

Meeting of the City Council

20 March 2024

Report title	Healthwatch Co-opted Members - Health Scrutiny Panel
Referring body	Health Scrutiny Panel
Councillor to present report	Councillor Paula Brookfield
Wards affected	(All Wards);
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	Councillor Cabinet Member for Governance and Equalities, Portfolio
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer
Originating service	Scrutiny
Accountable employee	Martin Stevens DL Scrutiny Team Leader Tel Tel: 01902 550947 Email martin.stevens@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Approve Stacey Lewis (Healthwatch Wolverhampton Manager), Mandy Poonia (Healthwatch Wolverhampton Panel - Co-Chair) and Suffia Perveen (Healthwatch Wolverhampton Panel - Co-Chair) as the three Co-opted Healthwatch Wolverhampton Members, with full voting rights, on the Health Scrutiny Panel.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The Council's Constitution details the requirement for three Healthwatch Wolverhampton Co-opted Members to be part of the Health Scrutiny Panel. Healthwatch Wolverhampton, following recent changes to their governance structure, have nominated the three representatives they would like to be Co-opted Members on the Health Scrutiny Panel. These are the current Manager, Stacey Lewis, and the two Co-Chairs of their new Panel, Mandy Poonia and Suffia Perveen. Full Council has previously determined at their meeting on 5 November 2014 that the three Healthwatch Co-opted Members should be awarded Full Voting rights. The power to Co-opt Members onto the Health Scrutiny Panel rests with the Full Council.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Council's Health Scrutiny Panel has 12 seats. 9 seats are filled by Councillors and 3 are for Healthwatch Co-opted Members as prescribed in the Council's Constitution.

3.0 Options

3.1 The power to co-opt Members onto Health Scrutiny Panel rests will Full Council alone. It is therefore the Full Council's decision on whether to accept the three persons nominated by Healthwatch Wolverhampton to sit as Co-opted Members on the Health Scrutiny Panel.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation in this report.
[GE/11032024/I]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 The Local Government Act 2000 permits that Overview and Scrutiny Committees may include Co-opted Members, that is, those who are not members of the relevant Local Authority. For further information see section 9FA of and schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000, regulation 5 and 11 of The Local Authorities (Committee System) (England) Regulations 2012, and regulation 30 of The Local Authority (Public Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013. Co-opted Members may be given voting rights where permitted by the relevant Local Authority in accordance with a scheme made by the Local Authority. Full Council on 5 November 2014 awarded the three Co-opted Members of Healthwatch full voting rights on Health Scrutiny Panel.

5.2 The Council's current Constitution states that Membership of the Health Scrutiny Panel should include three Healthwatch Wolverhampton representatives. If Council approves the 3 people as Co-opted Members, each Co-opted Members should sign and abide by the Councillors' Code of Conduct as prescribed in the Constitution's Overview and Procedure rules.

[DP/12032024]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 Healthwatch Wolverhampton have put forward the three nominations as they see fit to best represent their organisation. Healthwatch are meant to be the voice of local communities on health matters. It is therefore important from an equalities perspective that the Health Scrutiny Panel fills the three seats available to Healthwatch Wolverhampton, in order to ensure the views of the community are represented at Health Scrutiny Panel and good governance is maintained.

7.0 All other Implications

7.1 There are no other implications.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

8.1 Full Council Report – 5 November 2014.

8.2 Minutes from Full Council – 5 November 2014.

8.3 Council's Constitution – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

9.0 Appendices

9.1 None.