

PRESS RELEASE

Join The People's Network

People in the Dudley area are being given the chance to help shape local NHS services.

They are being urged to join patient panels to give feedback about healthcare, help identify priorities and be actively involved in the redesign of services such as the Russells Hall Hospital Emergency Department.

The panels are being set up by The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which provides hospital and community health services, with support from Healthwatch Dudley, an independent champion for people who access health and social care services.

Called The People's Network, it gives members of the public the chance to discuss and share knowledge about local services, inform policies and influence what local services look like, and have a real opportunity to feed back to decision makers.

To find out more about The People's Network, go along to Brierley Hill Civic Hall on Wednesday 12th February from 2-3.30pm or 6-7.30pm. To book your free place, go to www.nhsdudley.eventbrite.co.uk

Jayne Emery, chief officer from Healthwatch Dudley, said: "We know Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust is keen to listen and involve local people in decisions about our hospitals, outpatients and community health services. We are supporting the Trust as we want to make sure that there are as many different ways as possible for people to get involved with sharing their views.

"Services are better when they are informed by real experiences and these events will give local people an important opportunity to find out how to have their say and to help shape the future of health and care."

For more information, or if you cannot make the date but would like to be involved, call Healthwatch Dudley on 03000 111 001 (calls charged at local rate) or email hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk

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