

Healthwatch Oxfordshire Report to Health and Wellbeing Board – July 2026

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Since the last Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) meeting 14 May 2026:

Healthwatch Oxfordshire reports to external bodies

Since the last Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) May meeting we attended:

- Health Improvement Board
- Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Board (June 2026)
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

Any reports to external bodies we attend can be found online at <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/reports-to-committees>
We attend Oxfordshire Place Based Partnership monthly, and attended the Thames Valley Integrated Care Board (TV ICB) Quality Committee.

We attend Primary and Community Board, Neighbourhood Health working groups, and Oxfordshire Health Inequalities Forum and Oxfordshire Marmot Place meetings.

We published our priorities and focus for the coming year 2026-27 here: <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/our-priorities>

We have published Healthwatch Oxfordshire responses to Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's Quality Accounts 2025-26, Sue Ryder's Quality Accounts 2025-26 and Oxford Health Quality Accounts 2025-26 (jointly with Healthwatch Bucks) here:

<https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/correspondence>

- We held an online event to **showcase Healthwatch Oxfordshire's work over the last year 2025-6**. If you were unable to attend a recording and the full annual impact report will be available here: <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/annual-impact-reports>

Hear about our work in 2025-26

Join us online on
Wednesday 8 July
1pm-2pm
for a showcase of
our work last year



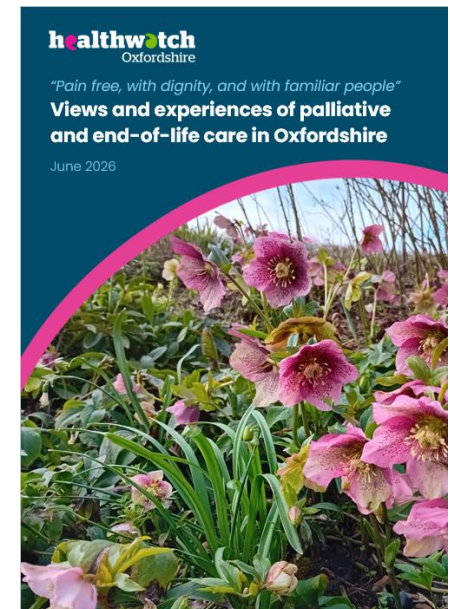
Hearing from residents – Healthwatch Oxfordshire research & insight reports

Our research reports focus on making sure the voice of people who use services is directly linked to recommendations of improvement or change. Hearing from people is carried out using a variety of methods, including online, face to face, and targeted work, linking to community groups, and on the streets. All our reports and written responses to our recommendations from commissioners and providers can be seen here: healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/reports

All reports are available in summary and Easy Read. To see more about the **impact** of our reports and how we ensure people's voice makes a difference see here: healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/impact/impact-of-our-research/

We follow up on recommendations and action with providers or commissioners at six months.

- We heard from **851 people** across **14 rural settlements** working in partnership with Community First Oxfordshire as part of the **Marmot focus on health inequalities**. Healthwatch Oxfordshire was commissioned by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to support engagement on this aspect of the Marmot focus. Our report is due to be published in September.
- **Views and experiences of palliative and end-of-life care in Oxfordshire** shares what we heard from **over 110 people** about what is important to them towards the end of their lives, and what might support people to have conversations about their wishes with family, friends, and health and care professionals. We also heard about people's experiences of end-of-life and palliative care services. Insights give lived experience perspectives, and valuable indicators for health and social care services as they navigate the shift to Neighbourhood Health.
- We heard that many people had clear and consistent priorities about what mattered to them most at the end of life, but there was limited awareness of advance care planning and ReSPECT and people said they would appreciate more support and information about how to have end-of-life conversations. People told us about positive experiences including good symptom management, joined-up care and being treated with dignity and compassion, but we also heard about challenges including gaps in communication, difficulties accessing support, and a lack of coordination and continuity of care between providers.



Community research

Healthwatch Oxfordshire continues to bring our expertise in supporting **community and participatory research** and working with communities to explore issues and voice issues of importance to them.

- ✓ We presented our community research into the experiences of **older Chinese people** at the Oxfordshire Community Research Network, and supported **Black Women in Maternity** to present their community research findings
- ✓ We produced translated summaries of community research with **Sunrise Multicultural Project** in Banbury, including key information about **breast health and screening**, in Urdu and Punjabi for women who took part in the research to share with their communities
- ✓ See our website for links to all community research supported by Healthwatch Oxfordshire, as well as resources, and local links to other community research <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/community-research>
- ✓ Healthwatch Oxfordshire shared insights on our journey, case studies and experience of community research with the Thames Valley Research Engagement Network (REN) in an interview piece here: <https://researchengagementnetwork.notion.site/Stories-and-updates-272f5d0ad77d8051a753da07454ce6a1>)
- ✓ We are an active member of **Oxfordshire Community Research Network** and continue to contribute to its development.

Participatory research is supported by Healthwatch Oxfordshire working alongside community members.

We continue to promote the **How to Guide for Community Research** (e.g. at Oxford University public engagement in research event, and community led presentation at the Oxfordshire Community Research Network), and are working with the Oxfordshire Community Research Network to develop a training offer for community researchers to run alongside use of the How to Guide.

Enter and View visits and reports

Staff and lay representatives make Enter and View visits to healthcare settings to collect evidence of what works well and what could be improved to make people's experiences better. Based on the feedback of patients and members of staff, we highlight areas of good practice and suggest improvements.

See <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/enter-and-view-reports>

Since the last meeting we have published the following Enter and View report:

- **Katharine House Hospice**



Other activity summary

- See here: <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/our-impact/> with examples of how our work has had an impact
- Recordings to watch and slides, and joining details for our future **public webinars** can be seen here <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/our-webinars>.
- Our next webinar will be on **Tuesday 15th September from 1-2 p.m. on End of Life and Palliative Care** with speakers from Oxford Health and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
- **Community Marmot Event**
We supported development of a community led event to hear from grassroots communities about the activity they are doing to support Marmot objectives, and to hear from decision makers about the collaborative efforts' county wide. This was planned in conjunction with Oxford Community Action, Melissa Latchman, and Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) and Community First Oxfordshire (CFO). Unfortunately, this event was cancelled on the day due to maintenance problems with the venue, but attendees made the most of the much-needed opportunity to network over coffee and cake and build relationships between communities and health and care services and decision-makers.

Aspects of the event have been positively incorporated into part of the Director of Public Health annual report launch on 10th July as part of the wider focus on tackling health inequalities.

- **We publish bi-monthly news bulletins** to bring up to date health and care information to the public (to read previous issues and to sign up to receive a copy see <https://healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/our-newsletter>), as well as active social media platforms, website and sharing communications via local news and community networks.
- We carry out active listening, engagement and **ongoing outreach** to community groups, at events and on the street and other settings across the county, and gain insights into experiences and views on health and care along with via phone and our online feedback centre. We have a rolling programme of hospital visits to speak to the public. Outreach in the last quarter (Apr–Jun 2026) included:
 - Outreach to parent groups to hear about maternity services, including in Abingdon, Barton, Cowley and Charlbury
 - Eid Extravaganza in Blackbird Leys and Oxford Sanctuary Fair in Florence Park.
- Key themes we have been hearing since May include good communication and high quality care across several services, difficulty getting appointments including GP practices, physiotherapy and mental health services, and limited follow-up medical care after discharge from hospital.
- We continue actively working with **Patient Participation Groups** (PPGs) across the county, attended PPG meetings and sending news updates, and supporting involvement in development of Neighbourhood Health.