

Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Date: 3 September 2018

Title of report: Appointment of a new Voluntary Co-optee

Purpose of report:

To ask the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) to formally appoint a new Scrutiny Voluntary Co-optee to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	No
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Assistant Director for Financial Management, IT, Risk and Performance?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Assistant Director (Legal Governance and Monitoring)?	N/A
Cabinet member portfolio	Councillor Cathy Scott - Adults and Independence and Councillor Musarrat Khan Health

Electoral wards affected: N/A

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private: Public

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel has a wide ranging and demanding work programme that covers many aspects of work undertaken by the Council that includes Adult Social Care and Public Health.
- 1.2 In addition the Council has chosen to delegate its health scrutiny function to the Panel which means that a significant element of the Panel's work programme is focused on reviewing the activities of health service providers and commissioners.
- 1.3 The volume of work that is covered by the Panel requires input and support from all members of the Panel and the complexity of the issues, particularly those related to health issues, can be extremely demanding.
- 1.4 Last municipal year the Panel had 3 voluntary co-optees. All 3 co-optees had at least two year's involvement with the Panel and this consistency of membership and experience has been invaluable in helping to support the work of the Panel.
- 1.5 Unfortunately prior to the start of the current municipal year one of the Panel's Co-optees resigned and due to the level of work that the Panel is experiencing Cllr Smaje, Lead Member of the Panel, is keen to fill this vacancy.
- 1.6 Currently there is only a very small pool of co-optees and unfortunately this has limited the availability of individuals who have the experience or desire to work within the remit of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel.
- 1.7 Although plans are being developed to undertake a full co-optee recruitment exercise later this municipal year it is has been agreed that due to the demands of the Panel's work programme an interim appointment is brought forward as a priority.
- 1.8 As outlined above the work of the Panel covers issues that cut across the whole of the health and adult social care sector and although not essential for the co-optee role having some level of knowledge and experience of this sector is extremely helpful.
- 1.9 One of the Panel's current co-optees has some involvement with HealthWatch Kirklees who are an organisation that represent the views of local people regarding NHS and Social care services.
- 1.10 The experience the co-optee has gained at Healthwatch has helped to ensure that the Panel continue to focus on the quality of services and the experiences of service users.
- 1.11 It was felt that a good starting point for sourcing a new co-optee for the Panel would be to approach HealthWatch Kirklees to ask for help in promoting the vacancy with a focus on individuals who were already involved with Healthwatch such as community representatives or volunteers.
- 1.12 The Director of Healthwatch Kirklees confirmed that they would be happy to assist and the process resulted in a recommendation that consideration be given to appointing a long standing Healthwatch volunteer Lynne Keady.
- 1.13 Lynne is a retired civil servant and currently undertakes a number of voluntary roles which have a focus on mental health. Lynne has also been involved in a voluntary capacity in a number of organisations that have strong connections to the work of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

- 1.14 Lynne has observed the August Panel meeting and has met with Cllr Smaje to discuss in more detail the role of a scrutiny co-optee and the work of the Panel. The meeting was productive and it was felt that Lynne would be able to provide a positive contribution to the Panel and her experience in mental health would be of particular benefit to the Panel.
- 1.15 Following consultation with Cllr Smaje it is recommended that Lynne Keady is offered a place as a Voluntary Co-optee on the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel.
- 1.16 It is also recommended that Lynne is subject to the completion of the co-optee code of conduct form and the satisfactory completion of a six month probationary period. This will be assessed by OSMC in consultation with the Lead Member of the Panel and the Governance and Democratic Engagement Manager.
2. **Information required to take a decision**
As outlined in section 1.
3. **Implications for the Council**
Section 4 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules states that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will agree the appointment of non-voting co-optees for Committee or panels.
4. **Consultees and their opinions**
Cllr Smaje has considered the suitability of Lynne Keady and is recommending that she be appointed to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel subject to signing the Co-optee Code of Conduct.
5. **Next steps**
Following the appointment, Lynne will be asked to sign the Code of Conduct. Support and training on the scrutiny function will be provided concurrently with her involvement with the Panel.
6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**
That OSMC formally appoint Lynne Keady to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel, subject to the conditions laid out in paragraph 1.16.
7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**
N/A
8. **Contact officer**
Richard Dunne, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer, Tel: 01484 221000 Email: richard.dunne@kirklees.gov.uk
9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
N/A
10. **Service Director responsible**
Julie Muscroft, Legal, Governance & Monitoring