



PRESS STATEMENT

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Local Healthwatch has issued the following press statement about the issues the Care Quality Commission identified at the Bradgate Unit a month ago.

We are very concerned about the issues that the Care Quality Commission identified on its unannounced visit to the Bradgate Unit a month ago. Over the past two years there has been one incident after another following which measures were put in place to remedy matters apparently without success. The Unit caters for some of the most vulnerable people and their safety must have the highest priority.

Patients have been badly let down and steps must be taken to put in place a consistent, reliable programme of care that reassures patients, their loved ones and the wider public that this is not only of the highest standard but also sustainable and consistent.

Local Healthwatch are concerned about the sustainability and resilience of the measures that Leicestershire Partnership Trust has put in place in recent months. Future plans must address the serious shortcomings identified and have to be deliverable, achievable, and measurable with clear time lines

Sustainability and external monitoring is the key to restore confidence.

Philip Parkinson, Interim Chair Healthwatch Leicester
Vijay Sharma, Interim Chair Healthwatch Leicestershire
Jennifer Fenelon, Chair Healthwatch Rutland

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About Local Healthwatch

Healthwatch Leicester, Healthwatch Leicestershire and Healthwatch Rutland are the new, independent consumer champion for health and social care. The organisations will help to shape and improve local health and social care in local communities. Local Healthwatch is part of the Healthwatch national network, established by the Government to ensure local patients and users have a greater input to shaping and designing local services.

About Healthwatch England

Healthwatch England is the new, independent consumer champion for health and social care in England. The organisation has independent statutory powers, as stated in the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to ensure the consumers' voice is heard and best practice is delivered in health and social care nationally. Healthwatch is also focused on providing leadership, guidance and support to the development of the Healthwatch network. To find out more please go to www.healthwatch.co.uk.