

**3 June 2013****Agenda Item: 7**

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **HEALTHWATCH**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce a briefing on Healthwatch Nottinghamshire.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. Healthwatch is the new independent consumer champion created to gather and represent the views of the public on their health and social care services. Healthwatch is playing a role at both national and local level, and is making sure that the views of the public and people who use the services are taken into account.
3. Healthwatch aims to:
  - Gather first-hand experiences of local residents and make recommendations to local providers
  - Consult with the public about proposed changes and influence future designs
  - Work in partnership with local statutory and voluntary groups to represent the views of the wider community and minority groups
  - Ensure proper representation of Nottinghamshire's diversity
  - Act as a hub for information at local and national level
4. The Health Scrutiny Committee will wish to develop relations with Healthwatch Nottinghamshire with a view to co-ordinating work programmes and thereby avoiding duplication.
5. Senior representatives of Healthwatch Nottinghamshire will attend the committee to provide a presentation on the work of this new organisation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That the Health Scrutiny Committee consider and comment on the information provided.

**Councillor Kate Foale**  
**Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 9772826**

**Background Papers**

Nil

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All