Volunteer support activity for Healthwatch BaNES

We welcome anyone and everyone to volunteer with Healthwatch, regardless of your prior experience. No matter how much time you can volunteer, we want to support you to develop your skillset and interests as long you helping us achieve Healthwatch’s vision.

**Why volunteer with us?**

* Make a difference in your local community by giving people the opportunity to speak up about their health and social care.
* Make new friends as you become part of the Healthwatch team.
* Boost your CV as you develop new skills and confidence in the workplace.
* Use your skills to contribute to the success of Healthwatch across BaNES.
* Research into issues that are important to you and ensure your voice is heard.

**Volunteer roles**

Volunteer roles are not set in stone, we welcome you to follow your interests. The roles are set out to help guide your time with us to get the most out of your volunteering experience and effectively work alongside your local Healthwatch. Please note certain roles may require more training and a DBS check.

1. **Community Engagement and Outreach Volunteer:**
* Community engagement - speaking to people or patients in different communities to gather general feedback on health inequalities at community events, outreach, liaison with community orgs, etc.
* Enter and view - go into health or social care services to observe service delivery and gather feedback from patients, staff, carers, families etc on specific questions that have come out of analysis of priority questions.
* Attendance of meetings/boards (being a Healthwatch representative).
* Volunteer feedback coordination (to feed into Local Advisory Groups).
1. **Admin and Support Volunteer:**
* Help write a monthly newsletter of upcoming events and opportunities, impact and engagement in last month, etc
* Help set up a volunteer platform for BaNES where volunteers can get monthly updates on the impact BaNES volunteers have had, upcoming volunteer opportunities, platform to chat with other volunteers (other ideas are welcome).
* Data entry of feedback gathered from community engagement
* Social media – help post videos and photos on our social media to let the public know what Healthwatch BaNES is doing and encourage others to share their views or volunteer.
* Event planning - Help plan and prepare volunteer week that happening in the first week of June. Help organise interesting volunteer events throughout the year.

**3. Research Volunteer:**

* Research (e.g. literature reviews, desktop research, etc.) – see examples of research projects further down.
* Impact follow-up reports
* Data analysis (find common themes through feedback and survey/questionnaire data)

**Examples of possible research projects to be involved in at the moment (but not limited to):**

* How can Healthwatch BaNES expand the reach and impact of its reports?
* How can we amplify the voices of underrepresented groups/seldom heard voices?
* What are effective ways to raise public awareness about Healthwatch?
* Where can we identify communities experiencing significant health inequalities?
* How can we improve engagement and communication with diverse community?
* What strategies can increase public participation in health-related discussions?
* What are the best methods to promote collaboration across different teams within the organisation?
* How can Healthwatch BaNES strengthen partnerships with local health and social care providers to involve staff in co-designing service improvements?