
Meeting	Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date	10 April 2014
Subject	Healthwatch Barnet Enter and View Reports
Report of Summary	Healthwatch Barnet Members are requested to consider the Enter and View reports from Healthwatch Barnet contained within the appendices of this report. Representatives from Healthwatch Barnet will attend the meeting to respond to questions.

Officer Contributors	Selina Rodrigues, Head of Healthwatch Barnet Anita Vukomanovic, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards Affected	All
Key Decision	n/a
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	n/a
Function of Enclosures	Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee Appendix A: Sonesta Nursing Home - Enter and View report Appendix B: Hammerson House - Enter and View report Appendix C: Grace House - Enter and View report
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee note the Enter and View reports and make appropriate comments and/or recommendations to Officers from Healthwatch Barnet.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 10 December 2012, Barnet LINK Enter and View Reports and the LINK Annual Report.
- 2.2 Cabinet Resources Committee, 25 February 2013, the Healthwatch Contract was awarded to CommUNITY Barnet.
- 2.3 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee 20 March 2013, Barnet LINK Enter and View Reports.
- 2.4 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee June 2013, e-mail correspondence: Barnet LINK Enter and View Reports and LINK Legacy Report.
- 2.5 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 9 September 2013: The Committee received a report containing Enter and View analysis and recent Enter and View Reports.
- 2.6 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 27 November 2013: The Committee received a report containing recent Enter and View Reports.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Healthwatch will be the primary vehicle through which users of health and care in the Borough will have their say and recommend improvements. These should lead to improved, more customer focused outcomes for the objectives in the Health and Well Being Strategy 2012-15 and in the Corporate Plan 2012-13, specifically under 'Sharing Opportunities and Responsibilities'.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Healthwatch Barnet has a group of Authorised Representatives. The Representatives are selected through a recruitment and interview process. Reference checks are undertaken. All representatives must complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check. All Authorised Representatives are required to undergo Enter and View and Safeguarding training prior to participating in the programme.
- 4.2 Ceasing to carry out the visits removes the opportunity for an additional level of scrutiny to assure the quality of service provision.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the role of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:
- The Council's leadership role in relation to diversity and inclusiveness; and
 - The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.
- 5.2 The Council is required to give due regard to its public sector equality duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and as public bodies, Health Partners are also subject to equalities duties contained within legislation, most notably s149 of the Equality Act 2010; consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 The Healthwatch Contract was awarded by Cabinet Resources Committee on 25 February 2013 to CommUNITY Barnet. The Healthwatch contract value is £197,361 per annum. The contract commenced on 1 April 2013 and expires on 31 March 2016; the contract sum received is £592,083. The contract provides for a further extension of up to two years which, if implemented, would give a total contract value of £986,805.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Sections 221 to 227 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, as amended by Sections 182 to 187 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, and regulations subsequently issued under these sections, govern the establishment of Healthwatch, its functions and the responsibility of local authorities to commission local Healthwatch.
- 7.2 At its meeting of 26 July 2012, the Health and Wellbeing Board noted the proposed tendering process for Healthwatch and on 25 February 2013, the Cabinet Resources Committee, approved that contract to deliver Healthwatch in Barnet be awarded to CommUNITY Barnet.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 The scope of Overview and Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Constitution
- 8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Committees are set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution). The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee has within its terms of reference the following responsibilities:

“To scrutinise the Council and its partners in the discharge of statutory duties in relation to safeguarding”

“To receive reports from Barnet’s Healthwatch on safeguarding issues”

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 Healthwatch Barnet delivers ‘Enter and View’ visits, which are review visits by lay-people of the quality, care and safety in residential and health care settings. The Healthwatch Enter and View team are given the legal right to do this and have all been well trained in their role. The Enter and View Programme and Reports are not a substitute for the Care Quality Commission and its role as the inspector of health and social care services. The most important aspect of Enter and View is that it is intended to add value by working in collaboration with service providers, residents, relatives, carers and those commissioning services.
- 9.2 The Enter and View reports are written by the Enter and View team and sent to the care provider to check for factual accuracy and to respond to the report recommendations. The reports are reviewed and authorised at each stage by Healthwatch Barnet staff, and once finalised are uploaded to the Healthwatch Barnet website. The reports are then sent to the Care Quality Commission and the Head of Safeguarding, Adults and Communities, Barnet Council and the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None

Cleared by Finance (Officer’s initials)	AD
Cleared by Legal (Officer’s initials)	LC