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## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

### Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care)

Date: 24 June 2008

### Subject: Co-options to the Board

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#### Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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## 1.0 Purpose of the report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to help the Board determine any appropriate co-options to the Board.

## 2.0 Background

2.1 Article 6 of the Council's Constitution, which relates to scrutiny, outlines provision to allow the appointment of additional co-opted members to each of the Scrutiny Boards.

2.2 Such provision entitles each Scrutiny Board to appoint:

- (i) Up to five non-voting co-opted members<sup>1</sup>, for a term of office which does not go beyond the next Annual Meeting of the Council; and/or,
- (ii) Up to two non-voting co-opted members<sup>1</sup>, for a term of office which relates to a particular Scrutiny Inquiry.

2.3 During 2007/2008, the then Scrutiny Board (Health and Adult Social Care) made the following non-voting co-opted appointments:

- A representative of Leeds Voice Health Forum Coordinating Group – Mr. Eddie Mack
- A representative of Touchstone – Somoud Saqfelhait
- A representative of the Alliance of Service Users and Carers – Ms Joy Fisher

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<sup>1</sup> Co-option would normally only be appropriate where the co-optee has some specialist skill or knowledge which would be of assistance to the Board in its general operation or as part of a specific Scrutiny Inquiry.

- A representative Leeds Public and Patients Involvement Forum – Mr. Laurence Wood<sup>2</sup>
- Member of the public recruited with a remit is to keep matters of equality at the forefront of the Board's discussions – Sally Morgan<sup>3</sup>

2.5 At the Annual Meeting of Council on 22 May 2008, Council appointed to two new Scrutiny Boards – one relating to Health and the other relating to Adult Social Care. Effectively, this has split the responsibility of the former Scrutiny Board (Health and Adult Social Care) as detailed in the terms of reference for each Board, attached at Appendix 1.

2.6 Given the split in responsibilities between the 2 boards, it is appropriate that the Board considers the appropriateness of any co-optees prior to appointment for the current municipal year. To help the Board in its consideration and determination of any such arrangements for 2008/09, it should be noted that nominating bodies and the individuals concerned have indicated the following preferences:

- Mr. Eddie Mack (representing Leeds Voice Health Forum Coordinating Group) – Health Scrutiny Board
- Somoud Saqfelhait (representing Touchstone) – Health Scrutiny Board
- Ms. Joy Fisher (representing the Alliance of Service Users and Carers) – Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board\*
- Sally Morgan (equalities issues representative) – Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board\*

*\* This represents the 'first choice' of the co-optees from the former Health and Adult Social care Scrutiny Board. In addition, some indication to be considered for co-option to the Health Scrutiny Board has been expressed.*

2.7 The Board may also wish to consider the merits and value of co-opting representatives from other organisations, such as Leeds University and Leeds Metropolitan University (subject to identifying an appropriate representative).

2.8 In the short-term, Members may also wish to consider its relationship with the Leeds Local Involvement Network (LINKs) Preparatory Group, which Leeds Older People's Forum are co-ordinating until the host organisation is appointed. In the longer term, the Board will need to consider its relationship with the host organisation, once appointed.

### **3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 Members are asked to consider and determine any appropriate:

- (a) co-options to the Board for a term of office which does not go beyond the next Annual Meeting of the Council in 2009; and/or,
- (b) co-options to the Board for a term of office which relates to a particular Scrutiny Inquiry, identified as part of the Board's future work programme.

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<sup>2</sup> The Patients' Forum is no longer in existence and will be replaced by the Leeds Local Involvement Network (LInK) during 2008/09

<sup>3</sup> Recruited with the help of Leeds City Council's Equality Unit.