

Healthwatch Lambeth's Position Statement on Participation




Working with Lambeth Together

Healthwatch Lambeth welcomes Lambeth Together's commitment to working with local people to help shape and improve our health and care services. As a signatory to the Lambeth Together Pledge, we will support our local delivery alliances to design and run effective participation processes.

How we will do this

We will do this both by working with partners on joint participation projects and as a critical friend. Alongside our own feedback gathering, this will help us to deliver our mission of ensuring that people's experiences and views are central to decision-making. Offering support in this way to the local health and care system is a key part of our new strategy for 2019-2024.

Our view of public participation

-  **People have the right** to be involved in shaping and improving services.
-  Public participation is **a spectrum (or ladder)** that provides a range of opportunities for people to be involved.
-  Each aspect of the spectrum offers **benefits** and none of the approaches is better than others.
-  The best place on the spectrum for an engagement activity will **depend on the decision or question** that needs answering. A project may visit different places on the spectrum as it progresses. This may or may not include co-production (sharing power between services and people).
-  We **must be honest** from the start about who has the decision-making power in each project and what is on and off the table
-  We must be **clear and transparent** about which members of the public are or should be involved in particular projects. For example, this might include service users, people who need a service but don't currently use it, previous users, carers and families, and the wider community.
-  Participation projects need to be designed with the principles of **equality, diversity and accessibility** at their heart.
-  **Good information provision for everyone** involved is essential to every stage of a participation project, including giving people feedback on the outcome.

Turn over to
give feedback

We want to hear from you!

This position statement is a draft.

With public participation at the core of everything we do, we want to ensure that the views of Lambeth people are reflected in our work.

If you have any comments or feedback on this draft statement, we would like to hear from you.

Please fill out your comments below and return the form, or let us know by email, phone, or come and chat to someone in our team today.

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Your comments: