



## Report to Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** *Emily Standbrook-Shaw, Policy & Improvement Officer*

**Tel:** 0114 2056272

**Report of:** *Director of Legal and Governance*

**Report to:** *Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee*

**Date of Decision:** *21<sup>st</sup> June 2022*

**Subject:** *Co-option of HealthWatch Representative*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>(Insert reference number)</i>				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Purpose of Report:

*There is a longstanding relationship between HealthWatch and Health Scrutiny in Sheffield; HealthWatch Sheffield have held 'observer member' status on the Health Scrutiny Committee for many years. Under our previous governance arrangements this appointment was made by full council. The new Council Procedure Rules enable the sub-committee to appoint non-voting co-optees itself and it is proposed that this mechanism is used for HealthWatch's involvement in the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee going forward.*

*This report asks the Sub-Committee to co-opt a HealthWatch Sheffield representative for the 2022/23 municipal year.*

### Recommendations:

*That the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee agrees to co-opt a HealthWatch Sheffield representative for the 2022//23 municipal year.*

## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 Local HealthWatch was established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, to be independent and impartial champions for health and social care. There is a statutory relationship between HealthWatch and Health Scrutiny – HealthWatch may refer any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area for review and scrutiny, and if they do the local authority must take account of any information provided by them.
- 1.2 In order to facilitate this relationship, for many years HealthWatch Sheffield have held ‘observer status’ on the Health Scrutiny Committee, appointed by Full Council. This has enabled us to fulfil statutory duties, but it has also strengthened Health Scrutiny’s approach to public engagement and involvement – HealthWatch Sheffield have been able to feed the views and experiences of local people into scrutiny discussions.
- 1.3 It is proposed that HealthWatch Sheffield continue to have a role on the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee. Under the new Council Procedure Rules, the Sub-Committee is able to appoint non-voting co-opted members. It is therefore proposed that the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee appoints a representative from HealthWatch Sheffield as a non-voting co-opted member for the 2022/23 municipal year.

## 2. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

### 2.1 Equality Implications

- 2.1.1 There are no equality implications

### 2.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 2.2.1 There are no financial implications

### 2.3 Legal Implications

- 2.3.1 Healthwatch have a statutory role in health scrutiny under regulation 21 of the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations: they may refer any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area for review and scrutiny, and if they do the local authority must take account of any information provided by them.

- 2.3.2 Sheffield City Council Procedure Rules formally provide for co-option in CPR 25.4:  
*A Policy Committee may co-opt non-voting members who are not elected Members of the Council to the Committee or a Task and Finish Group to*

*assist in its consideration of an issue.* This power applies to the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee as an established sub-committee of a Policy Committee.

2.4 Climate Implications

2.4.1 There are no climate implications.

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