

An update from Healthwatch Bedford Borough

Welcome to the latest news from Healthwatch Bedford Borough. Recapping the past few months.



Healthwatch Bedford Borough have had a very busy year to date. [Engaging Communities Solutions \(ECS\)](#) took over the Healthwatch Bedford Borough contract in January, which has encouraged lots of positive change. An internal consultation resulted in staff restructuring and a change in leadership along with the introduction of a new Healthwatch Advisory Board (HAB).

HBB undertook a Listening Survey in the spring, looking at what residents, patients, carers, and professionals felt that HBB's priority areas for the year ahead should be.

We are looking forward to a great 2024, expanding on our work such as [Planning for Pregnancy](#), [Dental feedback](#) and [GP Access](#).

Welcome to Gloria



We'd like to extend a warm [Healthwatch Bedford Borough](#) welcome to the newest member of the Healthwatch Bedford Borough team, who started in November.

May we introduce Gloria Chukkwuji, our new Community Outreach Officer.

Gloria will be getting out and about to meetings and events in the new year. If you have an event coming up and would like us to provide an exhibition stand, please email: enquiries@healthwatchbedfordborough.co.uk Welcome to [#TeamBedford](#) Gloria!

✉ gloria.c@healthwatchbedfordborough.co.uk

Virtual Voices

[Virtual Voices](#) is a new forum where you can have YOUR say and WIN prizes. Led by Healthwatch Bedford Borough, Virtual Voices provides Bedford Borough's residents with a unique opportunity to offer their opinions and provide constructive feedback on health and social care services in our town.



[Watch the video](#) for more information and how your voice can help make a difference.

[Join Virtual Voices](#)

Planning for Pregnancy

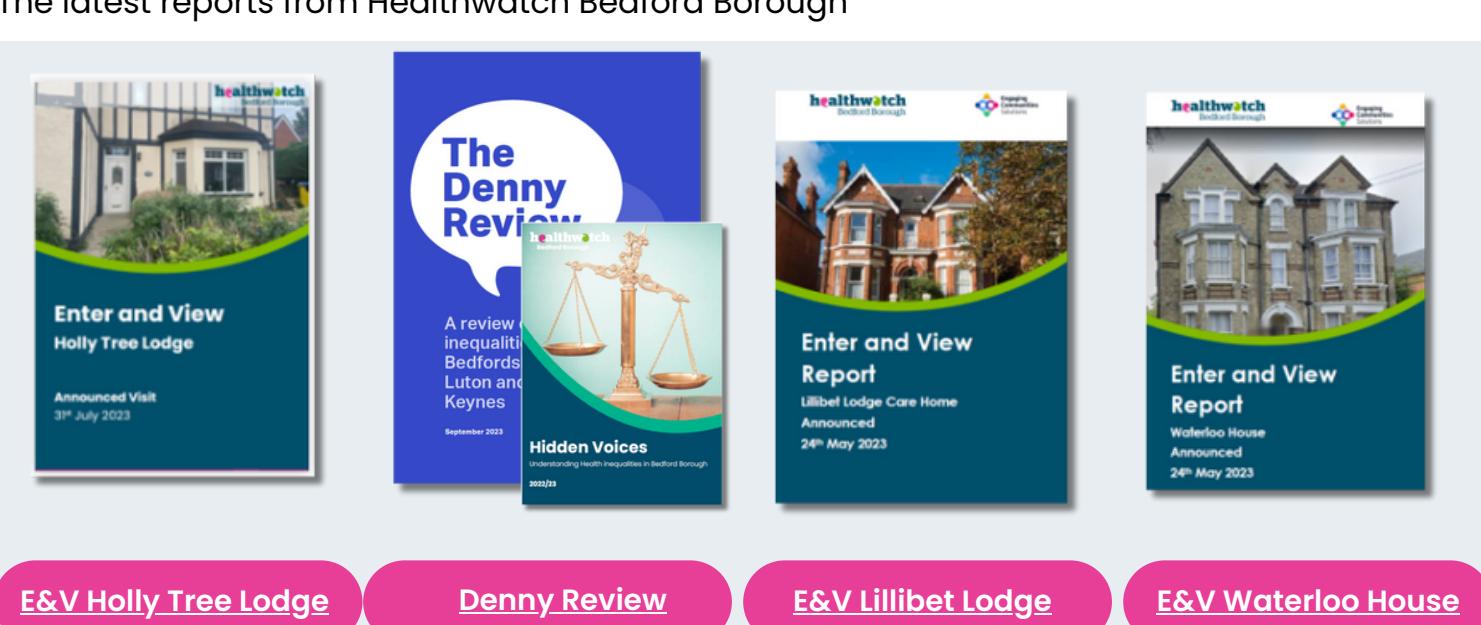


[Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care System \(BLMK ICS\)](#) has commissioned Healthwatch Bedford Borough to support their aim of improving outcomes for women and other people who are thinking about starting a family, by improving pre-pregnancy health, and to conduct an independent survey for people who may be thinking about starting a family, or extending their current family, to inform their work in this area.

[Read more](#)

Reports

The latest reports from Healthwatch Bedford Borough



[E&V Holly Tree Lodge](#)

[Denny Review](#)

[E&V Lillibet Lodge](#)

[E&V Waterloo House](#)

Events

Calling residents of Bedford Borough

Looking for local events?

Our event page has local events that may interest you!

Have an event you want to promote?

Send your information to our Enquiries email and we will add it.



[See Events](#)

[Share your event](#)

Get involved

Volunteer with Healthwatch Bedford Borough Opportunities for everyone

There are lots of different ways you can get involved as a Healthwatch volunteer, from speaking to people about their experiences of health and social care to using your skills to support Healthwatch Bedford Borough

Health Advisory Board

Play a key role in advising on our strategy and priorities. This ensures the involvement of local people in our work and decision-making, and helps us to make key decisions about how to use our statutory powers effectively whilst upholding our independence. We support multi disciplinary partnership working, and Healthwatch Advisory Board members represent us in wider stakeholder engagement and decision-making structures, i.e. Integrated Care Board (ICB), Local Authority Boards and committees, and NHS Trust committees and working groups.

Enter & View Authorised Representative

Listen and observe people's experiences of Health and Social Care services to understand what is working well and what can be improved.

Young Healthwatch

Ensure that young people's voices are heard and help to influence change to make Health and Social Care services better for children and young people.



Scan more information



[Find out more](#)

Stakeholder information

Vaping patterns after quitting smoking.



Healthwatch Bedford Borough has been approached by a Master's student studying Health Psychology at the University of Bedfordshire. They are particularly interested in finding out people's vaping patterns after they have quit smoking, if local patient's feel this helped them quit cigarettes / roll ups, or if they feel vaping has replaced their previous smoking patterns. Please take a few minutes to respond below:

[Have your say](#)

