



## New films released focusing on Dorset people

A series of new community films – supported by Healthwatch Dorset – have been produced to help inform students studying health and social care.

The short films, which focus on stories from local people about their experiences of various aspects of health and social care including homelessness, end of life care and long term health conditions, have been created by Bournemouth University as part of the PIER (Public Involvement in Education and Research) partnership's work.

Louise Bate, Manager at Healthwatch Dorset, said: "We're thrilled we could help support these films, which provide such a valuable insight into real people's lives and help to inform and educate those who are training in the health and social care sector." Watch them [here](#).

## Steering Group members appointed



A team of local people with a passion for improving health and social care services have been appointed to Healthwatch Dorset's new Steering Group.

The Steering Group members will help set work priorities for Healthwatch Dorset and ensure the organisation adheres to its principles, purpose and vision, ensuring that it operates in a moral and ethical way.

New Steering Group member Lauren Bishop, who works for Dorset Public Health, said: "I'm passionate about improving population health and wellbeing and I'm excited to join the Healthwatch Dorset Steering Group, as I feel it has the potential to do just that.

"I look forward to contributing a balance of public advocacy and a critical lens to give robust strategic direction to Healthwatch's priorities for the year. I feel the Steering Group will really add strength and value to this important field of work and I can't wait to get started!"

Louise Bate, Manager at Healthwatch Dorset, added: "A huge thank you to everyone who applied for the Steering Group and for their interest in the work of Healthwatch Dorset. We now have a great team and look forward to working together."



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## Celebrating Older People's Day

Engagement Officer Lucy Cribb visited a Christchurch care home, where she teamed up with two local physiotherapists to help older residents enjoy an exercise session on Older People's Day.

Lucy said: "Everyone worked really hard and gave it their best. I'm sure there were a few aching muscles the next morning. It was a great session and a good opportunity to talk about Healthwatch Dorset and hear some funny stories from some older people." Read Lucy's full account in her new [blog](#).

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## Join our team!

Are you an experienced administrator? Excited about the idea of running a small office? Are you a people person who is confident talking to the public? If you answered yes, we'd love to hear from you. Closing date for the Team Administrator post is Sunday 27 October. [Find out more...](#)



## Speak to us in the community this month

We want to hear from local people about their experiences of health and social care services in Dorset. Please come and see us at the following places next month:

- The **Volunteer Fair at Weymouth College** on Thursday 7 November, 10am-1.30pm.
- We will mark Alcohol Awareness Week (11-17 Nov) by holding a joint presentation with the Alcohol Education Trust at **Oak Academy, Bournemouth**, on Monday 11 November, 10.40am - 12 noon.
- We will give a presentation about who we are and what we do, to Bournemouth **Older People's Forum at The Bridge, Littledown**, on Thursday 14 November, 10.30am-11.30am.

[Find out more...](#)

**Healthwatch Dorset** is the county's independent health and care champion. We exist to ensure that people are at the heart of care.

Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers listen to what people like about local health and care services, and what could be improved.

These views are then shared with the decision-making organisations in the county, so together we can make a real difference.



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0300 111 0102

Healthwatch Dorset · The Bridge · Chaseside · Bournemouth, BH7 7BX · United Kingdom

<https://www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk>