

New way to run NHS services in East Hants

RESIDENTS living in East Hampshire can shape the future of their NHS services with an online survey.

GP practices, Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and South Eastern Hampshire CCG are working to improve NHS services for patients living in the area.

The survey aims to help GPs to transform and improve the primary care services they offer to patients.

Dr Kathryn Bannell, who chairs the steering board for the initiative, said: 'People have told us that they want to see GPs and other health and social care staff working more closely together.'

'We have also had people say they would like to be able to access GP appointments more easily, and to have the choice of convenient alternatives such as telephone and online consultations.'

Patients are asked to answer 12 multiple choice questions, which should only take three or four minutes to complete.

To get your voice heard take part on the survey at www.southeasternhampshireccg.nhs.uk/transforming-local-nhs-services.htm.

Beach hut owners are urged to secure huts

Safety campaign after spate of beach hut fires and break-ins

by ELISE BREWERTON

Havant and Hayling reporter
elise.brewerton@thenews.co.uk

POLICE and firefighters have joined together for a campaign to tackle beach hut crime over the summer.

Beach huts in Hayling are a target for arsonists and vandals.

Earlier this year two were destroyed and one badly damaged in a fire.

And with the cost of huts on the island reaching up to £25,000, it can be a big financial loss if they are destroyed.

Firefighter Glen Willie, from Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, is leading the campaign to make owners aware of how they can protect their property during the long



ADVICE From left, beach hut owner Annie Richards with firefighter Glen Willie, Pauline Byrne and Nick Tupper

summer days.

He said: 'We're taking a proactive approach before someone gets hurt.'

'We're trying to encourage people not to store anything that is flammable.'

'If they are storing something like gas or flammable

liquid it could accelerate fires if they are started.'

'Along with the police we are giving advice to people to keep their huts up-together, security-wise.'

'It's important they keep on top of maintenance.'

'They should make sure

roof felt is repaired as ones that are not up-together are usually the ones that are targeted.'

Owners have been advised to board up the gap between the bottom of the door and the floor of their beach hut which is intended for ventila-

tion but can mean easy access for burglars.

Mr Willie said: 'The beach huts are very often the owners' pride and joy and they spend a lot of money on them.'

'But they can be destroyed quickly leaving them out of pocket.'

'By taking these simple steps they can reduce the risk.'

Mr Willie and officers from Hampshire police were spreading the message at Beachlands, Hayling, yesterday.

A booklet has been put together to advise beach hut owners how to keep their property safe.

The booklet will be available online on Hampshire Fire and Rescue's website in the next few weeks. The campaign is one of only three across the country.

Mr Willie will be at the National Watersports Festival, on Hayling, over the three days - September 5, 6 and 7 - giving out advice.

GOSPORT WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Invitation to contact the Gosport Independent Panel

The Gosport Independent Panel has been set up by Parliament to investigate historic concerns raised about the care and subsequent deaths of older people at Gosport War Memorial Hospital from the 1980s through to the early 2000s. The Panel will review documentary evidence held by a range of organisations and individuals.

As Chair of the Panel, I would like to invite anyone who wishes to raise any concerns about the treatment of patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital during this period to contact the Panel. Many families have concerns about the way their relatives were treated and how their complaints have been handled. I want to make sure families' views are taken into account and fully considered by the Panel.

You can contact the Panel in confidence by completing the contact form at <https://gosportpanel.independent.gov.uk/contact/> or by emailing enquiries@gosportpanel.independent.gov.uk or by calling 0207 972 4212 during normal office hours.

BISHOP JAMES JONES
Chair of the Gosport Independent Panel