



Healthwatch South Tees Board Expression of Interest

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healthwatch
Middlesbrough

healthwatch
Redcar and Cleveland

Healthwatch South Tees (HWST) Board - Expression of Interest

Background

Healthwatch South Tees (HWST), the operating name for Healthwatch Middlesbrough and Healthwatch Redcar and Cleveland, is an independent champion for people who use health and social care services and to make sure that those running services, put people at the heart of care.

We focus on ensuring that people's experiences and concerns about health and social care services are heard and we speak out on their behalf. This can be done through our:

- **Information and signposting service** - People can contact us through our Freephone number (0800 989 0080) with any queries about health and social care services.
- **Focussed community consultations and attending events** - Talk to local people individually and in groups about their experiences of health and social care services.
- **Enter and View activities** - We have the legal power to visit health and social care services to see them in action, this is called an 'Enter and View'. It offers an opportunity for us to identify what is working well with services and where they could be improved by speaking to patients, public, their families and staff.

Information is collected through all of these functions, reports are then produced and shared with services, commissioners, Trusts and Healthwatch England in order to get services right for the future.

Our demographic groups are below with an overarching theme of long-term health conditions, including mental health;

- Young People
- BAME Communities
- Older People

2020 - 2021 Priorities

Building on elements of our work from last year as well as responding to the current local landscape of need, below is what we will be focussing on during 2020-2021;

- Build on 'Our Future - Young People Speak Up about Mental Health' report, developing social action groups with young people.
- Continue to influence and support the development of the South Tees Neurodevelopmental pathway and ensure parents and carers have a voice.

- Addressing the health and social care challenges faced by children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families.
- Explore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our local communities and support the development, direction and improvement required for the 'Recovery Planning' across South Tees.
- Increase the number of volunteers and Community Champions to support our work.

HWST Reports

All reports produced by HWST can be found on our website, which can be accessed by clicking the following links; [Healthwatch Middlesbrough](#) and [Healthwatch Redcar & Cleveland](#)

Application and selection process

Stage 1 - Expression of Interest

This stage allows you, to attend one Board meeting, as a guest, in order for you to determine whether you want to commit to this role on a long term basis. This also allows current members to agree that you would be suitable and would enhance the Board.

Stage 2 - Formal Application

Board governance will be shared **for reference** and candidates will provide a copy of their CV together with a short personal statement, detailing how they meet the core and specific competencies included in the recruitment pack. At this stage the Conflict of Interest is to be completed. These documents must be submitted by email to healthwatchesouthtees@pcp.uk.net. Selection of board members is made against the competencies laid out in the governance documents.

Stage 3 - Informal Interview

Candidates who meet the requirements will be invited for an informal interview with the Board Chair or HWST Lead.

Stage 4 - Formal Offer

This confirms the completion of all stages required for this process and all governance documents associated with this role have been read. However, there will be a six-month cooling off period if this role is not beneficial for all parties and a formal resignation process is not required.

Considerations

The following requirements are for your consideration when deciding to become a full HWST Board Member:

HWST Workplan

Regularly provide feedback about HWST workplan decisions and priorities, ensuring the views of the public are fully considered. Oversee any Enter and View planning and activity, and actively promote the work of HWST in the local community.

Contribution to our work

Contribute to discussions and decisions, in board meetings and via. e-mail, to inform:

- HWST direction of travel
- HWST workplan priorities
- HWST reports, including Annual Report
- External reports requiring HWST feedback, e.g. local Quality Assurance Reports

Board Meetings

Attend bi-monthly meetings on time and be prepared (this may fluctuate due to current circumstances). Also actively take part in two yearly workshop style events with our locality forums (HWST Community Champions). These are usually 1½ - 2 hours in length.

If unable to attend, apologies must be sent to the Project Lead and/or the Chair of the Board.

Working together

Work constructively with other members and HWST staff, listening to, respecting and valuing the opinions of others.

Partnership working and Representation

When attending relevant key partnership meetings in your professional capacity, promote and raise awareness of current HWST workplan priorities, and identify potential links. Participate in events to support and promote HWST.

Code of Conduct

When speaking or acting on behalf of HWST, representatives are expected to follow the Nolan Principles and to reflect the priorities and policies of HWST, even if they differ from personal views.

Terms of Reference

You will be provided with full terms of reference once you have begun the formal process of recruitment. This outlines the role of HWST, and the role, activities, requirements and governance of the Board.

Training

Optional training, relevant to the role of HWST Board members, will be offered. Board members will be supported if any further training and development needs are identified.