government and our service is commissioned by SCC.

1. Background Information

- 1.1** Healthwatch Somerset is your local health and social care champion. From Exmoor to Frome and everywhere in between, we make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers hear your voice and use your feedback to improve care. We can also help you to find reliable and trustworthy information and advice. We are a statutory organisation and as such are obliged to publish an annual report that we would like to share with you.

2. Improving Lives Priorities and Outcomes

- 2.1** Our role is to be the voice of all of the local population, within the Health and Social Care system and we exist to ensure that people are at the heart of care.

3. Consultations Undertaken

- 3.1** Not applicable, our reports are listed within the annual report or on our website www.healthwatchsomerset.co.uk

4. Request of the Board and Board Members

- 4.1** Healthwatch Somerset would like to ask the members of the Health and Wellbeing Board to promote our service as an independent health and care champion who represents the voice of the local population within the health and social care system. We want to be truly representative of the people of

Somerset and the more people who are aware of our service the more likely it is that we do represent everyone.

4.2 We would like to hear both and good and the not so good feedback about people's experiences within health and social care.

4.3 Healthwatch Somerset would like to ask the members of the Board to share their opinions on our workplan suggestions.

5. Background Papers

5.1 The Healthwatch Somerset report can be found on our website www.healthwatchsomerset.co.uk or at this [link](#)

6. Report Sign-Off

	Seen by:	Name	Date
Report Sign off	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Officer (Director Level)		Click or tap to enter a date.
	Cabinet Member / Portfolio Holder (if applicable)		Click or tap to enter a date.
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Scott Wooldridge	Click or tap to enter a date.