

# Healthwatch Network Awards 2021 - COVID-19 response

Everything you need to apply for the Healthwatch  
Network Awards

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## Healthwatch Network Awards 2021

We're celebrating the extraordinary work Healthwatch teams do across the network, especially making real changes within your communities. Whether big or small, if you're proud of your achievements, put in an application and apply for an award.

### Award category: COVID-19 response

The last 16 months have been a time of unprecedented challenge as everyone grappled with the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, and local Healthwatch rose to meet that challenge. Many of you went above and beyond to look after your local community in a moment of crisis.

### Criteria

Address the criteria below to showcase the work you did, outside of usual Healthwatch activity, to support your community through COVID-19.

1. Summarise the main aims and outcomes of your work (No score given: 30 words max).

2. Why was the activity undertaken? (Scored: 150 words max).

The panel will be scoring on:

- A clear rationale for what you did and your decision-making process.
- How you addressed the needs of seldom heard groups, people likely to be isolated or those facing more significant challenges.

3. How did you plan your activity? (Scored: 150 words max).

The panel will be scoring on:

- Clear roles and responsibilities to make the best of team members' skills and expertise.
- Effective processes for co-ordinating work.
- How you made the best use of resources.
- Co-ordination of activities with other partners and stakeholders.

4. What did you do? (Scored: 100 words max).

The panel will be scoring on:

- A clear description of how you supported your local COVID-19 response.

5. How did you ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and volunteers? (Scored: 75 words).

The panel will be scoring on:

- How you put in place support to ensure physical and mental wellbeing of your team during and after the work took place.
- 6. **Impact and outcomes - what difference did you make to your community? (Scored: 150 words max).**

The panel will be scoring on: *(Please note that double weighting will be given to this section)*

- How you made a difference for members of the public.
- How this work strengthened your long-term relationship with partner organisations and stakeholders.

## Important information for this category

When filling out your application please note:

- If your application is about core Healthwatch statutory activity you should enter the Engagement award instead. E.g. if you wanted to apply for an award using a project on people's experiences of care during the pandemic, you should enter the Engagement category.
- Your applications can be about work undertaken by staff, volunteers or both.
- You may also include a testimonial or quote of up to half a page of A4 from someone working for another organisation. This can be in addition to the word limit. This is likely to be valuable in helping convey your impact to the panel. If you do so then please ensure you include their name, job title and their work email address.

## Important information for all submissions

### Submission notes and guidance

- The project for this category must have been carried out between April 2020 and July 2021.
- Your Healthwatch can enter as many categories as you want, but only make one application per category except for the Working with your Integrated Care Partnership category.
- Award submissions should be no more than the provided word count stated in the criteria sections, where applicable, and must answer the question.

### Supporting evidence

- You can include a maximum of three pieces of evidence as part of your overall submission. This could include:
  - Links/documents to external websites or attachments of documents produced by other organisations, including news items and press releases.
  - Testimonials from your commissioner or external partners(s). This can be in addition to the word limit. If you do so, then please ensure you include their name, job title and their work email address.

- Pictures from events, news articles/media or resources or written materials, which were developed as part of the project.
- For entries submitted with more than three pieces of evidence, only your first three items will be considered with your entry.

## Closing date for applications

The closing date for all applications is Friday 13 August. The awards will be presented as part of Healthwatch Week: 9 - 12 November 2021.

## What happens next?

- A panel made of the Healthwatch England Committee will judge the awards based on a short list.
- The short list will be drawn up by scoring applications based on the criteria set out above.
- There will be one overall winner and two runners up in this category.
- All applicants, including shortlisted entries will be notified of the outcome in the week commencing 27 September. Award winners will be announced during Healthwatch Week.

## Award queries

For any queries on the awards, please email the team on: [annualconference@healthwatch.co.uk](mailto:annualconference@healthwatch.co.uk)