

What Healthwatch Islington does

Healthwatch Islington is grant funded by London Borough of Islington until March 2016 to carry out the following functions:

- Collecting and reporting your views on local health and social care services,
- Engaging you in decision-making about services,
- Monitoring local services as they are delivered,
- Providing information about local services.
- Annual report legal requirement, follows a template.

Key successes in 2014-15

- Great staff and volunteer team,
- Having an influence,
- Diverse membership and service users,
- Strong relationships with local voluntary and statutory sector partners,
- Highlighted by the King's Fund and London
 Assembly (and shortlisted for two Healthwatch
 awards),
- Partnership working with 12 other Healthwatch to increase access for Sign Language users,
- Great leadership from the Board and Chair.



Challenges

- Following up recommendations some progress but some providers are much less responsive - can we work with OSC?
- Raising awareness of what we do what works best is personal contact,
- Increasing capacity, whilst maintaining quality within our budget.



Plans for the Future

- Keep up the good work,
- Continue to review diversity and increase our reach,
- More creative awareness raising techniques,
- Increase activity with children and young people,
- Seek alternate sources of funding to increase capacity,
- Develop consortia with small voluntary sector partners.

