

## **Local Healthwatch Volunteer**

Our local Healthwatch Volunteers are friendly and approachable. They are the voice of Healthwatch Wiltshire and local people in their community. They support us by talking to people, gathering opinions about local health and care services (good or bad) and spreading the word about the important work we do.

Local Healthwatch Volunteers act as ambassadors for us at events and meetings and make sure our views and the views of local people are heard. This is a perfect role for a friendly, approachable and empathic person who enjoys interacting with members of the public.

### **What does this role involve?**

- Being a link person between Healthwatch Wiltshire and other organisations; members of the public and community groups;
- Attending health and social care networking events;
- Attending Local Area Board meetings;
- Holding engagement and information stands in community areas such as libraries and supermarkets;
- Talking to and gathering views of the public and reporting this back to us;
- Helping us conduct surveys and consultations with local people.

### **The ideal person for this role:**

- ✓ Is passionate about improving local health and social care services;
- ✓ Enjoys meeting with and talking to members of the public;
- ✓ Has good listening and communication skills;
- ✓ Has basic literacy skills (e.g. can take notes);
- ✓ Has the ability to empathise and engage with people and support them to share their views in formal or informal settings;
- ✓ Is able to separate their own experiences from other people's issues and to faithfully present the views of the people they represent;
- ✓ Is willing to ask for support when needed;
- ✓ Is able to present information to an audience;
- ✓ Is able to drive and has their own vehicle.

### **How much time is involved?**

Our volunteering roles are flexible and fit around your schedule. Ideally our local Healthwatch Volunteers should be able to make a regular commitment to the role on a weekly or monthly basis.

We will always work closely with you to ensure your volunteering role fits with your other personal and social commitments.

### **Benefits of volunteering:**

- A chance to learn new skills and an opportunity to meet like-minded people;
- Training and personal development opportunities;
- A useful stepping stone into potential future employment;
- An opportunity to 'give something back' and provide useful input into health and social care services in Wiltshire;
- Routine and structure;
- Improved health and wellbeing;
- Developing useful connections and building good relationships with people in your local community;
- Take part in activities, events and treats alongside our paid staff;
- Individual recognition for outstanding performance in a volunteering role;
- A dedicated volunteer and engagement team to support you.

### **How to apply:**

You can apply for this role either by filling out our online application form or by completing a paper copy of the form which you can download from our website: [www.healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk/volunteering](http://www.healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk/volunteering)

Want to talk to us about this volunteering role? If you have any questions or you would like to find out more, please call us on 01225 434218 or email [info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchwiltshire.co.uk)