

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT BOARD – 16.05.2013

Note: HIB's Healthwatch Oxfordshire - Public Involvement member.

1. Fuel poverty – response from local MPs and relevant Minister sent to James Martin.
2. The social repercussions and effects of alterations to the welfare/benefit legislation are not likely to be realistically accessible before end of September - October 2013.
3. Asian sub-continent people living in Oxfordshire (Banbury and Oxford) need to have vitamin D deficiency addressed if the significant health and social care repercussions of this are not to be avoided. I suggest that conversations with the significant Asian community leaders, including the Imams at the relevant mosques, be held so as to engage the communities appropriately.
4. There is considerable anxiety in North Oxfordshire about the forthcoming (following the period of local elections), OUHT consultation with regard to the services provided at the Horton General Hospital.
5. There are anxieties with regard to the forthcoming OCCG consultation concerning its commissioning/financial planning, promised for the **end** of the current financial year. Many are asking why this had not taken place during the 'shadow' period of the OCCG.
6. There is considerable concern with regard to the impact of the OCC's impending cuts on social care for those with learning disabilities and the elderly.
7. The PIN is in the process of being evaluated. The 'Lay' members of each of the three Health and Well-Being Board's Sub-Boards, (Adult H&SC + C&YP H&SC + HIB-Public Health) have agreed that as OCC has with effect from April 1st 2013, the statutory duty to commission Healthwatch Oxfordshire, with its statutory functions of public involvement and its statutory membership of the Health & Well-Being Board, the continuing role of the PIN is confusing to many of the Oxfordshire population.

Anita Higham OBE 08.05.2013

