

# Help choose our priorities for 2018–19

Please read through the following and rank your choices in order of preference from 1 to 7 on the selection sheet

## Access to services – impact of waiting times

WAITING ROOM



We know that waiting times for treatment are increasing. As services come under greater pressure this may get worse. What impact is this having on people who have to wait longer for treatment?

## Children and families use of urgent care



Urgent care services are used when a person is ill enough to need to be seen within 24 hours but it's not an emergency. We know that young children often get quite ill quickly and that families with young children are often high users of urgent care services. However, we don't know what their experience is or how it can be improved.

## Impact of austerity on health and wellbeing



We are about to enter the eighth year of austerity measures. We don't know what, if any, impact it is having on the health and wellbeing of people with low incomes in Gateshead.

## Lack of funding for social care



Social care funding has been in the local and national news. The NHS says that this is one of the reasons it is under so much pressure. What effect is this having on people using social care services in Gateshead?

## Low take up of cervical screening



Cervical screening rates have dropped nationally. Healthwatch Newcastle is completing a project looking at why people don't take part in a range of screening programmes. This work could be built on in Gateshead and the results shared to help improve take up.

## Mental health services



Mental health services are an area of concern each year. The people who plan and provide mental health services are working to improve services (Delivering Together for adults and Expanding Minds, Improving Lives for children and young people's services) and we will be involved in this. However, they don't cover adult services for lower level mental health conditions, such as talking therapies.

## Public health cuts



Public health budgets have reduced over the last few years. What impact is this having on the services provided and on the health of the Gateshead population?

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Please rank your choices in order of preference from 1 to 7

Access to services – impact of waiting times	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children and families use of urgent care	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact of austerity on health and wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of funding for social care	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low take up of cervical screening	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental health services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public health cuts	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have any queries or require this paper in a different format call Freephone 0808 801 0382