

Board Members are asked to note the following recent policy and other items which have a bearing on the work of Healthwatch Rutland .

### **1. Carers**

NHS England has published two documents intended to support carers and their families:-

- On 4th July NHS England published a toolkit to help health & social care organisations work together in identifying and supporting the wellbeing of carers and their families . The toolkit explains what is expected of NHS organisations under the Care Act 2014 and the Children's and Families Act 2014.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/pe/commitment-to-carers/carers-toolkit/>

- **Support for carers**

The Department of Health are consulting on a new strategy for carers. The new strategy is designed to provide support which reflects the existing needs of carers, the health and financial concerns they have, along with the support they need to live well while caring for a loved one. **Deadline:** Sunday 31 July 2016

[carers@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:carers@dh.gsi.gov.uk);

### **2. Patient access to GP records online**

Over 55 million patients in England set to benefit from accessing their GP record online. Patients in England will be able to view test results as they come in and keep track of their glucose levels and cholesterol on their smartphones, enabling them to take greater control of their care and better manage their health. Official figures reveal that over 95% of GP practices are now set up to offer online access to detailed GP records including test results and diagnoses as well as referrals, immunisations, procedures and medications history. This is up from just 3% of practices in January this year.

### **3. National Cancer Patient Survey Published July 2016**

These results for 2015 are available on request .Results for our three local units at Peterborough, Kettering and UHL stand up well except for support at home after treatment .

### **4. Investigations into unsafe discharge from hospitals**

The Commons' Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee is holding an evidence session to consider the findings of the Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman's (PHSO's) report on unsafe discharge from hospital. The Committee is inviting written submissions about the quality and content of the PHSO's report and the actions that the Department of Health and NHS England should be taking to address the issues raised.

### **5. Involving the public in primary care commissioning**

NHS England has developed a [framework for patient and public participation in primary care commissioning](#). The framework is a guide for primary care commissioners, in NHS England and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), on how to involve patients and the public in the commissioning of primary care services. In addition, information for patients and the public on [how to get involved in primary care commissioning](#) has been produced, along with an [easy read version](#). The framework is designed to be read in conjunction with the NHS England

[Patient and Public Participation Policy](#) and the [Statement of Arrangements and Guidance on Patient and Public Participation in Commissioning](#). An [online survey](#) will run until the end of December 2016.

## **6. New data security standards for health and social care**

The Department of Health is seeking views on the proposed data security standards for health and social care organisations. This consultation will also consider the consent and opt-out models for data use which are being proposed for use by health and social care professionals, organisations and the wider public. The consultation follows on from the publication of the independent review of data security, consent and opt-outs by Dame Fiona Caldicott. **Deadline:** Wednesday 7 September

## **FOR INFORMATION**