

August 2019



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**Hello,**

With the kids off school and eager holidaymakers jetting off to warmer climes, the summer months can often be viewed as a time that's quieter than usual for most industries.

Not the NHS, however!

July proved to be a bumper month that was full of activity, not least because it saw the CCG welcome members of the public along to its Annual General Meeting.

Not only was it a chance for us to share the challenges and highlights of the year with the very people who use local healthcare services, it was an important opportunity for local residents to have their say about issues causing them worry or concern.

As expected, many wanted to share their views on recent events involving five Swindon GP practices and their partnership with the Integral Medical Holdings (IMH) Group.

It was extremely valuable for us to hear first-hand accounts of patients' experiences and, where possible, to provide people with answers and updates that offered some level of reassurance.

Although we were not able to announce the names of the new providers that are in line to work with the affected practices in the long term, due to the complex and time-intensive nature of the negotiations, we were able to inform attendants that two public meetings, in which we can share background, give updates and answer questions, are due to be held on **Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September**.

We're currently finalising venues and times and we'll let everybody know these details as soon as they are confirmed.

The CCG fully understands that people are keen to receive information and this will be shared the moment the potential providers, all of which are local and NHS-based, sign on the dotted line.

For now, however, we'd encourage everybody to hold these two September dates in their diaries, so that as many people as possible can come along and take part in what we hope will be some very meaningful and constructive conversations.

**Until next time, stay healthy and happy!**

## Final seal of approval for Swindon radiotherapy centre

At the beginning of July, the Department of Health announced it would be putting forward the loan needed to make Swindon's long-awaited radiotherapy centre at the Great Western Hospital a reality.

The money will be loaned to Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which will run the centre in Swindon as an expansion to its existing radiotherapy service at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford.

With the project having officially been given the green light, it is hoped the first spades will start digging in spring 2020.

Currently, Swindon patients requiring daily doses of radiotherapy face a gruelling 70 mile round trip to Oxford for the treatment they need.



## Report highlights barriers to healthcare for people with learning disabilities

A report focusing on the accessibility of healthcare services in Swindon has shown there are still barriers in place for people with learning disabilities.

Healthwatch Swindon, working with Swindon Advocacy Movement, carried out nine visits to GP practices to look at how easy it would be for somebody with a learning disability to access the care and support they needed.

A report summarising the exercise showed that better physical access, including more disabled parking spaces and automatic door openings, was needed, as well as more Easy Read signage and information.

[Click here](#) to read the report in full.



## Summary Annual Report

The CCG's Summary Annual Report, which condenses all 150 pages of the main Annual Report into 12 easy-to-digest pages, is now available online.

[Click here](#) to download your copy.



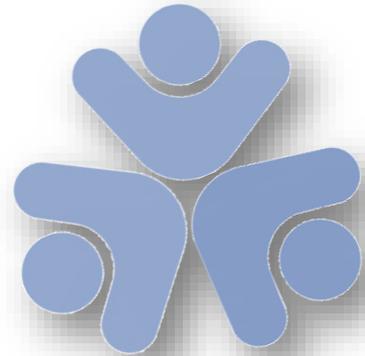
## More than 1,500 people share views in region-wide health campaign

A seven-week campaign that asked people living across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wilshire what they would change about local health and care services generated around 1,600 responses.

Our Health Our Future, which was led by the region's three Clinical Commissioning Groups, aimed to capture the views of local people in a way that would allow health and care leaders to use the feedback to develop plans for the future.

Responses to the survey, which closed on Wednesday 31 July, will now be independently analysed before being published in the autumn.

Thank you to everybody who made time to take part.



## New diabetes education course available in Swindon

People living with Type 2 diabetes are encouraged to take part in a new educational course.

On Track with Type 2 Diabetes aims to provide people with useful information on how to manage their condition, as well as giving those taking part a forum in which they can put questions direct to the experts.

The sessions, which are two hours long, cover a variety of topics, including the basic facts of diabetes, healthy food choices and positive lifestyle changes.

To find a course near you, call 01793 696622 or send an email to [swiccg.communitydiabetesservice@nhs.net](mailto:swiccg.communitydiabetesservice@nhs.net).



## Patient and Public Engagement Forum

The next meeting of the CCG's Patient and Public Engagement Forum will take place on Thursday 26 September at 12.30pm.

[Click here](#) to find out more.

## Governing Body

The next meeting of Swindon CCG's Governing Body will take place on Thursday 26 September at 9am.

Minutes and papers of previous meetings can be found by [clicking here](#).

If you would like to attend, please send an email to [communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk).

## Contact details for the Communications and Engagement Team

### Email

[communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk)

### Telephone

01793 683700

### Post

Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group  
The Pierre Simonet Building  
North Swindon Gateway  
North Latham Road  
Swindon  
SN25 4DL

### Web

[www.swindonccg.nhs.uk](http://www.swindonccg.nhs.uk)

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