RPVG - Information Officer's Report for 2026

In 2026 we held 9 monthly meetings before the AGM. We did not feel it necessary to schedule intermediate meetings to respond to consultations, although we may have to do that next year when the neighbourhood health plan is finally produced.

We attended the Older People's Day on 1st October attracting the usual interest in GP surgery patient experiene, but failed to sign up members this time.

We were unable to attend Waterfest or the East Reading FestivAL although we did attend the first Coley Summer Event.

We had 6 presentations by external speakers, once having 2 in a single meeting.

Topic that dominated our thinking in 2026 were Neighbourood Health Care, Patient Experience at GP Practices (as ever), the future of Healthwatch and elected public governors at NHS trusts and the developing Royal Berks's Patient Portal.

We are grateful to Paul Williams and Sunila Lobo for regular updates from the Royal Berkshire Hospital Trust and to members of active PPGs for updates (particularly Emmer Green, Pembroke and University Medical Group).

In addition to those the presentations at meetings were:

26ja21 - Healthcare will be more local - Daniel Leveson, Helen Clark, Neverley Nicholson

26fe18 - Report on new Patient Portal at the RBH (Francis Brown)

26mr18 - Report on HWB workshop (Tom Lake) Report on Patient Experience at L arge APMS practice groups (Tom Lake and Francis Brown)

26ap15 - Talk on DNR and the RESPECT form (Petronelle Eastwock-Field, RBH)

26my20 - Diet, Health and Public Dining (Michelle Thomes, U of Reading), RBH Patient Portal (Jacqui Page, Alex Phillips, RBH)

26ju17 - RBH Patient Portal (Francis Brown), Review of West Berks Patient Pa nel Strategy

26jl15 - New standards for patient communication (Cathy Cousins) GP Patient survey for 2026 (Francis Brown and Tom Lake)

26sp30 - Behind the Scenes at a GP Practice (Samuel Kingsley)

26oc21 - Developing the Neighbourhood Health Care Plan

Despite writing to all PPG chairs early in the year we did not get any response and the covreage of PPGs is still unsatisfactory.