

<b>HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>23 JULY 2015</b>
<b>HEALTHWATCH NOTTINGHAM ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15</b>
<b>REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b>

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To consider the Healthwatch Nottingham Annual Report 2014/15.

**2. Action required**

2.1 The Committee is asked to give consideration to the Healthwatch Nottingham Annual Report 2014/15 and scrutinise whether the Council's arrangements for Local Healthwatch are operating effectively.

**3. Background information**

3.1 Healthwatch is a consumer champion for health and social care, gathering and representing the views of the public. It has a role at both national and local level to make sure that views of the public and service users are taken into account in decision making.

3.2 Healthwatch was created by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and since 1 April 2013 every local authority with social services responsibilities has been required to establish arrangements for a Local Healthwatch organisation. In Nottingham this is Healthwatch Nottingham.

3.3 Healthwatch Nottingham is an independent organisation but the Council holds the contract for local Healthwatch arrangements and is responsible for ensuring that the arrangements operate effectively. There is currently a 3 year contract in place, which is due to end in March 2016.

3.4 In the working agreement between health scrutiny, Healthwatch Nottingham and the Health and Wellbeing Board, Healthwatch Nottingham agreed to provide a copy of its annual report to the Health Scrutiny Panel for consideration. The Annual Report 2014/15 will be attached in the main agenda.

3.5 The Annual Report outlines how Healthwatch Nottingham has developed over the last year, examples of activity that has taken place, information on how it has spent its money during 2014/15 and plans for the future.

- 3.6 A representative of Healthwatch Nottingham will be attending the meeting to present the annual report and answer questions from the Committee about its content.

4. **List of attached information**

- 4.1 The following information can be found in the appendix to this report:

**Appendix 1 – Healthwatch Nottingham Annual Report**

5. **Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

None

6. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

7. **Wards affected**

All

8. **Contact information**

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