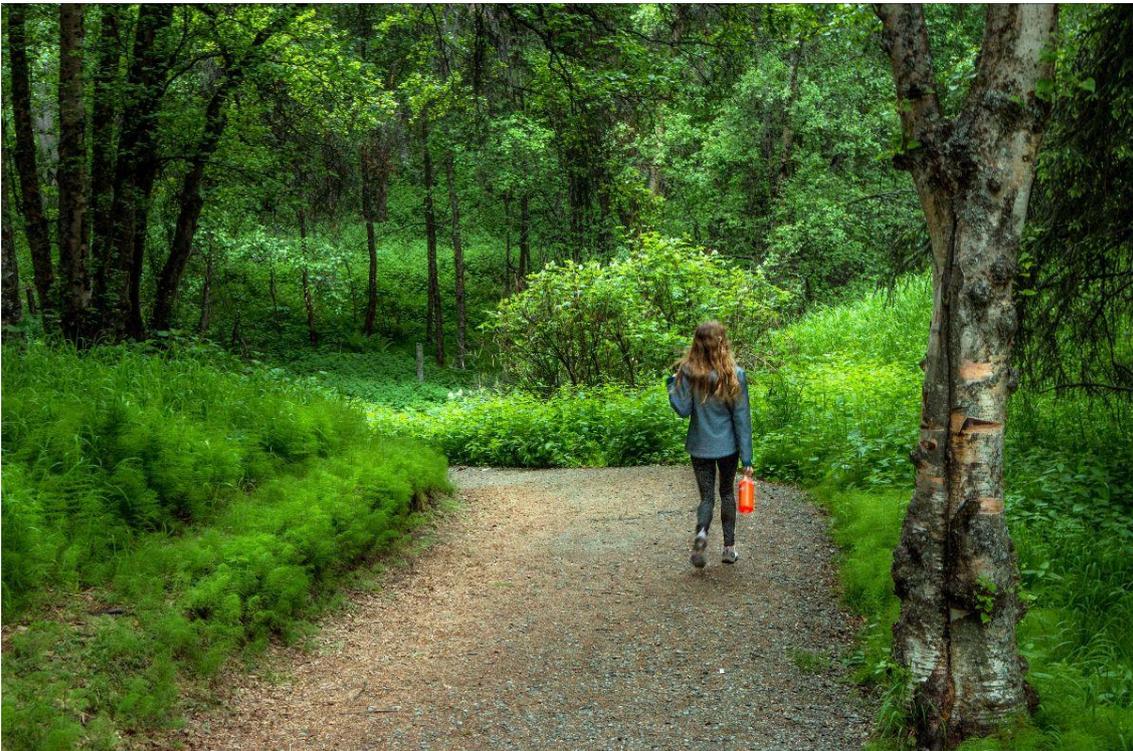




Spring 2021 Newsletter



A message from the Chair

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours well. As I write this it is clear by many signs that Spring is on its way. Daylight hours are getting longer day by day, the bird song is increasing and starting earlier in the morning, the blossom will be coming out soon to join the daffodils.

There have been many dark and hard days for many of us but with the

excellent roll-out of the vaccine and adherence to the Covid-19 restrictions there are signs that we can begin to feel a little hopeful for the future and look forward.

At Healthwatch we want to hear from you as to what your health and social care priorities are going forward. To this end we have today launched our What Matters survey and I hope that you will let us know what health and social care elements matter to you.

Things have changed with the delivery of services during the past year and we need to ensure that your voice is heard as to how services are delivered going forward.

Best wishes

Ann

What matters? Health priorities survey for 2021

We want to hear what matters to the people of Hampshire when it comes to health and social care services for this year.

Now that we have a road map out of the pandemic, and the vaccine roll-out is well under way, we want to know [what matters](#)

[to you](#) when it comes to health and social care services across the County?

- What are your big health priorities looking beyond Covid-19?
- What areas do you think we - as the independent champions for health and social care locally - should be focused on for the rest of this year?

You can complete [our survey here](#) or share your views with us via our website or social media channels. We want to hear from you about What Matters.

[Our survey](#) is running until the end of April and the results will be published on our website in May.

What we've been working on:

Covid-19 vaccine communications campaign

The past few months we have been working in partnership with Hampshire County Council and the local NHS to help share messages around the delivery of the vaccine programme across the county. We worked jointly to ensure all the messages being published were

consistent across the county and the demand for information saw a huge spike in visitors coming to our website. We are continuing with this work to ensure the right information is being shared, to help people make informed choices.



GP registration campaigns

We have developed a website page for people who are not yet registered with their GP and are now planning a social media campaign to encourage people to do so. It's particularly important if you are a carer and if you want the covid-19 vaccine as if you aren't registered they can't get in contact with you. Follow us on Facebook for more details.



Carers Zone Project

Following on from our Caring during Covid survey we have been working on developing a new Carers Zone on our website, which will include vital information which every carer needs to access as well as a directory of helpful services and organisations across Hampshire. This is an ongoing project which will be co-produced with other local organisations. Look out for our announcement when it's ready to go live.

PCN scoping project completed - phase 2 in planning

We completed our initial PCN scoping project, looking at levels of engagement which are taking place between Hampshire PCNs and their local communities and are currently considering what the next

steps will be to develop phase two of this project.

Meeting with council insight team around community engagement

We have been working on further developing our community engagement work and held a meeting with the Insight team at Hampshire County Council to talk about ways to engage with hard to reach and seldom heard communities, which was very positive and will help to shape our engagement plans going forward.

Volunteers

A number of our volunteers have been helping us with some research which is going to help shape our new Carers Zone, as well as some other carer-focused project. Volunteers have been given scenarios to then go and test out online, to see how easy it is to find certain information if you are a carer. This is part of our recommendation from our Caring during Covid report around providing carers with all the information they need. We will be reporting back on the results in due course.



Local health service news



Hampshire Together launches public survey

People across Hampshire and the surrounding areas are being asked how they would like to receive information and provide feedback on potential changes to hospital services. The results will inform public consultation plans for the Hampshire Together: Modernising our Hospitals and Health Services programme, which is expected to consult on proposals for change later this year.

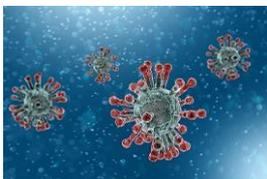
Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HampshireTogetherSurvey> to take part in the online survey, which will close 5pm on Thursday 24 March 2021.

News from around Hampshire



Community Covid-19 testing

Hampshire County Council has [launched](#) a community testing campaign which aims to encourage those without symptoms of Covid-19 who are regularly leaving home to go to work, and who are not covered by an existing workplace testing scheme, to access regular testing. Eleven appointment-only community testing sites across the county became operational this week - tests can be booked online 24 hours in advance through district council websites or on the [County Council website](#) and appointments should take no more than 30 minutes.



Hampshire Council publishing local Covid data

The County Council is now [publishing](#) the latest weekly Covid-19 data summary. Hampshire is seeing a steady decrease in the number of positive cases, but the numbers in hospital remain high. The County Council is thanking residents for all they are doing in helping to

keep Hampshire safe - by protecting themselves and others.



The Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline

If Coronavirus has had an impact on you or any aspect of your life, including anyone who is self-isolating, please call the helpline for advice and support.

The Coronavirus Support and Helpline can be contacted on 0333 370 4000 (calls charged at local rate).

[Find out more](#) including the current opening hours.
