

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

6 OCTOBER 2014

WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER OUTCOMES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. Healthwatch and local Health and Wellbeing Boards have been in place since April 2013 and it is considered timely that those organisations in Middlesbrough, along with Health Scrutiny, meet to discuss their respective roles and responsibilities. The aim of which, being to ensure that the representatives gain a shared understanding of each of the roles and how they can complement each other in order to help provide better health outcomes for people in Middlesbrough.

BACKGROUND

2. Attached at appendix 1 is a document from the Centre for Public Scrutiny – **'Local Healthwatch, health and wellbeing boards and health scrutiny – roles, relationships and adding value'** – the guide aims to help local leaders to understand the independent, but complementary roles and responsibilities and it can be used as a basis for discussions about how existing and new bodies will work together and how they can build on local agreements and legislative requirements.

Format of the Meeting

3. Each organisation will give a brief overview of its respective role and then discussions can be held around the following areas
 - a) How do we ensure that we complement not duplicate other's work?
 - b) How can we best use our roles to add value so that together we improve outcomes?
 - c) Are we taking the right steps to build effective relationships and understanding of partners' roles and responsibilities?
 - d) How will we make sure we work together in a transparent, inclusive and accountable way?
 - e) How are we providing leadership?
 - f) What is working well and or not so well?

4. The CfPS document outlines a number of fundamental principles which include developing relationships (not just formal engagement) and good communication. Therefore it is hoped that the discussion will result in joint agreement about how we work together to improve outcomes for local people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. It is recommended that, following discussions at the meeting that the representatives at the meeting agree to
 - i) Developing some working protocols, values and behaviours around local governance arrangements
 - ii) Avoid duplication of effort by agreeing guidelines and triggers for all partners

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in this report.

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