

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>15 October 2013</b>
<b>By:</b>	<b>Becky Shaw, Chief Executive, East Sussex County Council</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing Board Governance Review</b>
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	<b>To present proposals on governance arrangements</b>

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Board is recommended to:**

- 1. Consider and agree proposals for Board membership set out in section 3 and summarised at Appendix 1.**
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### **1. Governance Arrangements**

1.1. At its meeting in July 2013 the Health and Wellbeing Board considered proposals for changes to membership and agreed to consult Board observers before taking a final decision at the Board's October meeting. The only proposed change was that NHS England should be invited to become a full Board member with voting rights.

1.2. The principles for the Boards' governance arrangements agreed at the July meeting were that it should be as inclusive as possible, whilst keeping membership to a level where business could be conducted efficiently. The Board also wished to keep a balance between the main commissioners of services from local government and health. Healthwatch East Sussex is a statutory member of the Board and provides a voice for service users and carers.

1.3. The contribution that observers make to the work of the Board and the health and wellbeing of the local population was also recognised and valued. As a non-executive Committee, the Board wanted to continue to work by consensus.

### **2. Consultation Responses**

2.1. Following the July Board meeting, consultation on the proposed governance arrangements for the Board took place with current observers on the Board. A summary of the views of those who responded is set out below.

2.2. Three of the five District and Borough Councils: Eastbourne; Hastings; and Wealden, requested that all District and Borough Councils be made full members of the Board with voting rights. Rother District Council proposed that there be two District and Borough members with voting rights, rotated annually among the Councils. Lewes District Council suggested that Board membership remains as it is. If voting rights for Districts and Boroughs were to be considered, Lewes District Council suggested there should be one voting member from the District and Borough Councils rotated on an annual basis, with the other councils remaining observers.

2.3. NHS England welcomed the opportunity to become a full Board member; supported the need to ensure the Board both reflected key partners and is of a manageable size to work effectively; and noted the role of the Assembly in engaging wider partners in the Board's work.

2.4. The Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) was happy to continue as an observer with speaking rights but, if any full member appointments were to be considered, that her role be considered to reflect the role she played in ensuring effective joint working between criminal justice agencies, the Health and Wellbeing Board and wider partners and

partnerships and the impact safer communities can have on health and wellbeing. However, at this point in time, she felt no further full members should be appointed and observer status with speaking rights remain in place for the District and Borough Councils. The effectiveness of membership arrangements could then be reviewed in 6 months time.

2.5. East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) supported the principles set out in the proposed governance arrangements and reinforced the need for providers to have observer status.

2.6. Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT) welcomed being observers and felt it would be prudent to continue with current arrangements, including District and Borough Councils remaining observers, during this period of structural change.

2.7. SpeakUp requested that the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) representative as nominated by SpeakUp become a full voting member of the Board to recognise the contribution the sector makes to health and wellbeing through providing services, engaging communities and tackling inequalities.

### **3. Proposals**

3.1. All the responses received have been considered by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Bearing in mind the Board's desire to be inclusive but remain small, retain a balance between elected members and NHS representatives, and to work by consensus they propose that:

- 3.1.1. The District and Borough Councils are invited to nominate 2 representatives to represent and vote on behalf of all District and Borough Councils. These members would rotate between the Councils on an annual basis. The three other District and Borough Council representatives would continue to be observers with speaking rights.
- 3.1.2. NHS England is invited to become a full Board member with voting rights.
- 3.1.3. The Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner is invited to continue as an observer with speaking rights.
- 3.1.4. The contribution and perspective of service providers is highly valued but, as there could be a conflict of interest when commissioning plans are being considered, the SpeakUp nominated VCS representative should continue as an observer with speaking rights alongside ESHT and SPFT given that they represent a diverse sector many of whom are service providers. As a member of the Board, Healthwatch East Sussex can feed the views of the public, patients, service users and carers into the Board's work.
- 3.1.5. To review membership in 12 months time following the Boards' experience of operating with its statutory duties and in light of any additional duties that may be conferred upon it.

3.2. The role of the Board's Assembly continues to be recognised as an important mechanism for the Board to engage with a range of organisations, partnerships and forums across the health and care system.

**Becky Shaw  
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East Sussex County Council**

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## Appendix 1

<b>Current Membership</b>	#	<b>Proposed Membership</b>	#
<b>Statutory core members</b>		<b>Statutory core members</b>	
Four County Councillors	4	Four County Councillors	4
Director of Public Health	1	Director of Public Health	1
Director of Adults Services	1	Director of Adults Services	1
Director of Children's Services	1	Director of Children's Services	1
Representative of each of the local CCGs	3	Representative of each of the local CCGs	3
Representative of local Healthwatch	1	Representative of local Healthwatch	1
<b>Additional voting members</b>		<b>Additional voting members</b>	
None		NHS England	1
		Two District and Borough representatives	2
<b>TOTAL FULL VOTING MEMBERS</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Observers with speaking rights</b>		<b>Observers with speaking rights</b>	
All District and Borough Councils	5	Three District and Borough Councils	3
VCS representative as nominated by SpeakUp	1	VCS representative as nominated by SpeakUp	1
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	1	East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	1
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	1
Police and Crime Commissioner	1	Police and Crime Commissioner	1
<b>TOTAL OBSERVERS</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>21</b>