

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)

Date: 24 April 2013

Subject: HealthWatch Leeds – progress update

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce a verbal progress update for the Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care) on the arrangements for establishing and developing HealthWatch Leeds as the new local consumer champion for both health and social care.

2 Main issues

Background

- 2.1 At its meeting in February 2013, the Scrutiny Board received an initial update on the progress towards establishing a local HealthWatch organisation in Leeds from April 2013.
- 2.2 At the meeting, the Scrutiny Board considered a report from the Director of Adult Social Services that provided an update on the procurement of a local Healthwatch organisation for Leeds (to be known as Healthwatch Leeds) and advised on the transition from the Leeds Local Involvement Network to Healthwatch Leeds.
- 2.3 The report also proposed arrangements for the development of the relationship between the Scrutiny Board (Health and Wellbeing and Adult Social Care), the Scrutiny Board (Children and Families), the Health and Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch Leeds
- 2.4 The Chair of the [shadow] Health and Wellbeing Board, officers from Adult Social Care, along with representatives from HealthWatch Leeds attended the meeting to discuss the emerging arrangements and provide an overview of initial activity during the mobilisation period.

- 2.5 Members of the Scrutiny Board were very keen to receive further updates on the development of HealthWatch Leeds, including details around priorities, ways of working, organisational structure and delivery arrangements.

Arrangements for effective local HealthWatch

- 2.6 Formally, HealthWatch Leeds became operational on 1 April 2013, with the Chair of the organisation appointed soon after that date.
- 2.7 In line with the Scrutiny Board's desire to give further consideration to the establishment and development of HealthWatch Leeds, appropriate representatives (including the Chair) have been invited to provide a further verbal update at the meeting.
- 2.8 As previously presented, the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) have produced a guide '10 questions to ask if you're scrutinising arrangements for effective local Healthwatch'. This guide, attached as Appendix 1, is designed to help Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees develop a range of high-level questions around arrangements for local Healthwatch.
- 2.9 The guide aims to cover all relevant issues and may help the Scrutiny Board's consideration of the developing local arrangements; however it may not be relevant to ask all the questions listed and/or to follow the sections sequentially.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the details presented and discussed at the meeting and determine any appropriate further scrutiny activity at this time.

4 Background papers¹

None used

¹The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.