# **The Complaints Process**



#### Talk to us

Every patient has the right to make a complaint about the treatment or care they have received from Two Harbours Healthcare and the Weymouth and Portland Primary Care Network (PCN). We understand that we may not always get everything right and, by telling us about the problem you have encountered, we will be able to improve our services and patient experience.

#### Who to talk to

Most complaints can be resolved at a local level. Please speak to a member of staff at your GP Practice if you have a concern and they will assist you where possible.

A complaint to the PCN can be made via email to <a href="mailto:w&p.pcn@dorsetgp.nhs.uk">w&p.pcn@dorsetgp.nhs.uk</a> or by post to Two Harbours Healthcare Limited, Lynch Lane Offices, Weymouth, DT4 9DN.

If for any reason you do not want to speak to a member of your Practice or the PCN then you can request that NHS Dorset, the Integrated Care Board (ICB) investigates your complaint. They will contact us on your behalf:

customer.careteam@nhsdorset.nhs.uk

# Time frames for complaints

The time constraint on bringing a complaint is 12 months from the occurrence giving rise to the complaint, or 12 months from the time you become aware of the matter about which you wish to complain. If your complaint is to the PCN the Two Harbours Healthcare Manager will respond to within three business days to acknowledge your complaint. We will aim to investigate and provide you with the findings as soon as we can and will provide regular updates regarding the investigation of your complaint.

# **Investigating complaints**

We will investigate all complaints effectively and in conjunction with extant legislation and guidance.

# Confidentiality

We will ensure that all complaints are investigated with the utmost confidentiality and that any documents are held separately from the patient's healthcare record.

## Third party complaints

We allow third parties to make a complaint on behalf of a patient. The patient must provide consent for them to do so.

## **Final response**

We will issue a final formal response to all complainants which will provide full details and the outcome of the complaint. We will liaise with you about the progress of any complaint.

### Advocacy support

- POhWER support centre can be contacted via 0300 456 2370
- Advocacy People gives advocacy support on 0330 440 9000
- Age UK on 0800 055 6112
- Local Council can give advice on local advocacy services
- Other advocates and links can be found on this PHSO webpage

#### **Further action**

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint from either NHS Dorset or this organisation, then you can escalate your complaint to Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman at: Milbank Tower, Milbank LONDON, SW1P 4QP

Tel: 0345 015 4033 www.ombudsman.org.uk