

BSWCCG TOGETHER

Working together to empower people to lead their best life.

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[Welcome from Tracey Cox, Chief Executive](#)



Welcome to our first newsletter as a newly merged CCG.

The new CCG covering Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire was formed in April 2020 - in the middle of the global Covid-19 pandemic. At that point everybody's focus was to stay home, protect the NHS and save lives. All of us have been affected by Covid-19 and as a newly merged CCG we are committed to helping the public in this unnerving situation but also to support all of our providers to provide the best services possible. In the face of the pandemic much of our normal practices changed but the most heartening change has been seeing how communities have come together and how different organisations and individuals have supported each other.

This first newsletter is our opportunity to reach out to the communities of the 934,000 people we serve. We are led by the 94 GP practices in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire who, together with the CCG's team of health care professionals and patient representatives, plan and fund the delivery of local health and care services.

Our ambition is to empower everyone to lead their best life, whilst tackling health inequalities. We can only achieve this by working together.

Operating as one CCG across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire means we can strategically commission services and reduce variation in care so everyone receives high quality treatment, regardless of where they live. It also makes it easier to deliver better value for money across the wider health and care system.

This does not mean we will lose our local focus. We remain committed to ensuring we meet local needs by working in partnership with others such as our 3 local authorities, primary care, mental health and community services and the third and voluntary sector.

We are determined to forge deeper relationships with our local communities and recognise that we need to do more to involve and engage with you as integral stakeholders. Covid-19 has altered how the NHS has had to work and we know that some of these changes can be confusing and unsettling for people. The NHS has much more to do to ensure that everyone has good access to the services they need and that health inequalities are reduced. We want to work together to understand your needs. This newsletter is just one way we'll reach out and engage with our diverse population. In this edition we introduce our Lay Member for Patient and Public Engagement, Julian Kirby and share with you what we discussed at our recent AGM. We have also included some of the questions and answers from our AGM. You'll also find links to the results of our citizen's panel survey on the impact of Covid-19 and what's happening with flu jabs in preparation for the winter.



Meet our Executive Leadership Team

The BSW Executive Leadership Team are responsible for making recommendations on strategy and commissioning plans to our Governing Body,

as well as ensuring the decisions taken by our Governing Body are carried out. The Executive Leadership Team also make decisions on day-to-day performance management and risk assessment.

[Click this link](#) if you'd like to know more about the members of our Executive Leadership Team.

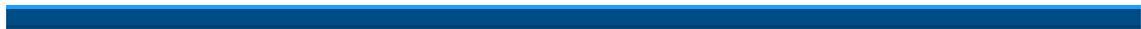
Latest Covid-19 Information

For the latest news and updates on the Covid-19 pandemic, click this link: [latest Covid-19 information](#)

[Your COVID Recovery](#) is an NHS website designed to help people recover from the long-term effects of Covid-19 and support them to manage their recovery. It has information from rehabilitation experts about how to manage ongoing symptoms and health needs at home, and signposts to sources of support.

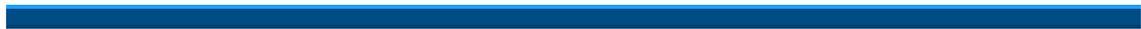
We also have an article on our website relating to appropriate Covid-19 testing in the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon & Wiltshire area.

[Click here to find out more](#)



Don't Wait and Worry

Our new 'Don't wait and worry' campaign is all about encouraging people to get worrying symptoms checked out by their GP. The focus is on two priorities – cancer and mental health care and fits with the NHS national *Help Us Help You* campaign. [Follow this link to find out more.](#)



Meet our Lay Member for Patient and Public Engagement

Julian Kirby was appointed as the Lay Member for Patient and Public Engagement for the new BSW CCG on 1 April 2020 having previously been a Lay Member on the Wiltshire Governing Body since December 2018.

Most of Julian's working life has been spent in the police service, joining Wiltshire Constabulary in the mid eighties. He served

in all parts of the county, and in this role he was

also a member of the Wiltshire Public Service Board, and Chair of the Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership. In 2010 Julian became Assistant Chief Constable of South Wales Police, one of the biggest and busiest forces in the county. As well as delivering local policing he led policing on high profile sporting events, including the Olympics, and chaired the South Wales Local Resilience Forum.

On retiring from policing in 2014 Julian joined Age UK Salisbury as CEO, merging the charity with Age UK Wiltshire and Swindon in 2016. He is passionate about addressing health and care inequality and delivering efficient and high-quality public services.





Forthcoming Events

There are a number of upcoming CCG events which you as participants can get involved with. [Click here](#) to access the News and Events section of our website to find out more.

You Said We Did

In May, members of the Swindon locality Patient and Public Engagement Forum were asked to look at a proposed approach to Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust validating its long-term waiters on the hold file. These are people who have been on a waiting list for more than 6 months. These patients may not have been seen for several reasons such as – the hospital cancelled their appointment; the patient cancelled the appointment, or a service is oversubscribed with patients and has not been able to meet capacity.



The CCG is using the You Said, We Did approach, and the outcomes of the feedback provided to GWH by members of the Swindon locality Patient and Public Engagement Forum can be read by [clicking here](#).



AGM Update

Our first AGM as a merged CCG took place on 10 September 2020, and it was a huge success!

The event was our first AGM to be held virtually and we had over 90 attendees!

[Click here](#) to access a recording of our AGM and follow the link to our [YouTube channel](#), with access to all of our video content linked to the AGM.

The presentation from the AGM is available on our website and can be read by [clicking here](#)

Our Health Our Future (Citizen's Panel)



The Our Health, Our Future (OHOF) Panel is a new way for us to engage with those living in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire to get their views on health and care issues. We have run three surveys in total. The second survey focused on the impact of Covid-19.

- We worked with our new Citizens' Panel and the three local Healthwatch organisations to understand the impact of Covid-19.
- We also shared our findings with the three Healthwatch across Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire. By combining our findings with Healthwatch we have a really clear indication of the impact Covid-19 has had on people. The top three issues were:
 - 1. Emotional wellbeing
 - 2. Physical wellbeing
 - 3. Changes to access of routine healthcare services

[Click this link](#) to find out the results from our latest Our Health Our Future citizen's panel survey - Understanding the effects of coronavirus



Flu season is fast approaching!

The flu season is just around the corner and this year, it's more important than ever that as many people who are eligible for a flu vaccination do have one. Flu can lead to incredibly serious health complications and even death among older people and those with long-term conditions, so getting vaccinated not only

protects the individual but also those around them and the health and care professionals working hard to look after us in extremely challenging conditions.

The national flu immunisation programme for 2020/21 has expanded the groups of people who will be eligible for a vaccination and set high expectations for vaccination uptake figures across all those groups. Check the [NHS website](#) for more information on who is eligible for a vaccine and where it is offered.

Tell us what you want to see

We're keen to know what you would like to read about in our future newsletters. Fill in our quick survey and tell us what is important to you.



[Click this link to participate](#)



NHS Jobs

Please follow the link below to find the latest vacancies within the NHS.

[NHS Jobs homepage](#)

You are receiving this newsletter as you have been on our distribution lists for one of the previous three Clinical Commissioning Groups. If you would like to

be removed from our distribution list for the newly merged BSW CCG, please email the engagement team at the following address:

bswccg.engagement@nhs.net

