



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Connecting communities to trusted health information



Your Health Matters

Community Health Roadshow

July 2026 • Healthwatch Southwark

Listening • connecting • supporting • improving health together

Reflections Report

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Executive Summary

On 29 July 2026, Healthwatch Southwark hosted the Your Health Matters Community Health Roadshow at Urban Village Hall.

Building on the success of the [Every Drop Matters](#) Roadshow, the event brought together NHS services, voluntary sector organisations, community groups, governors, professionals, and local residents to improve access to health information, support, and services.

The event was designed around a simple principle: bringing services to communities rather than expecting communities to navigate complex systems alone.

Through a targeted engagement and communications strategy, the event achieved 89 registrations and welcomed 33 registered attendees alongside additional walk-in visitors despite extremely high temperatures throughout the day.

The Roadshow created opportunities for residents to access information and support, whilst also strengthening relationships between organisations working across Southwark's health, community, and voluntary sectors.

Introduction

Following the success of the Every Drop Matters Roadshow, Healthwatch Southwark was invited back to Urban Village Hall to deliver a follow-up community health event.

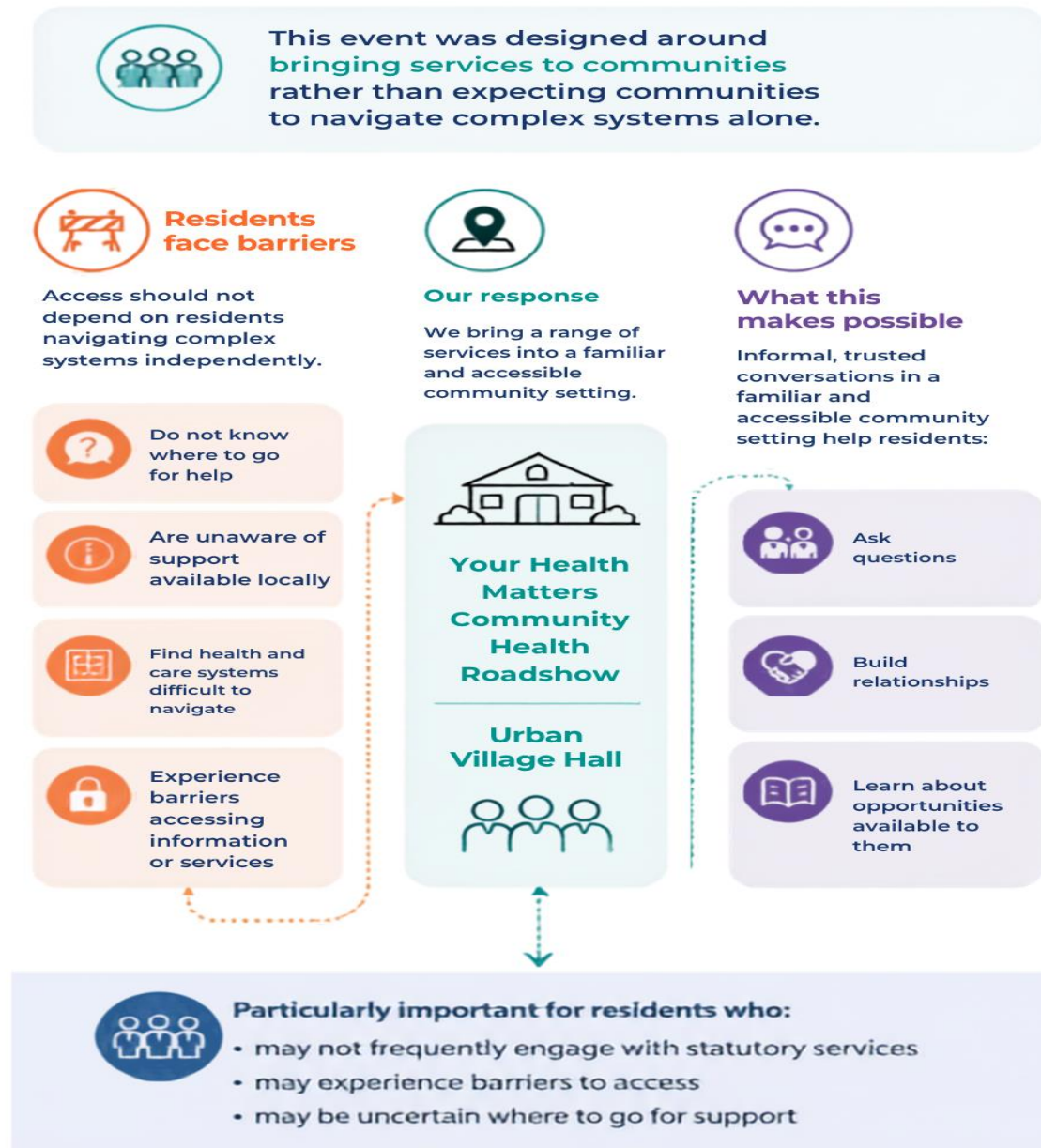
While Every Drop Matters focused on sickle cell awareness and blood donation, Your Health Matters took a broader health and wellbeing approach, bringing together a diverse range of services in one place.

The event reflected Healthwatch Southwark's commitment to:

- Connecting people to power
- Improving access to services
- Reaching underrepresented communities
- Supporting prevention and early intervention
- Strengthening community connections



Bringing services to communities



By bringing services into the heart of the community, we made it easier for everyone to access the support they need, when they need it.

Why we did this event

Healthwatch Southwark regularly hears from residents who don't know where to go for information, support and services. Your Health Matters was designed to respond to these challenges by bringing services directly into the community and creating opportunities for informal, trusted conversations.



YOUR HEALTH MATTERS

Connecting communities to trusted health information

Healthwatch Southwark is hosting a Community Health Roadshow – bringing together local services to offer free health checks, blood type testing, and advice in one place.

What's on:

- Sign up as a blood donor and find out your blood type
- Free Vital 5 health checks
- Free Sexual Health checks
- Cancer screening information
- Mental health support and advice
- Speak directly with services

URBAN VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY 29 JULY | 12:00 - 15:00

Contact: Info@healthwatchsouthwark.org



**SCAN THE CODE TO
REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



**Community
Southwark**

TBC.LONDON



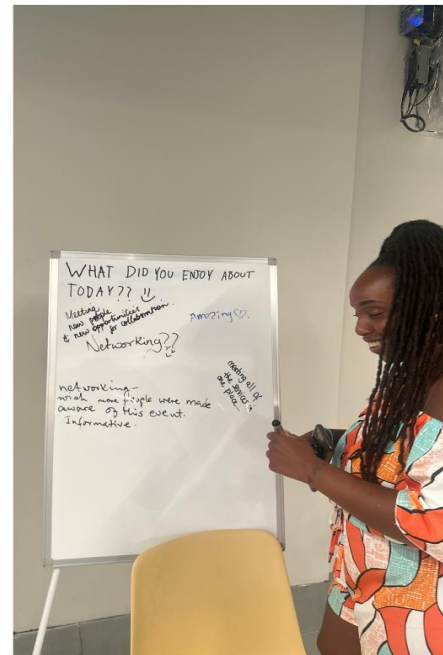
**Save lives
Give blood**



NHS
King's College Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust



Our approach



Support areas available through the Roadshow



Our approach demonstrated the value of neighbourhood-based approaches to health. Working alongside trusted local networks allowed us to reach various members of our community.

Supporting Southwark through change

The Community Health Roadshow took place during a period of transition for Healthwatch Southwark as the organisation prepares to become a dedicated Health and Wellbeing Team within Community Southwark. The event provided an opportunity to test and learn from integrated, community-centred approaches that will continue to inform future engagement, partnership working and neighbourhood-based activity.

Planning and Delivery

Building on Every Drop Matters

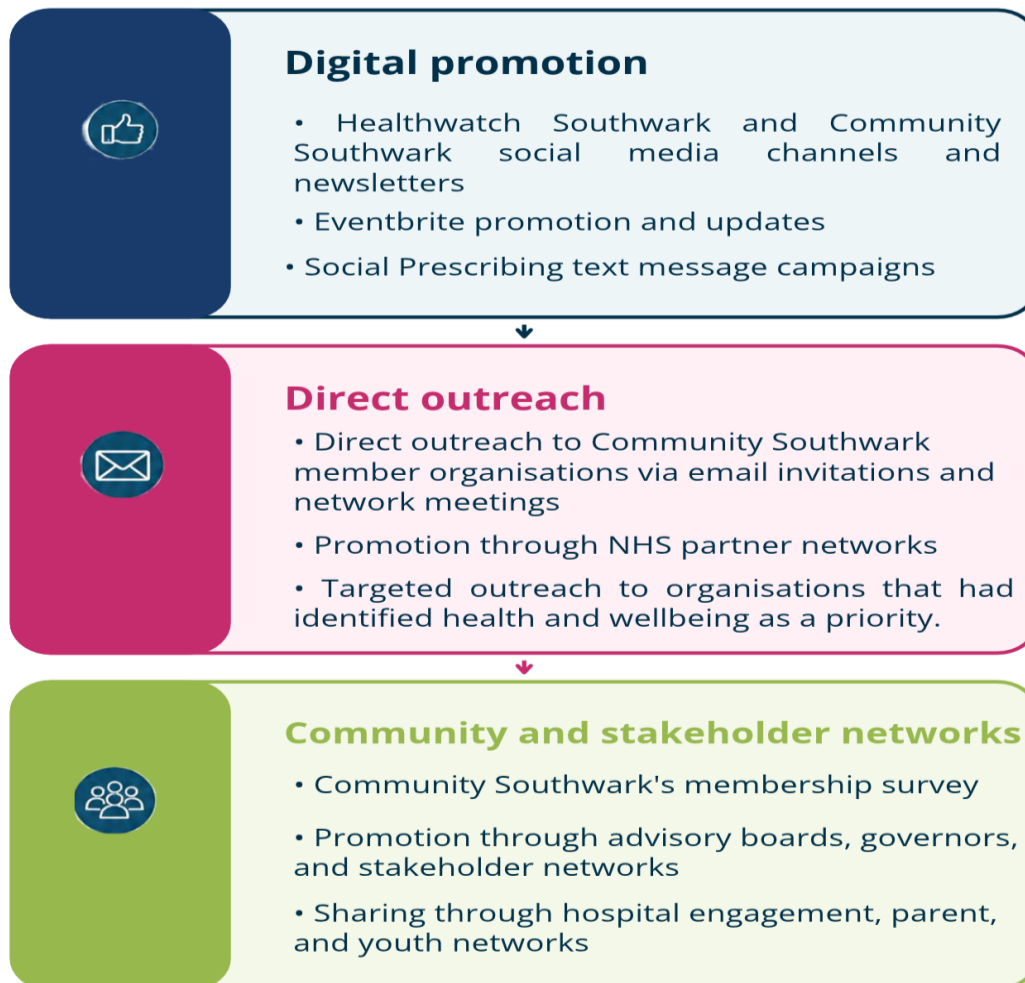
Following the success of Every Drop Matters, Urban Village Hall invited Healthwatch Southwark to return and deliver another community health event.



We decided to host a general roadshow where we could invite a variety of local services. The invitation provided an opportunity to build on existing relationships, respond to learning from the previous roadshow, and explore how a wider range of health and community services could be brought together in a single accessible community setting.



A strategic communications approach



The Community Health Roadshow was supported by a targeted communications and engagement strategy designed to reach residents who may not otherwise engage with health services, as well as organisations supporting Southwark's most underrepresented communities.

Creating a shared understanding

Partners received detailed guidance ahead of the event outlining not only logistical information, but also the wider purpose and objectives of the Roadshow. Participating organisations were encouraged to think beyond traditional information stalls and create opportunities for interaction and connection.

On the day

The Community Health Roadshow was designed to be more than a traditional information event. We designed this to be a Community Centred Health engagement and utilised partnership working, preventative, and community connection approaches. Healthwatch Southwark embedded a variety of different features to ensure that the roadshow stayed interactive and accessible.

01

Arrive and orientate

Community Connectors welcomed attendees and helped people navigate the room; a signposting table supported people who were unsure where to go.

02

Take part

Blood donor sign-up, blood-group awareness, Vital 5 health checks and blood glucose checks.

03

Talk with services

Screening, mental health, wellbeing, sexual health, volunteering and community support conversations.

04

Share reflections

Flipcharts and Post-it notes captured what people enjoyed and what could improve.



Signposting and Navigation



A dedicated signposting table was established to support attendees who were unsure where to go or which services may be most relevant to their needs.



Dedicated Community Connectors were assigned to welcome attendees, help residents navigate the room, and facilitate introductions between organisations and visitors.

This design helped create a more welcoming environment and encouraged residents to engage with multiple organisations during the event rather than limiting themselves to a single service. This approach was particularly important for organisations that attended without a dedicated stall space, helping to ensure their services and expertise remained visible and accessible throughout the day.

Capturing Reflections and Feedback

To encourage participation and collect real-time reflections from attendees, interactive feedback stations were placed around the venue.



Using flipchart paper and Post-it notes, attendees were invited to respond to three questions:

1. What did you enjoy about today?
2. In one word, how would you describe today?
3. What could be improved?

This created an additional opportunity for attendees to contribute their views in a quick, informal, and accessible way.

Outcomes and Impact

Access to information and services

01 Improved access

100% found the information or support they were looking for (feedback-form respondents).

Attendees valued the opportunity to ask questions, access support in an informal setting, and engage with a wide range of services in a single location.

02 Prevention and early intervention

Many of the services attending the event focused on prevention, awareness raising, and helping residents access support before issues reached crisis point.

The King's College Hospital Bowel Cancer Screening Team spoke with 20 people during the event.

Evidence

89

registrations

33

registered attendees

20

feedback forms returned

89 registrations → 33 registered attendees • Additional feedback forms returned: 20

One of the primary aims of the Community Health Roadshow was to improve access to health information, support, and local services by bringing organisations directly into a community setting.

Feedback from attendees suggests the event successfully connected people with information, advice and opportunities that were relevant to their needs. Attendees valued the opportunity to ask questions, access support in an informal setting, and engage with a wide range of services in a single location. Many also reported learning about organisations and opportunities they had not previously been aware of.

Attendees particularly valued the opportunity to access health checks and speak directly with professionals, with one attendee describing the event as an opportunity to meet "the positive people who are there to help", while another reflected that "there were many health checks on offer and all the staff were professional and very helpful."

03 Greater awareness

95% discovered a new service, organisation or opportunity (feedback-form respondents).

Newly discovered organisations included Caya Therapy, Healthwatch Ambassadors and community-based support services.

04 Connection and feedback

One of the most significant outcomes of the event was the opportunity it created for organisations, professionals, governors, and community groups to connect with one another. A recurring theme throughout partner and stakeholder feedback was the value of networking, relationship-building, and shared learning.

05 Future considerations

One of the strongest themes to emerge from attendee feedback was a clear appetite for future community health events. Multiple attendees expressed a desire for similar opportunities in the future. Several attendees asked Healthwatch Southwark when the next event would take place.

"Please do this again, you were wonderful and I'd love to come again."

Increasing Awareness of Local Support

Increasing awareness of local services and opportunities was a key objective of the Roadshow. Attendee feedback suggests the event was highly successful in achieving this aim. Newly discovered organisations included Caya Therapy, Healthwatch Ambassadors and community-based support services. One attendee's response summed this up simply when asked which new organisations they had discovered: "All of them".

Appetite for Future Events

One of the strongest themes to emerge from attendee feedback was a clear appetite for future community health events.

Multiple attendees expressed a desire for similar opportunities in the future, with several asking Healthwatch Southwark when the next event would take place.

This was reflected in written feedback, simply stating:

"Keep Going"

The event also attracted attendees from outside Southwark, including one individual who travelled from Kent to attend. There is genuine demand for accessible, community-based opportunities that bring together health, community, and voluntary sector organisations in one place.

Supporting Prevention and Early Intervention

Many of the services attending the event focused on prevention, awareness-raising, and helping residents access support before issues reached crisis point. This was designed in line with the NHS ten year plan's increased focus on prevention, early intervention, and supporting people to stay well for longer.

The event also acted as a small-scale example of what neighbourhood-based, co-located support could look like in practice. Residents were able to move between services, access information from multiple organisations, and have conversations about their health and wellbeing within a single community setting. While delivered as a community roadshow, the approach demonstrated some of the principles underpinning future neighbourhood health planning, including prevention, integration, partnership working, and improving access through local delivery.

Residents engaged with:

- Breast cancer screening information
- Bowel cancer screening information
- Blood sugar checks
- Blood donation opportunities
- Sickle cell awareness
- Mental health and wellbeing services
- Sexual health services
- Vital 5 health checks
- Volunteering and community opportunities

The event created space for informal conversations that enabled residents to ask questions, explore concerns, and gain a better understanding of the support available to them. Participating services were able to support conversations around prevention, early intervention, and health awareness.

The King's College Hospital Bowel Cancer Screening Team spoke with 20 people during the event. These conversations included supporting people to request replacement faecal immunochemical test (FIT) kits, providing reassurance about bowel screening, and helping attendees better understand the screening process.

Similarly, the King's College Hospital Breast Screening Team engaged residents in discussions around screening participation, family history, and self-referral pathways, including supporting an individual who had never previously attended screening.

Creating connections through co-location

Urban Village Hall
Providing spaces to the local community

TBC.LONDON
• • •

Partners helped connect residents with community, screening, mental-health and sexual-health support.







While the primary focus of the Roadshow was supporting residents, bringing together a diverse range of health, community and voluntary sector organisations also created opportunities for collaboration, shared learning and relationship-building.

By co-locating organisations within a community setting, partners were able to connect with one another, exchange knowledge and develop a greater understanding of the support available across Southwark. These conversations created opportunities for more joined-up working, strengthened referral pathways and encouraged a preventative, community-centred approach to supporting residents.

Several connections made during the event continued beyond the day itself, leading to follow-up conversations, knowledge sharing and opportunities for future collaboration. The following examples demonstrate how co-location helped facilitate meaningful partnerships and support more integrated ways of working.

Partnerships in practice: Case studies

Breast screening: conversations that support prevention

The King's College Hospital Breast Screening Team discussed screening participation, family history and self-referral pathways, including supporting someone who had never previously attended screening.

Direct conversation helped turn information into a possible next step.

Co-located working: the shared table

The shared table arrangement helped South East London Mind develop stronger connections with YoungMinds and Mindful Mums and supported connections for its new contract with the Wellbeing Hub.

A shared space created informal networking and onward routes between services.

Finding shared preventive opportunities

The GSST Sickle Cell Pilot Programme and NHS Blood and Transplant Teams were brought into the same space, creating an opportunity to connect awareness-raising activity around sickle cell and blood donation.

Existing prevention activity can be strengthened through closer collaboration.

From local conversations to wider engagement

Conversations with Kings governors have helped Healthwatch Southwark widen its engagement strategy, with introductions to other health centres in the borough creating new routes for relationships and future engagement.

A potential onward route from event conversation to broader system connection.



Bringing services from the same ecosystem together at once can connect people across levels: with the community, with VCS organisations, with frontline and specialist services, and with wider systems.

Partner Perspectives

“

Thanks for looking after us so well - it was well organised and the venue was nice!

— Kings Breast Cancer Screening Team



“

“These conversations demonstrated the value of attending community events.”

— Kings Bowel Cancer Screening Team

“

“Excellent planning and organisation, very well thought out”

— Young Minds

“

“I had really meaningful conversations with people attending regarding sickle cell and was able to provide information to people on how they can get tested for their genotype.”

— Naomi, GSST Community Nurse

“We made some great connections throughout the afternoon and enjoyed learning more about the brilliant work being done across the local health, community and voluntary sector.”

— Medion, Operations Manager at Caya Therapy

The impact of the event continued beyond the day itself. Several partners continued conversations following the Roadshow, with [Caya Therapy publishing a blog](#) reflecting on the themes, conversations and opportunities created through the event.

Learning and Future Considerations

Key Learning

One of the strongest lessons from the Community Health Roadshow was the importance of intentionally creating opportunities for connection. Alongside improving access to information and support, the event demonstrated how shared spaces can strengthen relationships between residents, community organisations, healthcare services and professionals. Approaches such as Community Connectors, shared table allocations and informal networking opportunities contributed significantly to the event's success.

Feedback from residents, organisations, professional attendees and venue partners demonstrated a clear appetite for future opportunities of this kind.

Future Considerations

Feedback identified a small number of areas for future consideration, including:



Looking Ahead

The Community Health Roadshow demonstrated the value of bringing information, support and services into community settings. It highlighted the role that partnership working, prevention and relationship-building can play in improving access to support, while also creating opportunities for collaboration across Southwark's health, community and voluntary sectors.

The learning from this event will help inform future engagement activity and ongoing approaches to community-centred health and wellbeing work.