

## 'Getting services right for Holsworthy'

Holsworthy Community Involvement Group (HCIG)

*Community, NHS, Voluntary Sector and Local Authorities Working together*

### **Update 10 – 18 September 2018**

*The following represents an update from your representatives on the committee. A public update will follow every meeting. This will be made available online, together with other information so as to keep the community informed.*

#### **Survey deadline extended to give people more time to feedback**

People in Holsworthy and the surrounding areas have been given extra time to have their say on local services.

The group heard that there had been some issues making sure everyone in the area were aware of the ongoing survey – and therefore it would be extended by two weeks.

The deadline for the completed surveys to be returned is now October 10. All agreed that this was necessary to ensure as many people as possible had their say.

The group agreed to inform people about the extension via social networks, social media, by updating posters and via the Holsworthy Post.

Paper copies of the survey are available from the town and parish councils in the area – as well as the library, tourist information centre and other local outlets. However, the online version remains the easiest way to feedback if people have access to the internet. To complete the survey search "Holsworthy Survey" online.

#### **Survey update**

So far there have been more than 500 individual responses to the survey with many more expected in the coming weeks.

Multiple entries from the same household have been possible for the last three weeks after the CCG tweaked the online version.

There is a good demographic spread of replies. However, there was fewer responses from people of working age and it was therefore important to get a more even spread.

If this is not possible, then this could be factored into the next stage of research.

## **Next stage of research**

The meeting heard that once the surveys had been completed, the data would be analysed and an independent report produced.

This would inform a further 4-week period of work with local people to delve much deeper into specific issues of concern. For example, if loneliness was identified then interviews would take place to understand how this could be addressed.

The group will then make recommendations about future health and care needs in the area.

These recommendations, along with clinical, financial and logistical considerations, will then inform decisions about future services for wider community consideration, which may be subject to consultation.

## **Hospital reopening implementation**

The group heard that Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (NDHT) was continuing to investigate 'bridging cover' for medical cover at the hospital.

There is an agreed plan in place and medical cover must come first, then nurses before beds could safely open.

But, the closure of Hatherleigh and Shebbear practices meant that Holsworthy Medical Practice is fully committed to meeting the healthcare needs of patients in these areas – as well as their own – and therefore it wasn't easy to find the cover.

There were still a number of options to explore and the group was assured that NDHCT was doing all it could.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on October 2.