Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles)

Date: 17 July 2018

Subject: Healthwatch Leeds Annual Report (2017/18) and Future Work Programme

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present Healthwatch Leeds’ (HWL) Annual Work Report (2017/18) and its future work programme.

2 Main issues

2.1 Healthwatch was established to be an effective, independent consumer champion for health and social care. Healthwatch England is an umbrella organisation that provides a leadership and support role for the local Healthwatch network.

2.2 Given the respective roles of the Scrutiny Board and Healthwatch bodies, there is the potential for overlap and duplication in respective priority areas. In order to avoid or minimise duplication, the Scrutiny Board and Healthwatch Leeds (as the local Healthwatch body) have developed a productive relationship, which has included the appointment of a non-voting co-opted member onto the membership of the Scrutiny Board since 2014/15. The re-appointment of Healthwatch Leeds’ Chair was recently confirmed for the duration of the 2018/19 municipal year.

2.3 To help ensure a good understanding and awareness of previous work undertaken by Healthwatch Leeds, the Annual Report for 2017/18 is appended to this report. Likewise, to help avoid or minimise areas of duplication, Healthwatch Leeds future work programme is also appended.

2.4 It should be noted there is a degree of flexibility in HWL’s future work programme – to allow for additional, unplanned work items coming forward. This approach is also reflective of the Scrutiny Board’s approach to its own work schedule.
2.5 HWL’s Chair and non-voting co-opted member on the Scrutiny Board will be in attendance to assist the Scrutiny Board in its consideration of the details presented.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Board (Adults, Health and Active Lifestyles) is asked to consider the details presented in this report and appendices and agree any specific matters that may require further scrutiny action, input or activity.

4. Background papers

4.1 None used

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1 The 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.