

Healthier Communities Select Committee			
Title	Lewisham Healthwatch annual report		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	8
Class	Part 1 (Open)	16 July 2014	

1. Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to consider the content of the attached report and direct questions to representatives of Healthwatch in attendance at the meeting on 16 July.

3. Background

- 3.1 Healthwatch is the consumer champion for health and social care. Arrangements for the creation of Healthwatch were set out by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and local areas were required to ensure that a local Healthwatch had been set up by April 2013.
- 3.2 Local Healthwatches are independent organisations. However, Councils hold the contracts for local Healthwatch arrangements, and are required to ensure that their local Healthwatch operates effectively.
- 3.3 The annual report provides an overview of the work of Lewisham Healthwatch in in the previous year. As well as identifying issues and areas for further work, it summarises the outcomes of work carried out to date.

Background documents

Lewisham Healthwatch annual report is attached

Local Healthwatch, health and wellbeing boards and health scrutiny: Roles, relationships and adding value, Centre for Public Scrutiny available online at: <http://tinyurl.com/abe52e3>

For further information about this report please contact Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager) on 02083147916.