

Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs)

What, why and how?

What are Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs)?

NHS England have told NHS organisations in each area to develop **plans** to support the future **health and care needs** of their **local population**. The plans must aim to:

- Improve **health and wellbeing**
- Improve the **efficiency of services**
- Demonstrate **new** ways of offering **care**
- Be **sustainable** for the future
- Make the most of the **funding** available



England has been divided into **44 areas**. You may see these referred to as '**footprints**'. We are part of the **North West London** 'footprint', which covers:

- Brent
- Ealing
- Hammersmith and Fulham
- Harrow
- Hillingdon
- Hounslow
- Kensington and Chelsea
- Westminster

Leaders from **health and care organisations** across this area must **work together** in order to effectively introduce **wide-scale changes**. These changes are expected to be made by **2020/21**.

Why have the STPs been introduced?

Many current NHS **services** are not set up to meet the **health and care** needs of people in the **21st century**:

- More people need ongoing help with **long-term conditions** e.g. dementia
- **Lifestyle factors** are contributing to growing **health problems** e.g. obesity
- Not only is the **demand for care** rising but the **cost** of providing it is too

The STP aims to address this.

How will local people be involved in developing these plans?

Public engagement is a **legal requirement** but is also essential for successfully implementing the plans. An upfront dialogue with communities is more likely to result in:

- Wider understanding of **why** change is needed
- **Support for the decisions** that are made
- Plans that meet the **needs** of the local community



In order to **include people** in the process, the NHS must:

- **Inform!** Provide people with **good quality information**.
- **Engage!** Have **open conversations** with the public through meetings, workshops and information online.
- **Consult!** Include public views on the **proposed plans** when making decisions.

What is the role of local Healthwatch?

Local Healthwatch organisations were set up to encourage local people to speak up about their **experiences and views of health and care**. We exist to:

- Promote the **involvement of local people** in health and care
- **Monitor the quality** of health and care services
- **Provide information** about health and care
- Using the voice of local people, **influence the decision makers** of health and care.



We are working to advise the organisations involved in the STP on:

- Effective **communications**
- **Engagement**
- **Consultation** with local people

Together with other local Healthwatches we will be **monitoring** each of the above. We are **challenging** the STP process whenever we have any concerns.

What does Healthwatch **want to see**?

We are looking for evidence of:

- **Good quality** and **accessible** information for local people about the STP as it develops
- Opportunities for the **voluntary sector** to be involved
- **Engagement** with patients and organisations that represent patients, service users and carers
- **Co-producing** any new services with people who use, or might need to use them
- **Formal consultation** where it is required



Want to know more or share your views?

You can visit the Healthier North West London Website

https://healthiernwlondon.commonplace.is/?utm_campaign=engagement

Or

Contact Healthwatch Central West London



Website: www.healthwatchcwl.co.uk



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**Have
your
say**

Each council has their own view on the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs). Healthwatch's role is to **remain neutral**.