



Festival for Older People

3rd October 2025

The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick

healthwatch
Central Bedfordshire

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The Festival for Older People 2025 - At a glance

**Over 400
visitors to
the event**



**Information/
advice and
products
from 47
organisations**



**BLMK Community
Pharmacy administered:**

41 Flu vaccinations



54 Hearing checks



**Visitors came from
27 different towns and
villages across
Bedfordshire, as
well as visitors from
outside counties (Luton,
Hertfordshire etc.)**



**Over 85 people
gave feedback
about the
event by filling
out evaluation
forms**



**Advertised on
Social Media
platforms,
reaching over
5,000 people**



Introduction

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire (HWCB) was delighted to host the 12th annual Festival for Older People, a well-established and much-anticipated event in the local calendar. Held each October to mark International Older People's Day, the Festival is widely recognised as a welcoming celebration of later life and a valued opportunity for older residents, families, and professionals to come together in a positive and inclusive setting. For many attendees, the Festival is a highlight of the year and an event they actively look forward to returning to.

The Festival celebrates the invaluable contributions, experience, and achievements of older people across our communities. The 2025 theme, 'Leave no one behind – promoting a society for all,' reflected HWCB's commitment to inclusion, equality, and ensuring that people of all ages can access the support, services, and opportunities they need to live well.

The event provides older people with the opportunity to learn more about the wide range of health and social care services available within their local community, all in one accessible and friendly space. Alongside information and advice, the Festival also offers practical wellbeing support, including on-site health checks and preventative services delivered in a relaxed, community setting. This approach helps remove barriers to access and supports early intervention, enabling attendees to prioritise their health while enjoying the event.

In addition, visitors were able to enjoy a varied programme of activities, refreshments, and live entertainment, browse handmade goods, and take part in wellbeing and pamper sessions, creating a welcoming, sociable, and enjoyable atmosphere throughout the day.

We extend our sincere thanks to the following sponsors, whose generous financial support made the 2025 Festival possible:

◆ Good Life Sorted



◆ Robert Lucas Trust



◆ Flitwick Town Council



Cakes and pastries were once again generously donated by catering students from Central Bedfordshire College, The Avenue Café, Silsoe, and HWCB staff. All proceeds from the cake stall were kindly donated to Macmillan Cancer Support, further reinforcing the community-focused spirit of the Festival.



The Macmillan cake stall

Generous donations for our hamper prizes were provided by The Co-op in Silsoe and Waitrose in Ampthill.



One of the hamper prizes



One of the hamper prize winners, Wendy Groom

A full list of organisations and stallholders who attended the Festival can be found on page 17.

Summary

Planning for the Festival began in July 2025, bringing together HWCB staff and volunteers to reflect on learning from the previous year, share new ideas, and collaboratively shape the programme, publicity, and promotional activity. This early and inclusive approach helped ensure the Festival continued to reflect the needs, interests, and expectations of the local community.

The Festival was held at The Rufus Centre, a well-regarded community venue selected for its ability to accommodate large numbers of attendees, alongside its strong accessibility features and on-site parking. The venue provided a welcoming and practical setting that supported both visitors and exhibitors throughout the day.

The event was widely promoted across Bedfordshire using a broad mix of traditional and digital channels. This included a radio interview on Biggles FM during Alan Waring's weekday morning show, helping to raise awareness among local listeners. Posters were displayed in church halls, supermarkets, libraries, care homes, and Housing Association venues, while advertisements featured in Town and Parish Council newsletters, local newspapers, and community magazines such as Flitwick Papers, The Villager, and The Oracle. Stakeholder organisations also supported promotion through their own networks, helping to extend the Festival's reach even further.



The Festival was shared on Social Media



Enjoyed it so much last year wanted to come back and didn't disappoint.

A visitor to the Festival for Older People

In addition, the Festival was promoted across HWCB's social media platforms, including Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, and Instagram. These posts reached over 5,000 people and generated more than 250 event responses, demonstrating strong interest and engagement ahead of the event.

Attendees reported hearing about the Festival through a wide range of channels, including community magazines, word of mouth, GP surgeries, HWCB Just Ask events, and direct email communications. This diversity of referral routes highlights the strength of community connections and the value of multi-channel promotion.

More than 150 organisations were invited to take part as exhibitors. Those who attended were provided with promotional posters and a press release and were encouraged to share information about the Festival through their own networks.



Professor David Croisdale-Appleby OBE, Chair of Healthwatch England, officially opening the Festival

In the weeks leading up to the event, HWCB also promoted the Festival regularly through its weekly e-Bulletin and website, maintaining momentum and visibility.

As a result of this collective effort, over **350 visitors** attended the Festival from **28 towns and villages** across Central Bedfordshire. A further **71** attendees travelled from neighbouring towns and counties, including Bedford Borough, Hertfordshire, Luton, and Essex, reinforcing the Festival's reputation as a well-known and valued regional event.

All visitors and exhibitors were invited to provide feedback, enabling HWCB to assess what worked well and identify opportunities for future improvement. A total of 85 visitor evaluation forms and 32 stallholder forms were completed, with 71% of respondents rating the overall event as **"excellent"**, reflecting the positive experience of those who attended.



Visitors to the Festival

The Macmillan cake stall was located in the Woodfield Room and staffed by HWCB volunteers and friends. Thanks to generous donations and strong visitor support, a total of £386.45 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support, further demonstrating the strong community spirit that runs throughout the Festival.

Ensuring the Festival was accessible to as many people as possible remained a key priority. For visitors who were unable to use public transport due to a physical or learning disability, or who required



Our volunteers manning the Macmillan Cake stall

walking aids, HWCB arranged dedicated transport in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council Transport Services. This support helped remove potential barriers to attendance and ensured that more people were able to take part fully in the day.

HWCB is keen to continue offering this support in future years. Anyone wishing to discuss a transport request for the next Festival is encouraged to contact the team at: info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

The Festival was officially opened by Professor David Croisdale-Appleby, Chair of Healthwatch England, continuing his valued tradition of inaugurating the event each year. He was joined by a number of distinguished guests, including Camilla King, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, and Major Simon Sadler, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire.

The presence of these dignitaries added to the sense of occasion and underscored the importance of recognising, celebrating, and supporting older people within our communities. HWCB extends its sincere thanks to all who attended for taking the time to support the Festival and for contributing to its continued success as a valued community event.

A total of 51 exhibitor stands attended the Festival, collectively offering a broad range of information, advice, and guidance on local services.



Professor David Croisdale-Appleby, Chair of Healthwatch England and Camilla King, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, with Major Simon Sadler, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire

While each stand is counted once, many were staffed by more than one representative, enabling exhibitors to engage with a high volume of visitors and provide more in-depth support. Several organisations were returning participants who had previously found the event valuable, alongside a number of new exhibitors whose involvement brought fresh perspectives and additional opportunities for attendees.



The Bag Lady stallholder

The Festival provides a unique opportunity for health and social care organisations supporting older people to come together in one accessible setting. Central Bedfordshire Council was strongly represented, with multiple departments hosting individual stands. These included Community Safety, Domestic Abuse, Housing Services, Independent Living, the Older People's Network, Road Safety & Highways, Safer Communities, Social Lettings, and Care is Central, reflecting the breadth of support available across the Council.



Karen Reep Art stallholder

A full programme of entertainment ran throughout the day, hosted by compere Richard Compton. Visitors enjoyed a varied selection of performances, including classic and contemporary sea shanties from Freddie's Barnet, live music from the U3A Ukulele Group, and seated exercise sessions led by Imagination Dance. This programme contributed to a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere and encouraged visitors to remain at the Festival for longer periods.

Several exhibitors also offered art and handmade goods for sale, adding a creative element to the event. These included Karen Reep Art and The Bag Lady, both of which attracted steady interest from visitors. Another exhibitor, Escape2VR, provided immersive virtual reality experiences designed to support the health and wellbeing of people who have limited or no opportunity to engage with the outside world.



Escape to VR (Virtual Reality) stallholder

The Festival attracted over **350 visitors**, with attendees travelling from **28 towns and villages** across Bedfordshire. In addition, **71 visitors** came from outside the county, including Bedford Borough, Cambridgeshire, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, Luton, London, Milton Keynes, and Northampton, demonstrating the wider reach and appeal of the event. The majority of visitors travelled to the Festival by car, reflecting the importance of accessible parking and transport arrangements.

Visitors were invited to complete an evaluation form to share their views on the event, with **85** feedback forms returned. All completed forms were entered into a prize draw to win a hamper, which helped to encourage participation and ensured a meaningful sample of visitor feedback.

Exhibitors were also asked to provide feedback on their experience. When asked whether the Festival had met their expectations, stallholders consistently reported that it had not only met but, in many cases, exceeded expectations, highlighting the value of the event as an opportunity to engage with older residents and partner organisations.

Feedback from visitors, staff, and exhibitors is captured in a short event video, which also includes comments from Professor David Croisdale-Appleby, Chair of Healthwatch England, and Major Simon Sadler. The video provides further insight into the impact of the Festival for Older People and can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDdI2Scvk0o>



Staff and volunteers at reception



Alastair Strathern, MP for Hitchin visiting the Jigsaw Club stall



Young Healthwatch volunteers serving tea & coffee



Young Healthwatch volunteer asking a visitor for his feedback



The dedicated Wellbeing Room played a central role in the Festival, providing visitors with access to practical, preventative health support in a calm and welcoming environment. The space was well used throughout the day and offered attendees the opportunity to prioritise their health while taking part in the wider Festival.

Another key feature this year was the on-site provision of preventative health services delivered by **BLMK Community Pharmacy**, which proved to be a highly valued and popular addition to the event. By offering services in a familiar, community-based setting, the Festival helped to remove common barriers such as appointment availability, travel, and uncertainty about accessing healthcare.

During the Festival, BLMK Community Pharmacy provided:

- ◆ **41 flu vaccinations**, supporting seasonal illness prevention
- ◆ **54 hearing checks**, helping to identify potential hearing issues at an early stage

And in the wellbeing room:

- ◆ **78 blood pressure checks** were carried out contributing to the early detection and management of cardiovascular risk

In addition, BLMK AAA Screening were also in attendance, offering visitors information about abdominal aortic aneurysm screening and access to hospital-based screening programmes. Collectively, these services were accessed by a significant number of visitors, with many choosing to engage with more than one health check during their visit.

The opportunity to receive immediate health support, personalised advice, and clear signposting to follow-up services



Visitor having the flu vaccination

reinforced the Festival's strong focus on prevention, early intervention, and empowering people to take an active role in managing their health and wellbeing.

Alongside clinical support, the Wellbeing Room also offered activities designed to support relaxation and emotional wellbeing. Twenty-one hand massages were delivered by HWCB's Communications Officer, providing a valued wellbeing experience that complemented the health checks and contributed to the calm, supportive atmosphere of the space.



Visitor receiving a relaxing hand massage

The strong uptake of services demonstrates the value of delivering preventative health support in accessible, community-based settings. By bringing essential health services directly to older residents, the Festival helped promote early intervention, reduce pressure on primary care services, and support people to maintain independence and wellbeing for longer.

Feedback – visitors

Visitor feedback is highly valued and plays a central role in shaping the ongoing development of the Festival. While some elements of the event are influenced by practical considerations, all comments received are carefully reviewed and used to identify opportunities for improvement. Below is a summary of key themes raised by visitors this year, alongside our planned responses:

Event layout and crowding:

A small number of visitors noted that the venue felt “very crowded in places” at peak times. We welcome this feedback and will review the layout and flow of the event to explore options that support better movement around the venue, helping to enhance comfort and accessibility for all attendees.

Availability of seating:

Some visitors suggested that additional seating would be beneficial. This feedback is appreciated, and we will consider ways to increase the number and distribution of seating areas at future events to ensure visitors have ample opportunities to rest and enjoy the Festival.

Parking and arrival experience:

During particularly busy periods, some visitors reported difficulties in finding a parking space. We recognise the importance of a smooth arrival and departure experience and will explore options to improve parking arrangements, signage, and visitor guidance at future events.



Overall, this feedback has provided valuable insight into how the Festival can continue to evolve. The responses outlined above will inform planning for future events, with the aim of delivering an even more accessible, welcoming, and enjoyable experience for all visitors.

Feedback – stallholders & VIPs

Stallholders were also asked for their feedback about the event.



It was my first time of supporting at this event and I was very impressed with the turnout of people and also the variety and the amount of stalls that were on offer.

Everyone Active



Thanks for all your hard work! This is a really good event for us to attend, and we look forward to it every year. Save our Healthwatch!

Sight Concern



You have built an incredible event and it's one that holds huge value to us system partners service users. There is nothing I can compare it to in the system which has evidenced in such success and positive responses.

HUC Healthcare



Well organised so it was easy to find my stall; position of stall was very good: excellent numbers of visitors to my stall; I really appreciated your volunteer who did a coffee run for lone stall holders like me – a lovely touch!

Alzheimer's Society



Lots of people came to the stand, lots of people were happy to talk to us, older people and other stall holders, we gained clients for the day and met people from other businesses that are keen to promote what we do.

The Mobility Physio



It exceeded my expectations as it was so big an event and busy.

Greensand Community Energy



Everyone Active stallholder



Sue Ryder stallholder

Additional comments included:



It was slightly tricky to hear any announcements on the mic system, but we could see who was talking to know if it was an emergency announcement or one, we needed to be aware of.

A little more help with locating our table would be helpful.

At one point, parking became an issue because it was really busy.

Position of our table was great as always thank you. We had around 90 visitors to our stand. Happy with the organisation. Everything went well thanks.

Lots of people came to the stand, lots of people were happy to talk to us, older people and other stall holders, we gained clients for the day and met people from other businesses that are keen to promote what we do.

I was near an air-conditioning vent and at times felt cold.

Feedback received from dignitaries includes the following:



I congratulate you on the very informative and interesting health festival, a wonderful resource for the elderly. I certainly picked up a few tips to deal with my octogenarian mother!

As the chairman said no-one else does it as well as you do, so thank you so much for all your hard work and inspiration to make it a success.

Camilla King – High Sheriff of Bedfordshire

Stallholders Feedback Response

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all stallholders and VIP guests for taking the time to share their feedback and for their contribution to making the 2025 event such a success. Their insights are invaluable in helping us reflect on what worked well and identify opportunities for further improvement. As the Festival attracts visitors from across Bedfordshire and beyond, we continue to encourage organisations with wider geographic coverage to share comprehensive and accessible information, ensuring that all attendees can benefit fully from the support on offer.

Feedback received from stallholders and VIPs highlighted several practical considerations associated with delivering a large and well-attended event. Our response to these points is outlined below:

Noise levels and busy areas:

With approximately 400 people attending throughout the day, periods of higher noise levels and busier spaces were at times unavoidable. We recognise the importance of balancing a lively, engaging atmosphere with visitor comfort and will explore ways to better manage zoning and layout at future events to help minimise congestion where possible.

Temperature and ventilation:

Due to the volume of visitors and fluctuating conditions across the venue, the air-conditioning system was challenged to respond consistently, resulting in some areas feeling warmer than others at times. This feedback has been noted and will inform discussions with venue providers when planning future events, with the aim of improving temperature management and overall comfort.

Parking arrangements:

During an exceptionally busy period, a temporary shortage of parking spaces was experienced, and we apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused. For future events, parking provision will be reviewed in detail for visitors, staff, and stallholders alike, to improve access, communication, and overall flow and ensure a smoother experience for everyone.



Age UK Bedfordshire stallholder



Baycroft Flitwick Care Home stallholder

The feedback received has been constructive and thoughtful, and it will play an important role in shaping future Festivals, helping to ensure they remain welcoming, well-organised, and beneficial for all who attend.



The Festival continues to benefit from several organisations who support the event in a variety of ways.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to **'Good Life Sorted'** who provided sponsorship and partnership support for this year's Festival.

Additional thanks to **'The Robert Lucas Trust'** and **'Flitwick Town Council'** for their much valued and on-going funding and support.

We would also like to thank **Waitrose in Ampthill**, and the **Co-op in Silsoe** for their generous donations of grocery items for our hampers.

Many thanks to those who baked, donated and helped out on our refreshment and Macmillan stall, raising **over £386** on the day.



Donations for the Macmillan cake stall



Friends of HWCB for helping on the Macmillan cake stall

Particular thanks go to:

- ◆ Friends of HWCB who looked after the refreshment and Macmillan cake stall
- ◆ Catering students at **Central Bedfordshire College**
- ◆ **The Avenue Kitchen**, Wrest Park, Silsoe.

Special thanks to **Central Bedfordshire Council Fleet Transport Services** for going above and beyond each year to provide transport to and from the Festival for our more vulnerable residents. Without your efforts, many people would feel excluded; your commitment truly helps make the Festival accessible and welcoming for everyone.



The Festival would not have been the success it is without the dedication, time, and generosity of our incredible volunteers. Their contribution extended far beyond the day of the event itself, with many volunteers sharing their experience, ideas, and support throughout months of planning and preparation, helping to shape the Festival from its earliest stages.

On the day, volunteers were often the first friendly faces visitors encountered. They welcomed attendees on arrival, distributed goody bags, and provided clear guidance to stalls, refreshments, and entertainment areas. Volunteers also managed the car park with care and efficiency, ensuring that visitors and stallholders arriving by car or bus were safely and smoothly directed to the appropriate areas.

Throughout the event, volunteers supported refreshment services, helped distribute lunches, organised the raffle, and gathered valuable feedback from both visitors and stallholders. In addition, our volunteer photographer captured special moments across the day, creating a lasting visual record of the Festival and preserving memories of a truly positive community event.

We were also delighted to welcome six Young Healthwatch volunteers, who played a vital and highly valued role in the Festival. They brought a vibrant, intergenerational energy to the event and took on a wide range of responsibilities, including lunch distribution, raffle coordination, visitor support, and feedback collection. Their proactive approach ensured that attendees felt welcomed, supported, and listened to throughout the day.

This experience proved to be just as meaningful for the volunteers as it was for the Festival. By stepping outside their comfort zones, these young volunteers gained hands-on experience of active involvement in a community event. The thoughtful and respectful conversations they shared with older residents also helped to challenge and break down age-related stereotypes, creating meaningful connections across generations.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to every volunteer who supported the Festival in 2025. Your kindness, commitment, and teamwork made a genuine difference, helping to create a welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable experience for everyone who attended.



Young Healthwatch volunteers meeting to discuss their roles at the Festival

For further details on how to volunteer please go to the following link: <https://healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk/volunteers>

Conclusion

The Festival for Older People 2025 once again demonstrated its value as a much needed, well-loved, and highly anticipated community event. With strong attendance, overwhelmingly positive feedback, and wide engagement from residents, partners, volunteers, and organisations, the Festival continues to provide a unique space where older people feel welcomed, informed, and connected.

Bringing together health, social care, voluntary, and community organisations in one accessible venue allows older residents to access information, advice, and support that might otherwise feel difficult or fragmented to obtain. The Festival not only supports practical needs through service signposting and advice, but also delivers direct, preventative health support, including on-site health checks and screening information provided in a trusted, community setting. The strong uptake of these services highlights the importance of accessible opportunities for early intervention and wellbeing support, helping older people to take an active role in managing their health.

Feedback from visitors, stallholders, and dignitaries consistently highlights the Festival's friendly atmosphere, strong organisation, and meaningful impact. The high proportion of attendees rating the event as excellent, alongside the large number of returning visitors and exhibitors, reinforces the Festival's reputation as a trusted and valued event within the local and wider Bedfordshire community. Importantly, constructive feedback has also been welcomed and will continue to inform thoughtful improvements, ensuring the Festival evolves in response to the needs of those who attend.

The Festival's success is rooted in collaboration. It reflects the commitment of HWCB, volunteers, partners, sponsors, and community organisations working together to support older people in a practical, inclusive, and celebratory way.

The involvement of younger volunteers and the strong intergenerational element further underline the Festival's role in building understanding, connection, and mutual respect across age groups.

As demand for accessible information, community connection, and preventative health support continues to grow, events such as the Festival for Older People are more important than ever. HWCB remains committed to delivering this annual event and to working in partnership with local organisations to ensure it continues to meet the needs of older residents, reduce barriers to support, and promote independence and wellbeing.

The 2025 Festival stands as a strong foundation on which to build future events—continuing a tradition that is not only looked forward to each year, but one that demonstrably improves access, strengthens community connections, and makes a genuine difference to the lives of those who attend.



Visitors to the Festival

Festival Stallholders



Information and Advice

- + Age UK
- + Alzheimer's Society
- + Ategi
- + Baycroft Care Home
- + BLMK ICB – Health and Care Partnership
- + Bedfordshire Victim Care Services
- + Bedfordshire Hospital NHS – Hospital Governors & Hospital Volunteers
- + Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue
- + Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity
- + Carers in Bedfordshire
- + Central Bedfordshire Council Teams:
- + CBC – Safer Communities & Partnership Team
- + CBC – Road Safety & Highways
- + CBC – Social Lettings
- + CBC – Older Peoples Network
- + CBC – Domestic Abuse Service
- + CBC – Housing Services – Tenancy Involvement
- + CBC – Community Safety
- + CBC – Independent Living
- + Circle Health Group
- + Care is Central
- + East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) Bedfordshire Membership
- + Escape2VR
- + Everyone Active – Flitwick Leisure Centre
- + Flitwick Town Council
- + Greensand Community Energy
- + Good Life Sorted
- + Hub Care Support (Milton Keynes & Bedfordshire)
- + Herts Urgent Care (HUC)
- + Keech Hospice
- + MIND BLMK
- + Multiple Sclerosis Society
- + Nevilles Funeral Directors
- + Professional Vision Services
- + Respite at Home Volunteers (West Mid Beds & Ivel Valley)
- + Sharman Law LLP
- + Sight Concern Bedfordshire
- + Small Acts of Kindness
- + Smarta Healthcare
- + SSAFA
- + Stroke Association
- + Sue Ryder St John's Hospice
- + The Disability Resource Centre
- + The Jigsaw Club
- + The Mobility Physio
- + The Royal British Legion
- + Tibb's Dementia Foundation



Central Bedfordshire Council Stallholder



Market Stalls

- + The Bag Lady
- + Karen Reep Art



Really love the ethos of inclusion at every age! So very important.

Stallholder



Health and Wellbeing

- + BLMK AAA Screening
- + BLMK Community Pharmacy
- + Diabetes Education Team
- + Hand massage by Debbie



Exhibitors and visitors to the Festival



Visitor receiving a relaxing hand massage

If you require any further information about the exhibitors who joined us at the Festival please do get in touch with Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire by email to: info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk or call 0300 303 8554, and we can provide direct contact details.



Exhibitors and visitors to the Festival

A Sample of Social Media comments following the Festival:



This was a collection of health providers supporting the older generation. The chairman of Healthwatch England said Central Beds are one of very few areas that lay on this type of event and praised the organisers

High Sheriff of Bedfordshire



Brilliant event. Picked up a lot of information to pass onto residents that could not get there.

Cllr Caroline White



Thank you for working so hard to make this such a fantastic and valuable event for the older community.

Good Life Sorted - BLMK



I thoroughly enjoyed attending. It was great to see the rooms were buzzing with activity. P.S. The choc cookie was delicious

Let's Sort Your Stuff



A big thank you to Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire for having us! We had a brilliant day connecting with hundreds of people keen to learn more about the local services available to them. Great energy, great conversations, and a fantastic opportunity to listen and share.

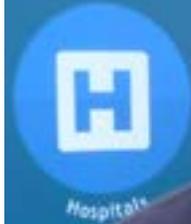
Lara Galliford, Relationship Business Partner HUC Healthcare





healthwatch

Central Bedfordshire



Are you passionate about Health and Social Care?

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do, from talking to people about their experiences of local health and social care services and helping at our community outreach events.

Volunteering is flexible, so you can talk to us about how much time you want to give.

it starts with

YOU

T. 0300 303 8554

www.healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

E: info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

healthwatch
Central Bedfordshire

About Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire is the local consumer champion promoting choice and influencing the provision of high quality health, social care and wellbeing services for all across Central Bedfordshire.

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire (HWCB) has significant statutory powers to ensure that the voice of the consumer is strengthened and heard by those who commission, deliver and regulate health and care services. HWCB engages and consults with all sections of the local population so that a wide cross-section of views are heard, understood and acted upon. Everything we say and do is informed by our connections to local people and our expertise is grounded in their experience.

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire is one of three local Healthwatch in the County of Bedfordshire and belong to a network of local Healthwatch. Healthwatch England leads, supports and guides the Healthwatch network which is made up of the national body and local Healthwatch across each of the 152 local authority areas in England.

Healthwatch is the only body looking solely at people's experience across all health and social care. As a statutory watchdog our role is to ensure that local health and social care services, and the local decision-makers put the experiences of people at the heart of their care.

healthwatch
Central Bedfordshire

healthwatch

Central Bedfordshire

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire www.healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

Capability House

tel: 0300 303 8554

Wrest Park

e: info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk

Silsoe



@Healthwatch_cb

Bedfordshire



[Facebook.com/Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire)

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Registered Address: Capability House,
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Registered Company No: 08399922
Registered Charity No: 1154627



Healthwatch **Central Bedfordshire**