

Paper submission for: Proposed Joint Health Scrutiny Committee with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire for the Scrutiny of: The proposed merger of Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust and Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust		Submitted by: Healthwatch Peterborough
		PUBLIC REPORT
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.1 **Purpose of Report** is to provide an overview of the purpose of Healthwatch Peterborough and Healthwatch Peterborough’s position regards the proposed merger between Hinchingsbrooke NHS Trust and Peterborough and Stamford NHS Foundation Trust.

.2 **Healthwatch Peterborough’s purpose** is as an independent local statutory patient and public involvement organisation. We hold statutory powers to *Enter and View* premises that provide local authority funded social care places and/or that provide NHS services (exclusions apply).

Healthwatch Peterborough ensures public and stakeholder inclusive participation, engagement and communication in design, development and commissioning of local services. Gather and use a full range of evidence, feedback and intelligence to influence our work plan and projects, championing the voices and views local people. Use statutory powers appropriately and to greatest effect, to drive improvements by challenging providers and commissioners.

.3 **Healthwatch Peterborough purpose within the proposed Joint Scrutiny Board** would be to provide updates on activity and communications from patients, public and staff in regards to the proposed merger, merger consultation and/or other matters relating to the merger.

.4 Key activity of Healthwatch Peterborough in relation to proposed merger between Hinchingsbrooke NHS Trust and Peterborough and Stamford NHS Foundation Trust is:

- To ensure key messages, reports and developments are published and shared as widely as possible to include public, staff and stakeholders
- To ensure promotion of all community events giving the opportunity to share the key developments
- To ensure promotion of all events giving the opportunity for public feedback, and ensure that where key concerns and/or uncertainties are raised that these are collated and reported
- To host/co-host events to provide an independent opportunity to share developments and obtain public feedback
- To highlight and share all independently received concerns and/or issues from local people, stakeholders and staff with the Trust and ensure, where possible, these are published and/or shared
- To ensure the Trusts demonstrate where concerns and/or uncertainties have been raised that these are acknowledged and reported and, where possible, addressed
- To support the development of member participation if the merger is realised, that addresses local involvement to ensure participation and communication within all communities the three sites seek to serve.