

Getting services right for Holsworthy Holsworthy Community Involvement Group (HCIG)

Community, NHS, Voluntary Sector and Local Authorities Working together

Update 15 – 27 November 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.

Interim report received from Healthwatch Devon

Independent watchdog Healthwatch Devon has completed an interim report on the findings from the recent survey.

A draft was presented to the HCIG for comment before a final version is presented to the next meeting.

The purpose of the early draft was to identify gaps in the feedback so that further qualitative work could be undertaken.

It showed that overall:

- More women (66 per cent) than men fed back and that there was a need to target men in the qualitative stage.
- More people over the age of 55 and 85 had responded and therefore there was a need to target younger people in the qualitative stage
- End of Life Care was a high priority across all age groups and there was a need to probe this area to understand this better
- There was misunderstanding as to what services were offered from the community hospital and further research needed to be undertaken to clarify the reasons for this.
- The importance of 'feeling safe' at home was identified as a key issue for older people and there was a need to understand what was driving this
- A small amount of data seemed to indicate that care provided at home needed to be improved. Further research was necessary to understand this.
- Significant numbers of unpaid carers were identified but only a small proportion knew where to find information about the support on offer. Further research was necessary to understand why.

The importance of openness to everyone meant that once there was a final version of the feedback report then this would be communicated via some sort of public event. This would likely be in the New Year.

Next stage of research

A sub-group would now be set up to look at how to research the findings. This was likely to be via a number of focus groups in Holsworthy and the surrounding area.

Members of the group agreed to work with the NHS and bring a plan back to the next meeting.

Hospital reopening implementation

An approach had been made to NDHT from an independent provider about the potential use of part of the hospital.

Discussions would continue about this and NDHT would feedback at the next meeting about any developments.

The group heard that there had been positive discussion with NHS Kernow in neighbouring Cornwall about the hospital.

The two areas are struggling with similar issues and there were potential opportunities for “cross-border” working in terms of services and best use of resources.

There was discussion about how many patients were travelling between the two counties and the possibility of joint-working in future.

A further meeting would be set up to continue discussions.

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

Holsworthy project on national map

The Holsworthy project had been recognised nationally.

The head of communications had recently presented at an NHS England event in London where Holsworthy and neighbouring Okehampton were highlighted as exemplars of community involvement.

Cllr Barry Parsons also featured in the presentation by video.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the HCIG will take place on Tuesday, December 11.