

PRESS RELEASE - 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019

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Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust [BSUH] is taken out of special measures

The Royal Sussex County Hospital, the Princess Royal Hospital and other hospitals in the BSUH Trust are to be taken out of special measures. The [Care Quality Commission](#) [CQC] recommended this move following an inspection in September 2018.

The Trust is now rated '**Good**' overall and '**Outstanding**' for being caring. The Trust is also rated as Requiring Improvement for being responsive to people's needs and for using its resources productively.

Fran McCabe, the Chair of Healthwatch Brighton and Hove, said:

*"This is excellent news for the Trust and for the City of Brighton and Hove. The decision reflects an exceptional effort on the part of all the staff and leaders at the Trust. It is an extraordinary achievement in a two-year period to move from being seen as a seriously failing Trust to one which is Good overall and Outstanding for the quality of its care."*

David Liley, the Chief Officer of Healthwatch Brighton and Hove, said:

*"Healthwatch has worked in close partnership with BSUH over the last two years. We hope that our input has helped them in this remarkable turnaround in performance. Healthwatch volunteers have been welcomed routinely onto the Royal Sussex County Hospital and Princess Royal Hospital sites. We have spoken with patients and staff about improving the care provided and the hospital physical environment, providing over 200 recommendations for improvements in the last two years."*

There is still room for improvement and the greatest challenge ahead for the BSUH Trust will be to consolidate and sustain these improvements in the long term. The NHS and social care services are under enormous pressures all across the City, but this achievement will give everyone a great boost of morale and a very positive way to start the New Year.

Healthwatch Brighton and Hove reports into BSUH and related NHS services can be found at:  
[www.healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk/publications/healthwatch-reports](http://www.healthwatchbrightonandhove.co.uk/publications/healthwatch-reports)

These include:

- Environmental Reviews 2017/18
- Adult and Children's Emergency Departments – reviews of patient experiences

Contact for interviews and comment:

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**Press release ends**

