What else is available?

There are also a number of other groups and networks you could join such as the Northumberland Local Involvement Network; Carers Northumberland; and the Learning Disability User Forum to name but a few.

For more information on what else is available, please contact our Involvement and Participation Manager, John Dowswell, on 01670 394 493 or email: John.Dowswell@nct.nhs.uk.

To request a copy of this leaflet in large print or another format or language to meet your needs, please call us on 01670 394 400.

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Get Involved and Have your Say

Better care, higher standards

Ref: 7 (7/11)
Information about the User Forums operating across Northumberland

Involving people to improve services...

In Northumberland we want local people who use our services to have a strong voice in helping us monitor, develop and improve the way we work.

What are User Forums?

One of the ways in which people can share their views, concerns and ideas is through our User Forums.

User Forums are friendly, welcoming and informal meetings made up of people who use our services who meet up on a regular basis to talk about issues that are important to them and to feedback their views to the Trust.

Who goes to the User Forums?

Anyone who uses social services arranged by a care manager (e.g. home care) or NHS community health services (e.g. district nursing) can attend the User Forums. Trust staff also attend the meetings to listen to what people have to say, help answer any questions and feedback to the organisation.

Where are they held?

They are held in different community venues across Northumberland. We currently have: Forums for Older People in Berwick, Ashington and Hexham; Forums for people with dementia and their carers in Berwick and Ashington; and a Forum for people with Long Term Conditions in Bedlington which includes people with a range of neurological conditions. People from surrounding areas are welcome to join.

How often are they held?

The Forums are held every 2 months and last around 2 hours. You can attend as little or as often as you like. We can help arrange transport to get
you to the meetings or we can pay for your travel expenses.

**Want to find out more?**

Contact our Involvement and Participation Manager, John Dowswell, on 01670 394 493 or email: [John.Dowswell@nct.nhs.uk](mailto:John.Dowswell@nct.nhs.uk)