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social care

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Healthwatch Oxfordshire to open four-day pop-up shop in Abingdon**

Healthwatch Oxfordshire, the county's independent health and social care watchdog, is to open a pop-up shop in Abingdon to listen to people's healthcare stories.

The organisation will be occupying 18 Abbey Shopping Centre, the main precinct off Abingdon Market Place, for four days from Tuesday, August 28.

The shop will be open from 9am to 5pm, and Healthwatch Oxfordshire staff will be on hand to listen to people's experiences of using health and care services in the county, and to give out information to help people find the services they need.

The initiative was made possible by The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society, which makes the shop unit available for charities and community groups to use.

Rosalind Pearce, Executive Director of Healthwatch Oxfordshire, said: "This is an exciting new departure for us. This pop-up shop is ideally positioned in the heart of Abingdon, in a busy shopping centre surrounded by big-name stores. We are confident that there will be plenty of people to come in and tell us their stories.

"We would love to do this in other towns, if we can find suitable premises to use."