

# healthwatch

## Blackburn with Darwen

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### News Bulletin

Issue 1 April 2013

On the 1st April 2013 a new organisation called 'Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen' replaced the BwD Local Involvement Network (LINK). Carers Federation have won the contract to develop local Healthwatch in Blackburn with Darwen up to March 2014.

Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen is an independent consumer champion for health and social care users, and will help people find the health and social care services that are right for them. Please see page 2 for the role your local Healthwatch will have in shaping the Health and Social Care services.

Invitation to

# Launch event

with presentations from Dag Saunders Healthwatch England and Councillor Mohammed Khan

24th April 2013 | at Blackburn Youth Zone | 11.30am-1.30pm

Light lunch provided

For more information or to book a place please contact the Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen Project Office on Tel: 01254 504985



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HealthwatchBwD



[www.healthwatchblackburnwithdarwen.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchblackburnwithdarwen.co.uk)

Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen will officially launch on the 24th April. Recruitment for a Chair and Board Directors will commence shortly. Anyone over 18 living in Blackburn with Darwen, or anyone who uses the health or social care services in the Borough may apply for the post. Exceptions apply for Councillors, health and social care providers, and people whose work directly involves them in commissioning health or social care services for BwD.

If you are interested in applying for the Chair or as a Director of Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen, or for more information on Healthwatch, please contact the Healthwatch Project Office.

## Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen will be responsible for:

- Enabling people to share their views and concerns about health and social care services in Blackburn with Darwen.
- Providing authoritative, evidence-based feedback to organisations responsible for commissioning or delivering local health and social care services.
- Working with the Clinical Commissioning Group to help make sure that services really are designed to meet local people's needs.
- Ensuring that the views and experiences of patients, carers and other service users are taken into account when local needs assessments and strategies are prepared.
- Providing people with information about what to do when things go wrong; this includes either signposting people to, or providing, advocacy for people who want to complain about NHS services.
- Alerting Healthwatch England to concerns about specific care providers.

## Contacting your Healthwatch Project Office

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The Project Office are currently recruiting a part-time administrator. If you would like more information please contact Mark Rasburn.

