

Your volunteer role description

Partnership Board Independent Member

Join one of the adult social care Partnership Boards and help shape the services local people use.

The Partnership Boards include local people with lived experience of disability, of being older or of being a carer.

They are paid for by Cambridgeshire County and Peterborough City Councils. And include the local NHS, voluntary and community organisations who plan, pay for or provide care.

Your role is to tell the people who make decisions about health and care services what is working for local people and where services could be made better.

Partnership Boards

There are five Partnership Boards, these are:

- Carers
- Learning Disability – includes autism services
- Older People's
- Physical Disability
- Sensory Impairment

Main tasks

With support from our Partnership Development Manager and team of staff, you will:

- ✓ Attend Partnership Board meetings – see time commitment detailed on page three.

- ✓ Act as a voice for people of lived experience of disability, who are older or are carers.
- ✓ You will talk with people of lived experience (friends, colleagues, or at support and social groups) about the services they are receiving.
- ✓ You will talk about the Partnership Boards with local people who may have an experience to share.
- ✓ You will give out information about the Partnership Boards and Healthwatch in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

What support do we give you?

We offer you an induction session that will include:

- ✓ An introduction to Healthwatch Cambridgeshire and Healthwatch Peterborough
- ✓ An introduction to the Partnership Boards
- ✓ An overview of our policies and procedures such as health and safety, safeguarding and expenses
- ✓ An opportunity to discuss, clarify and ask questions about your volunteer role
- ✓ Any additional training as needed, including an invitation to an annual training event

You will have ongoing support from our Partnership Development Manager. As well as regular contact with other members of our team and volunteers.

Pre-agreed out of pocket expenses will be paid, for example travel, in line with our volunteering policy.

Accessibility

If you need any support to join our meetings, please tell the Partnership Development Manager.

This may include, for example:

- Speech To Text Reporting
- British Sign Language
- Communicator guides
- Support for carers

Time commitment

- The Carers Partnership Board meets every two months, with meetings lasting two hours.
- The Older People's, Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Boards are held quarterly and are also two hours long.
- The Learning Disability Partnership Board is quarterly but lasts four and a half hours.
- The Carers, Older People's, Physical Disability and Sensory Impairment Partnership Boards hold a one hour 'pre-meeting' for Independent Members with us a few days before each Board. This helps you learn about the topics coming up and prepare for the meeting.
- Chairs of the Partnership Boards attend the quarterly Adult Social Care Forum, a meeting of management of social care from both council and NHS commissioners. They also meet regularly with the Partnership Development Manager to talk about the work of the Boards.

You will need to be able to read the papers and think about the topic before you come to a Board meeting.

Where meetings are held

The Partnership Boards are currently meeting online due to Covid-19 safety. But we hope to return to more face to face meetings in 2022.

Face to face meetings are held in accessible locations around Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Other events and activities

Cross-board events

The Partnership Boards hold an annual cross-board event every year. This is a themed event that looks at issues like how accessible information is or digital exclusion. This is a public event that anyone can come to.

Task and finish groups

The Partnership Boards can run task and finish projects or focus groups looking at a specific health or social care issue. This can include things like transport which do not relate directly to health but have an impact on people's lives.

For more information about the role

Talk to Graham Lewis, Partnership Development Manager

- Email: graham.lewis@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk
- Mobile: 07432 865996

Or visit one of our websites at:

- www.healthwatchpeterborough.co.uk/partnership-boards
- www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/partnership-boards

You can apply online or ask us for a paper application form. We can help you fill this in if you want.