

# Local Advisory Group Member

## Role description

### Commitment

We anticipate the time commitment will be approximately one to two days per month. Reasonable out of pocket expenses will also be reimbursed in line with organisational policy.

### Purpose of the role

You will work with other members of the Local Advisory Group in setting the strategic plan and work program for Healthwatch Barnsley, ensuring the service lives up to its shared vision, aims, and values. In addition to attending and leading Local Advisory Group meetings, members will ensure that the service's strategic direction is clearly communicated and provide support and advice to the staff and management team.

### Members will:

- Attend Healthwatch Barnsley Local Advisory Group meetings which provides community guidance and oversight of the work of Healthwatch Barnsley.
- Be a champion for Healthwatch Barnsley.
- Have the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to be perceived by partners and the public as a credible member of a professional, responsive and evidence-based organisation.
- Work with the Healthwatch Barnsley leadership in helping to shape the strategic direction of Healthwatch Barnsley. In line with the contract, service specification, legislation and guidance from Department of Health and Healthwatch England, through good governance and effective strategic planning.
- Work with the Barnsley Healthwatch Team and Healthwatch Barnsley Local Advisory Group (LAG) in using public and patient engagement to influence matters in health and social care in the Borough and wider region acting as the independent consumer champion.

## **Responsibilities and tasks**

- To attend Local Advisory Group meetings, ensuring that it functions effectively and carries out its duties.
- To work with the Healthwatch Manager to ensure that Healthwatch Barnsley is effective in meeting its objectives in line with the aims and values of Healthwatch.
- Act as champion for Healthwatch Barnsley where appropriate, upholding the reputation and values of the organisation.
- To ensure that Healthwatch Barnsley will actively seek views from all sections of the community – not just from those who shout the loudest, but especially from those who sometimes struggle to be heard as well as those who are seldom heard.
- Work with the Healthwatch Manager, to develop appropriate and relevant agendas, ensuring all matters requiring Advisory Group review are discussed.
- To operate within the aims, policies and practices of Healthwatch Barnsley at all times and to be committed to and promote the organisation's vision and values.
- To adhere to the required high standards of corporate and personal conduct as expected in a high-profile public role in accordance with the Nolan Principles.

# Person Specification

The following attributes are required of the successful candidate:

- Experience of working or volunteering in an organisation that operates for the benefit of communities.
- Experience of working with the public and community organisations.
- Experience of building and developing successful partnerships, alliances and working relationships with a range of organisations and stakeholders.

## Skills and Abilities

- Good at listening to a wide range of people and feeding back key points and learning.
- Skilled in building strong relationships and collaborative partnerships (this can include study groups and project teams for example).
- Able to work as part of a team and support others.
- Skilled at bringing people together to generate a strong team spirit, able to work collaboratively, building consensus and encouraging effective decision making.
- Committed to representing agreed Healthwatch Barnsley views and collective decisions rather than personal views or opinions.
- Have or willing to develop skills to negotiate effectively, challenge positively and influence others.
- Have or be willing to develop skills to effectively influence discussions and bring local people's voices to the discussion in a clear and professional manner.
- Ability to use IT and web-based applications.

## Knowledge and experience

- Good local knowledge of Barnsley, its communities and organisations.
- Good understanding of health, social care and wellbeing policy issues/challenges facing NHS and local authority.
- Understanding of the national and policy challenges facing the health and social care systems which impact on community health and well-being.
- Able to demonstrate good awareness and understanding of the current environment in Barnsley and how local services are delivered.
- Experience of working in a collective decision-making group such as a board or group.
- Experience of working with voluntary groups.

## Personal behavior and style

- Passionate about promoting better outcomes in health and social care for all.
- Proactively demonstrates strong commitment to equality and diversity.
- Supportive team work style that motivates people to deliver their best.
- Open to learning and development, for self, staff and the service.
- Willingness to share skills and expertise with other volunteers and act as a mentor or “buddy” to a new volunteer.
- Time and commitment to effectively discharge the responsibilities of the post.

## Need to chat to us?

- For an informal chat about the role, contact Lesley Cooper, Healthwatch Barnsley Manager. You can email [hello@healthwatchbarnsley.org.uk](mailto:hello@healthwatchbarnsley.org.uk) or call [01226 320106](tel:01226320106)