



## News Update

### FIND OUT THE NEXT STEPS FOR GP SERVICES IN WEST OXFORDSHIRE



You are welcome to attend a public event where you can hear views and feedback you shared with us about GP services in West Oxfordshire.

**The meeting is being held at Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney OX28 6AB on Thursday 7 December 2017 from 6.30pm to 8pm. You'll need to confirm your attendance - see below for details.**

At the meeting we'll [outline your ideas](#) on how primary care services could work better in the face of increased demand, recruitment difficulties and budget pressures. It will also be an opportunity to hear the next steps for GP services in the area.

To reserve your place and get more information please email [cscsu.talkinghealth@nhs.net](mailto:cscsu.talkinghealth@nhs.net) or call 01865 334638.

If you are unable to attend the meeting you can still have your say [online via Talking Health](#) (you might need to register on Talking Health to take part).

### KIREN TAKES OVER AS THE NEW CLINCIAL CHAIR AT OCCG



Dr Kiren Collison took up her new role on 1 December and has the responsibility of leading on the clinical side of buying health services on behalf of local people.

Kiren, who is a GP based in Witney, was elected to serve a four year term of office in October by her colleagues. She takes over from Dr Joe McManners who had been in the post since 2014. For more information [click here](#)

## SOME ADVICE FOR AVOIDING COUGHS AND COLDS THIS WINTER



To help keep coughs and colds at bay there are a few things you can do:

- Cover your mouth and nose every time you cough or sneeze
- Use a disposable tissue to cover your mouth or nose if possible
- If a cough or sneeze sneaks up on you and no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve

For more information and advice on keeping warm and well this winter [click here](#)

## Reminders

### FREE FLU VACCINE FOR CARE WORKERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN



OCCG and Oxfordshire County Council are helping care workers stay well this winter by offering them a free flu jab.

More than 10,000 people across Oxfordshire are set to benefit from this new NHS funded scheme, including care home and hospital staff, community workers and those providing personal home support. For more information on the new scheme [click here](#)

Parents are reminded their young children might be eligible for a free flu vaccine via a nasal spray to help protect them against the illness - the spray is painless and easy to have. To find out if your child is eligible [click here](#)

Remember, one of the best ways to stay well this winter is to stay warm. For advice on keeping warm and well [click here](#)

### FIND YOUR NEAREST PHARMACY VIA THE OCCG PHONE APP



OCCG's phone app can help you stay well and healthy over winter.

'Health and Care Oxfordshire' provides advice on when it might be best to visit a pharmacist or a GP, when to call NHS 111, or if self-care at home might be more appropriate.

The app also provides a link to Patient Access which lets you book an appointment to see your doctor.

It highlights the type of injuries or illnesses seen at minor injuries units and first aid units in Oxfordshire. You can locate your nearest health service via interactive maps.

To download the app for iPhones [click here](#) and for Androids [click here](#)

## TELL A FRIEND TO REGISTER WITH THE TALKING HEALTH NEWSLETTER



You can remind friends and colleagues to receive the Talking Health newsletter by registering with OCCG's online consultation tool 'Talking Health' and selecting the newsletter option - this is available to view by [clicking here](#) or email to: [richard.mccrann@nhs.net](mailto:richard.mccrann@nhs.net)

The newsletter highlights initiatives and events taking place in our localities and among our partner organisations in the NHS, local government and in the voluntary and third sector. To view previous editions [click here](#)

## Partnership Information

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OFFICERS WANTED BY HEALTH WATCHDOG



Healthwatch Oxfordshire is recruiting for these two posts which include:

- community involvement officer – leading our outreach work, first point of contact with our volunteers, and developing our Young Healthwatch.
- localities officer - a key role giving support to six Patient Participation Locality Forums and supporting the development of the county's patient participation groups.

For job roles and person specifications visit <http://www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/jobs>

## HELP US SHAPE THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2018 - 2021



Oxfordshire County Council is producing the plan and wants your feedback on a proposed new vision for delivering services for children and young people, parents and carers.

The aim is to make the plan simple and easy to access and which focuses on four key areas: being successful, healthy, safe and supported. To take part in the survey [click here](#) which closes on 5 December.

## SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON ORTHODONTIC SERVICES



Are you or someone you care for receiving NHS orthodontic treatment? If so then NHS England would like to hear about your experience of the service.

NHS England is responsible for buying orthodontic services (most commonly involving treatment using braces). Some of the contracts to provide these services will be coming to an end in 2019 so NHS England will be carrying out a procurement process to commission new contracts.

They would like your views on orthodontic services which will be used to inform the procurement process so that services meet your needs.

If you would like to share your views you can do this by completing a short online survey [click here](#) which closes on Wednesday 27 December 2017.

## Locality News

### PATIENT FORUM MEETINGS BEING HELD IN PUBLIC IN OXFORDSHIRE



We'll keep you updated on future patient participation group meetings that are being held in public allowing you the opportunity to shape and improve health care in Oxfordshire.

Please contact Richard McCrann at South, Central and West  
Commissioning Support Unit  
Communications Team if you have any questions about this e-bulletin:  
[richard.mccrann@nhs.net](mailto:richard.mccrann@nhs.net)