

REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting:	8 June 2015
Subject:	Developing a protocol for the working relationship between Scrutiny, the Health & Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch Harrow
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director, Strategic Commissioning
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	Health: Policy Lead – Councillor Michael Borio Performance Lead – Councillor Vina Mithani Community Health and Wellbeing: Policy Lead – Councillor Chris Mote Performance Lead – Councillor Margaret Davine
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the rationale behind developing a draft protocol for the working relationship between Harrow's scrutiny function, the Health & Wellbeing Board and the local Healthwatch.

Recommendations:

The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee is asked to:

- Provide comments on developing a draft protocol
- Agree a way forward for a robust working relationship between the three bodies for the future.

Section 2 – Report

This report attaches a briefing paper that has been developed through engagement with a number of key stakeholders involved in the local health and wellbeing agenda. This looks to develop a protocol of working for the Health & Wellbeing Board, Scrutiny and the local Healthwatch. It suggests a set of shared values/principles that can drive forward a robust working relationship between the three for the future.

A first draft of this protocol has been informally discussed with the Scrutiny Leadership Group and the chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board (who both originally commissioned this piece of work), as well as the relevant management teams within the council. There was agreement that, in line with arrangements in many other boroughs, the protocol should include the local Healthwatch once a new service had been recommissioned in April 2015.

The draft protocol is being formally presented to the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee in June and the Health & Wellbeing Board in July. Comments from Healthwatch are also currently being sought.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has delegated its duties around health scrutiny to the Health & Social Care Scrutiny Sub-Committee, although there remains the flexibility for issues to be considered at Overview & Scrutiny rather than Health & Social Care Sub-Committee, for reasons of timeliness or the strategic nature of the issue. Therefore the attached paper refers to the scrutiny function as a whole when discussing relationships. Appendix A details the key member roles involved in the Health & Wellbeing Board/Scrutiny relationship. It is assumed that the 'first port of call' for the working relationships with each body will be the chairs of each committee.

Financial Implications

There are no additional costs directly related to adopting this protocol.

Performance Issues

There is no specific performance issues associated with this report.

Environmental Impact

There is no specific environmental impact associated with this report.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications in adopting this protocol. Addressing health inequalities is implicit in the work of the three bodies covered in this protocol by promoting the three aims of the Public Sector Equalities Duty. The general duty has three aims in that it requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to:

1. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;

2. Advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups; and
3. Foster good relations between people from different groups.

Council Priorities

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for families

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Statutory clearances not required.

Name:.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date:		
Name:	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date:		

Ward Councillors notified:	N/A
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

Nahreen Matlib, Senior Policy Officer, 020 8420 9204

Background Papers:

- Developing a protocol for the working relationship between Scrutiny, the Health & Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch Harrow