Have your say:
The following surveys are still ‘live’

Shaping our Future
Services are jointly asking for your views on ‘Taking Control, Shaping our Future’ which outlines proposals for health and care services in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
Find out more at: http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/shapethefuture
Or contact us for a paper copy.
The survey is open until 20th January.

Listening to people with dementia and their carers
The Department of Health is running an online survey for people who have been diagnosed with dementia in the past two years (since November 2014), and people who provide unpaid care for them.
Go to: https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/dementia/care-support-and-awareness
The survey is open until 31st January.

Non-urgent patient transport
NHS Kernow is consulting on NHS funded patient transport, including arrangements for travel from the Isles of Scilly.
To find out more and take a survey, go to: https://www.kernowccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/consultation/non-emergency-patient-transport/
Or contact us for a paper copy.
The consultation is open until 6th March.
A public meeting on St Marys is planned for February.

Public Meeting
You can find out more about the proposals in ‘Shaping our Future’, and give your views.
Members of the team behind the plan will be here on:
Thursday 12th January
Wesleyan Chapel
10.30am to 12 noon
There’s no need to book a place, just turn up.
IOS Medical Travel and Transport Group

Healthwatch administers and co-chairs this group. It includes representatives of the NHS, Council, Skybus and Healthwatch, and meets every two months to discuss issues as they arise. Members share information and often problems can be managed by working together. It is not a forum where policies are made or agreed. Organisations are responsible for making their own policies and some may be subject to wider consultation.

Recent discussion included:
- assessment and arrangements for hospital discharge or transfer; RCHT policy on time limit for travel, and flights via Newquay; measures to reduce the need for travel; winter contingency arrangements.

Other developments in medical travel:

**Funding for high costs of travel from off islands.**

Healthwatch initially raised this from feedback. NHS Kernow has accepted that this is a mandatory requirement but must identify savings elsewhere. These will come from reducing the need to travel where appropriate. This issue is not dependent on the current consultation regarding IOS patient travel. Healthwatch has registered concern that the consultation document appears to suggest that the proposals are linked.

**Non-emergency patient transport consultation.**

These proposals first came to the IOS Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24/11/16. Healthwatch proposed, and it was accepted, that HOSC establish a separate working group to discuss the proposals with NHS Kernow. This group included Councillors, local clinicians, Healthwatch and NHS Kernow. The views expressed at this meeting will be considered as part of the consultation.
Other Healthwatch activity

Children and young people's concerns
Healthwatch has a seat on the IOS Children’s Committee and meets occasionally with Children’s Services.

Julia Day, Healthwatch Director, made it clear that she was less interested in what adults say is important to young people, and keener to hear from them directly.

Healthwatch invited the Five Islands Student Council to take part in a Takeover Challenge. This is an initiative begun by the national Children’s Commissioner, to give young people an input in how services are provided.

In November, five students aged 11 - 15 spent the morning at Healthwatch. They researched and evaluated information aimed at their age group, and gave us some pointers. They then ran a Healthwatch Board meeting and discussed items on our work plan which they felt were most interesting and important.

We were bowled over by their enthusiasm, views, and ideas. We’ve shared a number of their recommendations with services and will follow up a few ourselves. You can find the full report on our website or ask at the office.

Drug and Alcohol Survey
The Public Health Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) commission drug and alcohol treatment services and are evaluating current provision. They asked us to run a community survey as part of this process.

Many people commented on under age drinking, often referring to an adult culture of acceptance of heavy drinking, and the example this sets our young people.

We have forwarded the results of our survey to DAAT and you can read the report on our website, or ask at the office.

Accommodation on the mainland
Many people have commented on the need to find accommodation when attending for an appointment or treatment, and the costs involved. We have a list of accommodation recommended by patients.

Healthwatch and the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Cancer Patient and Carer Group made a joint report to the IOS Health and Wellbeing Board, which will be considered at their January meeting. Meanwhile the HWB Chair has written to the Chief Executive of Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust.

Supported Exercise programmes
We have heard from some people that although they have been advised to improve their fitness, either in general or to rehabilitate from an op or ill health, they have found it hard to get information and support to begin a safe level of activity. We had also identified, through feedback, a need for better ‘joined up’ therapy and rehabilitation services.

We made a report to the IOS Health and Wellbeing Board, which will be considered at their January meeting. The future of Active Scilly is being considered separately, but we hope the discussion at the Health and Wellbeing Board may have some bearing.

All Healthwatch reports are available on our website or from the office
There are more activity updates on our website, see the section ‘Our Work’
Governor vacancy for South West Ambulance Services Foundation Trust

People across the south west wanting to help shape the future of their local ambulance service have the rare opportunity to put themselves forward for the role of Governor.

The Trust has over 14000 public and 4000 staff members and it is the membership from the respective constituencies who will vote for a governor to represent them, take forward their views and questions to the Trust’s Board of Directors and engage directly with them.

The Council of Governors ensures that the Trust is compliant with the terms of its licence as an NHS Foundation Trust. It also holds the Board to account and feeds back public and members’ views of the service and strategic developments to the Board.

In order to become a governor you must be over 16 years of age, be able to commit about eight days a year to meetings and workshops, as well as attend public events to engage with existing members as well as recruiting new ones. It is also important that prospective governors have knowledge and skills including:

- a strong interest in and commitment to the NHS and its values;
- some experience of committees or large meetings;
- good communication skills;

No remuneration will be payable but travel expenses will be reimbursed. There are other eligibility criteria candidates will need to view and satisfy before putting themselves forward.

The nominations process started on 30th December and finishes on 17th January and nomination forms can be obtained from Electoral Reform Services:
Telephone: 0208 889 9203
Text: 2FT AM and your name and address to 88802
Email: michelle.barber@electoralreform.co.uk or FTNominations@electoralreform.co.uk

More information about becoming a trust member and Governor is available via www.swast.nhs.uk/governors.htm