

Healthwatch Bucks update

April 2023

This paper summarises recent project work we have undertaken in relation to health and social care services, as aligned with the priorities of the Joint Health & Wellbeing strategy.

Live Well

Young Onset Dementia

We wanted to find out about people's experiences of living with young onset dementia in Buckinghamshire.

The aim of our research project was to learn about the dementia support people had received and how helpful it was for them. We made a number of recommendations to Buckinghamshire Council and the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board. Their joint response to these recommendations can be accessed [here](#).

Our strategic priorities 2023/24

We've agreed on our strategic priorities for 2023/24. These provide the framework we will use for deciding on the work we do.

Our annual priorities help us determine what research we conduct, as well as where to target our efforts on behalf of local people – particularly individuals and communities whose voices aren't always heard.

We'll use our annual priorities to guide:

- How we engage with other organisations
- Which meetings we go to
- Who we talk to about local health and social care.

This year's annual priorities have been informed by our previous work, as well as what we've learned in the past 12 months about people's experiences of health and social care services in Buckinghamshire.

What we'll focus on

Our priorities for 2023/24 are as follows:

- Primary care (with a focus on community pharmacies)
- Social care (with a focus on hospital discharge)
- Children and young people's experiences of health and social care.

Healthwatch Bucks will also take a cross-cutting interest in:

- Health inequalities.

This cross-cutting interest means we will consider health inequalities as part of all the work we do, rather than treat it as a single, standalone issue.

We've put together a report that sets out in detail how and why Healthwatch Bucks has chosen its strategic priorities for this year. We hope this will help our partners and the people of Buckinghamshire to understand the decisions we've made. You can read the report [here](#).

Community Pharmacies

Our new research project will focus on community pharmacies. We want to find out how much local people know about the services they offer, as well as learn about Bucks residents' experiences with using those services. Please share the survey with your residents; [About us: Community Pharmacy Services \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](#)