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October 2018

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## Healthwatch Wiltshire wins national award for work with young volunteers



We are delighted to have earned national recognition for a project which gave hundreds of young people a chance to speak up about their mental health.

We picked up an award for Volunteering at the Healthwatch England conference in Stratford upon Avon on Wednesday 3 October, an event which brings together Healthwatch teams from across the UK.

In partnership with Youth Action Wiltshire, Community First and local schools, we mentored a group of students, supporting them to learn new skills and build confidence. Some of the students were trained to become Young Listeners, visiting schools and speaking to other students to understand their views on mental health.

[Read more](#)

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## Meet our new Communications Lead



We'd like to give a very warm welcome to our new Communications Lead, Linda Webb, who joined us in September.

Linda, pictured centre, with Healthwatch Wiltshire Interim Manager Stacey Plumb, right, and Engagement Lead Julie Brown, left, has a background in journalism and publishing and was previously part of the corporate communications team at Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Linda's work will involve developing our new website, managing our social media and producing our newsletters and reports, as well as getting out and about across the county to gather your feedback on health and care services.

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## Have your say on mental health services



We're looking for your views on mental health services in Wiltshire. What works well and what could be improved?

We've been out across the county since the survey was launched at the end of August and have already collected more than 100 responses from events including the Emergency Services Show, Wiltshire College Freshers Fairs, Older Persons Day at Five Rivers Leisure Centre and the Rowdey Cow Fun Day.

The results of our survey will help us focus on areas where improvements can be made, so please take a few minutes to share your experiences before the survey closes at the end of October.

[Take our survey](#)

## Free health and wellbeing guides available



Free [Healthy Ageing](#) and [Healthy Caring](#) guides are now available to provide older people and carers with practical advice on staying fit, healthy and independent.

The A4 guides have been co-produced with AGE UK, Fire Rescue Service, Carers UK, Carers Trust, Public Health England and carers networks.

Both guides can be ordered in any quantity and

delivered for free, through Prolog, by calling 0300 123 1002, quoting reference HC2, for the healthy caring, or HA2 for the healthy living guide, or online at [www.orderline.dh.gov.uk](http://www.orderline.dh.gov.uk).

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## Share your experiences of later life



Age UK Wiltshire have developed a survey with the help of our colleagues at [Healthwatch Swindon](#) to try and get a better understanding of people's experiences in later life.

Your feedback will be used to help Age UK Wiltshire design and develop services and support.

[Click here to take part in the survey](#)

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## Dates for your diary



### Tuesday 16 October

Autumn Coffee Morning, Fountain Way, Salisbury - 10am-12pm

Join us in the Heathwood reception area to share your views on mental health at this [Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust](#) event.

### Monday 12 November

The Big Conversation, Devizes Town Hall - 6pm-8.30pm

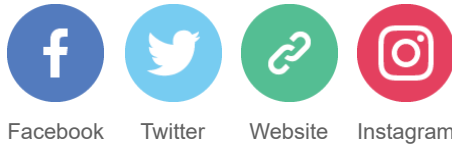
Devizes Community Area Health and Wellbeing Group, are inviting the public to have their say on local issues such as loneliness and isolation, physical health, mental health, support for carers and housing. If you would like to come or have any questions, contact Graeme Morrison, Devizes Community Engagement Manager at

[graeme.morrison@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:graeme.morrison@wiltshire.gov.uk) or on 07986 365943.

## Friday 16 November

Transitions: Moving Towards Adulthood, Corn Exchange,  
Devizes - times tbc

This [Wiltshire Parent Carer Council \(WPCC\)](#) Information Event is free to attend and is set to feature sessions on independent living and overcoming barriers, as well as over 30 information stands - including ours! Check the [WPCC website](#) for details.



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