

02 February 2012

To:
Healthwatch Pathfinder Leads – via email

*Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London
SE1 8UG*

Tel: 020 7972 2000

Dear Healthwatch Pathfinder Lead

HEALTHWATCH PATHFINDERS: GRANT FUNDING

I am writing on behalf of the Secretary of State to notify you of the decision to allocate funding of £5,000 under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, to local authorities with Healthwatch Pathfinder status.

As David Behan, Director General for Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships, made clear in his letter of 3 January (Gateway reference 17068), the funding is being made available in Q4 of 2011/12 in order to support delivery of the Healthwatch Pathfinders with the suggestion that value for money could be sought in the following areas:

- demonstrating testing elements of proposed Healthwatch functions;
- stakeholder events to involve local people;
- develop wider community engagement;
- rewarding and reimbursing volunteers (particularly from LINKs) for their contribution; and
- contributing to their regional network to accelerate shared learning.

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The funding will be allocated to each local authority Healthwatch Pathfinder area via BACS transfer within the next two weeks. Where two or more local authority areas have joined together, each individual local authority within the partnership will receive £5,000. The Department of Health has an expectation that the funding is spent this financial year delivering on the Healthwatch Pathfinder proposal submitted in May 2011. If you have any further questions about the

details of the funding, please contact me at the following email address: kasey.chan@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

Kasey Chan
People, Communities and Local Government
Healthwatch Implementation Lead