

10 July 2020

Welcome to the Healthwatch City of London newsletter

Dear Reader,

This week we have published our first annual report. Looking back over an eventful year we are now in better shape than ever to face what looks like another eventful year. Importantly, the report outlines our priorities for the year ahead in a new landscape. It is clear that making sure every voice is heard will be challenging. We must make sure that those who plan and deliver care and services to the City consult and listen as services change rapidly to adapt to the new normal. There is a real concern that those without access to technology will become marginalised, we must make sure that doesn't happen. Our report also highlights the work of our volunteers, so find out more about making a difference and come and join us. Finally, you can learn more about the work of the Board.

This week also sees the launch of the National 'Because we all care' Campaign from Healthwatch England in partnership with the Care Quality Commission. As we respond to COVID-19, you can play your part to help health and care services provide the best support possible to people in your community by sharing your experiences of care with us.

Stay safe

Gail Beer, Chair Healthwatch City of London

Healthwatch City of London Annual Report 2019/20

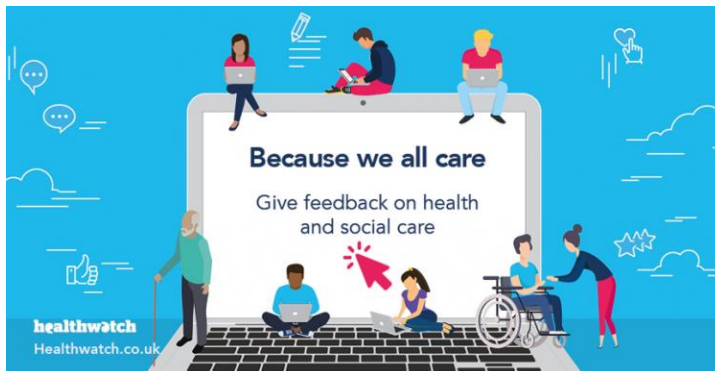
This week Healthwatch City of London has published its first annual report since being awarded the contract to deliver Healthwatch services in September 2019. The report covers the highlights from the year and how we have helped you. There is an introduction from our Chair, profiles of our Board members and an overview of our volunteer roles and projects. The report also outlines our priorities for the year ahead. [Read the report here](#)

Green matters

Access to open spaces is well recognised as one of the wider determinants of health, which make a key contribution to community health and wellbeing. Did you know that there are over 200 green/open spaces in the City of London? Janet Porter, Associate Board Member at Healthwatch City of London, has [published a blog](#) taking us on a walk through the gardens, parks, and quiet spaces of the City. To coincide with this, we are also running a Facebook poll to vote for your favourite of London’s hidden gems!

‘Because we all care’

This week Care Quality Commissions and Healthwatch have joined forces to launch ‘Because



We All Care’. This new campaign aims to help services identify and address quality issues, as well as support patients in response to COVID-19, by encouraging people to share feedback about their experiences of health and social care services in England. Let us know your experience by [completing our surveys](#).

Testing centres around London

Anyone who has symptoms of coronavirus can now get a free test to check if they have the virus. Finding the your nearest Covid-19 test centre isn’t an easy task. We have pulled together locations from across the Capital to help you identify the site that suits you. You will need to register on the site below to check availability and opening times. Please note that some sites are temporary, this includes the nearest geographically-Bentley road. We update our website regularly, so please check there for the latest information.

[Go to the NHS website to register](#)

Name	Address
Bentley Road Car Park	41 Bentley Road, Dalston, London N1 4BZ
Lee Valley Athletics Park	61 Meridian Way, Edmonton, London, N9 0AR
IKEA Wembley	2 Drury Way, North Circular Rd, London, NW10 0TH
TFL Car Park	The O2 Edmund Halley Way, Greenwich Peninsula, London, SE10 0PH
Eastham Care Centre	Shrewsbury Rd, Forest Gate, London E7 8QP
Twickenham Stadium	3 Whitton Dene, Road, Twickenham, Hounslow, TW3 2JS
Chessington World of Adventures	Leatherhead Rd, Chessington, KT9 2NE
Gatwick Airport	Horley, Gatwick, RH6 0NP

Thrive LDN creative resilience workshops for young Londoners

Thrive LDN (a London-wide partnership of NHS, Public Health England and other stakeholders, supported by the Mayor of London) is launching a series of online creative workshops for young Londoners.

Young Londoners can join a series of online workshops facilitated by The Fandangoe Kid, a Hackney-based print artist, to explore challenges and issues facing young people.

The workshops will experiment with typography, layouts and graphic elements, alongside mixed media and collage, to make bold and engaging statements, to gather a collective voice in response to essential questions concerning young people.

Full details, schedule and registration via [Thrive LDN's website](#). The scheduled workshops so far are:

- [Workshop 1: Community and Resilience](#), 10am-12pm, Friday 10 July
- [Workshop 2: Self-care and coping strategies](#), 12pm-2pm, Tuesday 14 July
- [Workshop 3: Protest and empowerment](#), 10am-12pm, Wednesday 15 July

The outcomes of the workshops will form part of a larger visual art project as part of Thrive LDN's World Mental Health Day Festival 2020, taking place on 10th October.

New on-line activity centre from Age UK

Age UK East London has this week launched Caxton Online a digital community centre for anyone aged 50+ to connect with others, take part in activities and events. Its also provides local news, support and advice on local services.

[You can access the site here](#)

Get in touch with Healthwatch City of London

Visit our website for more information, news and events, have your say about your care, and spread the word about Healthwatch City of London.

Web: www.healthwatchcityoflondon.org.uk **Email:** info@healthwatchcityoflondon.org.uk
Tel: 020 3745 9563 **Twitter:** @HealthwatchCoL **Facebook:** @CoLHealthwatch

Portoken Health and Community Centre, 14-16 Little Somerset Street, London E1 8AH