

PATIENT ENGAGEMENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

Next 'Fit For My Future' Drop-In:

Tuesday 27th November, 1.30pm - 5.30pm at Abbey Manor Centre, Yeovil

Come and tell us your views on health and care

We are continuing with the county-wide events taking place to hear local people's views on health and care in Somerset, and explore how it could change in future. Somerset CCG, the NHS acute hospital trusts, Somerset Partnership (mental and community health services), and Somerset County Council have jointly launched a programme called 'Fit for My Future' to hear people's experiences of health and care, and gain feedback on emerging proposals of how it may change in future.

There are five health and care areas under review:

- planned care (usually non-emergency treatment) and cancer
- long term health conditions (such as diabetes) and frailty
- urgent and emergency care
- mental health and learning disabilities
- maternity and children's services.

The events will explain why we need a new approach to health and care services to help support Somerset residents to live longer, healthier and more independent lives. And, when people do need health and care support, how it might be provided in a way that best meets their needs, and as close to home or community as possible. The CCG and their partners want to hear the views, experiences and ideas of as many people as possible. They hope people will visit one of the drop-ins taking place across the county at:

• **The Hub, Minehead** **Monday 26th November, 1.30pm - 5.30pm**

• **Abbey Manor Centre, Yeovil** **Tuesday 27th November, 1.30pm - 5.30pm**

Alternatively, if it's difficult to reach one of the above events, people can review the information at **www.fitformyfuture** and give their feedback via an online questionnaire located in the 'get involved' section. For further questions about the 'Fit For My Future' programme, please email **somccg.fitformyfuture@nhs.net**.

For more information, please contact Paul Courtney, NHS Communications Manager, Somerset CCG on 01935 385241 or email paul.courtney@nhs.net or Deborah Porter, Communications Manager at Somerset County Council on 079 766 98075 or email pressoffice@somerset.gov.uk

Fit For My Future hosting a session on Facebook:

Fit for my Future will be hosting a live session on Thursday 6th of December, 7pm - 7.30pm

If you click on our page during that time, you will be able to join the conversation: **<https://www.facebook.com/FFMFSomerset>**. We really hope to see as many of you as possible online. It's an opportunity to ask any questions you might have about Fit for my Future and hear more about our programme.

If you can't log on to Facebook during that time but have any questions, please email me at claire.mykura@nhs.net so we can include them in the discussion.

If you want to find out more about Fit for my Future, head to the website:
www.fitformyfuture.org.uk/ We look forward to seeing you on Facebook.

Claire Mykura | Digital Communications Officer (Fit for my future)

Wynford House | Lufton Way | Lufton | Yeovil | Somerset | BA22 8HR
Telephone: 07770 733148



Re-opening of Wellington Community Hospital and NEW survey:

Last month, Somerset Partnership had to make the difficult decision to pause the plans to re-open Wellington Community Hospital to support the increase in community stroke beds. Since then we have been carrying out a stocktake of the staffing situation, and I am pleased to report that a recent improvement in local nursing recruitment means we are now able to re-open the inpatient ward at Wellington Community Hospital. We plan to reopen in January and will be working with our nursing and medical teams for a smooth and seamless reopening for staff and all our patients.

The staffing situation is still fragile as we head into a very busy winter. We will need to keep staffing levels under review. We are very grateful to local communities and Healthwatch for sharing their views around the challenges of staffing at the hospitals. We will continue to engage with local people and have launched a survey for people to give us their views about the criteria we need to consider if the staffing situation becomes very difficult again over the winter. This is available at <http://www.sompar.nhs.uk/contact-us/get-involved/community-hospitals-2018/>.

Please do ask if you have any questions and we will, of course, keep you updated.

Lucy Nicholls

Patient and Public Involvement Manager

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
2nd Floor, Mallard Court
Express Park, Bristol Road
Bridgwater TA6 4RN

Tel: **079 202 666 92** Email: Lucy.Nicholls@sompar.nhs.uk Twitter: [@SomParNHS](https://twitter.com/SomParNHS)

Independent Plus – a new service launched for Somerset:

Civic dignitaries, health professionals (such as GPs), occupational therapists, village agents and social care staff saw the launch of a new, one-stop shop service for Somerset.

Somerset Independent Plus is aimed at keeping people in their own homes for longer by offering practical and financial help in a number of situations. The service is a joined up approach across health, housing and social care. Somerset Independence Plus can offer advice and financial assistance that covers a number of improvements, adaptations or repairs that might need to be carried out in the home. Some services are free, whilst others have a fee. There will be other centres in other districts in the future.

Cllr Duncan McGinty, Leader of Sedgemoor District Council, who host the partnership, said 'this a great example of partnership working. It was really good to see so many people who care and are enthusiastic about enabling people to stay living independently in their own homes. I was amazed at the range of gadgets and equipment that the Independent Assessment Centre have assembled in one place.'

The centre at Chelston Industrial Park, Wellington, TA21 9JH will be open to members of the public as a drop-in on Mondays, from 9.30am until 4pm. Alternatively, appointments can be booked by contacting **Somerset Direct** on **0300 123 2224**.