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**EMBARGOED:** 00:01 Monday 4th March, 2019

**Have your say on how the NHS should change in the East Riding**

People keen to influence the future of the NHS in the East Riding of Yorkshire are being encouraged to make their views known in a series of events this month.

Independent health and care champion Healthwatch East Riding of Yorkshire is launching ‘What would you do?’ to encourage people in the region to share their views about what changes to local NHS services should look like.

The Government is investing Â£20 billion a year in the NHS as part of the NHS Long Term Plan. Local organisations have now been asked to work out what changes will be made locally to help make the NHS better for local people.

The public are being asked for their views about how local services could be improved. They will also be asked to share their ideas on how people can live healthier lives and what improvements they think could be made to help people access services quickly.

Matthew Fawcett, Manager of Healthwatch East Riding of Yorkshire, said: “We know that the NHS only works when people’s voices are heard. This is a once in a generation chance for local people to help decide where this extra money from Government should be spent in our NHS services in the East Riding.

“We want to hear from as many people, groups and communities as possible to ensure the local plans reflect the needs of our population. We want to hear about what works, what doesn’t and how people think local health services should be improved. No matter how big or small the issue, we want to hear about it. Sharing your experience with us is quick and easy - and could make a big difference.”

Staff and volunteers will be at working across the region to make sure you can have your say. Details of upcoming engagement dates can be found on our website. People can also share their views in one of our online surveys:

General Survey – <https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/what-would-you-do-general>

Themed Survey - <https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/tell-us-what-would-you-do>

Representatives from the local NHS will also be carrying out engagement work with patients, staff and the community to encourage feedback on the local plan.

For more details on #WhatWouldYouDo? visit: <http://www.healthwatcheastridingofyorkshire.co.uk/>

**NOTES:**

For more information contact: The office on 01482 665684

**Healthwatch East Riding of Yorkshire** is an independent consumer organisation which works to help local people get the best out of their health and social care services. We ensure that the reported views and experiences of patients, carers and other service users are passed on to the service providers and commissioners. This means that local voices are able to influence the delivery and design of local services.

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