

Press Release

For immediate release:

Healthwatch Shropshire Annual Event 2016

Anyone who would like to find out about what is happening to health and social care services in Shropshire is encouraged to attend Healthwatch Shropshire's Annual Event on Thursday, 3rd November at The Guildhall in Shrewsbury. This year's theme is 'Working together for you: Transforming Health & Social Care Services through partnership working.'

Guest speakers will include Clive Wright, Chief Executive of Shropshire Council and Dave Evans, Accountable Officer for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group.

The morning session runs from 11am to 1pm and will focus on what happens to comments members of the public share with Healthwatch Shropshire about health and social care services. There will be an opportunity to discuss the impact this feedback has on service improvement and how these shared experiences shape Healthwatch Shropshire's strategic priorities.

The afternoon session runs from 2pm to 4.30pm and will include short presentations from providers and commissioners of health and social care services, sharing examples of good partnership working. Presentations will be followed by a question and answer session.

Jane Randall-Smith, Chief Officer of Healthwatch Shropshire, said: "With health and care issues hitting the headlines almost daily, we hope that health leaders at our event will be able to answer people's questions about what they are trying to achieve in Shropshire. We will also explain how Healthwatch Shropshire puts local people's voices at the heart of the discussions and the positive difference their comments make to health and care provision."

Admission is free, but as places are limited booking is essential. People are encouraged to attend either or both sessions depending on their area of interest.

Places can be reserved via enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk, 01743 237884, or online <http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/content/contact>

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available throughout the day.

Healthwatch Shropshire is the independent consumer champion for health and social care in Shropshire. It gathers the views and experiences of patients, service users, carers, and the general public about services including hospitals, GPs, mental health services, community health services, pharmacists, opticians, residential care and children's services. It also has statutory powers that it can use to influence service provision by encouraging improvements.

Ends

Notes for Editors:

Healthwatch Shropshire is one of a network of 148 Local Healthwatch in England. It is supported by a national organisation, Healthwatch England.

It has a team working in community engagement, plus a volunteer programme, a visit programme to health and social care premises, an advocacy service and an associate membership scheme to involve the public in its work. It also has a signposting service to help people access health and social care services and support.

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Healthwatch Shropshire

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