

Update of the Health and Wellbeing Board Constitution

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1. Summary

- 1.1. The Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board was formally constituted in July 2013. It is now in its sixth year of operation and since this time there have been a number of developments both nationally and locally in regarding the role and expectations of Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- 1.2. At its meetings in June and July, the Health and Wellbeing Board reviewed and discussed changes to its role and also its constitution and terms of reference so that it can fulfil its responsibilities. An updated constitution was agreed and is shown at Appendix A.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee considers and approves the amended Health & Wellbeing Board Constitution set out in Appendix A for inclusion within the Council's Constitution and publication on the council's website.**

3. Background

- 3.1. Nationally, there has been increasing expectation that Health and Wellbeing Boards will adopt additional responsibilities such as sign off and oversight of joint commissioning and service delivery local plans. One of the most significant and substantial changes has been the responsibility placed on Health and Wellbeing Boards to have oversight and sign off of the Better Care Fund Submission.
- 3.2. At a local level, the Board has needed to gain a greater understanding of its role and how it fits and adds value to the existing structures and partnerships that are in place in the county. The Board has been keen not to duplicate the work being taken forward in other forums but rather to add value and additional drive to positively address substantial, often complicated issues that impact on health and wellbeing.
- 3.3. The constitution has been updated to include statutory requirements regarding the Better Care Fund and overseeing the care and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) detailed in the constitution shown at 2.1 (f) and (g) in Appendix A.
- 3.4. Other proposed changes to the constitution designed to promote better practice and improve effectiveness of the Board have also been added and are shown as track changes in red in Appendix A.

4.0 Consultation

These issues have been discussed by the Health and Wellbeing Executive ahead of

going to the Health and Wellbeing Board meetings in June and July.

5.0 Implications

Financial: There are no costs associated with the proposals in this report.

Legal: As detailed in the report.

Impact Assessment: The Council's duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 is to have "due regard" to the matters set out in relation to equalities when considering and making decisions on the provision of services. There are no direct impacts of the report's recommendations on the provision of services. There are no direct impacts on sustainability, health and safety, community safety or privacy aspects as a result of these proposals.

5. Background papers

- 5.1.** Somerset Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Health and Wellbeing Board Constitution and Terms of Reference.

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author