



Report of: **Director of Law and Governance**

Meeting of	Date	Ward(s)
Council	23 February 2017	All

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt

## **Subject: Constitution Change – Establishment of Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board**

### **1. Synopsis**

1.1 This report seeks the Council’s approval for the establishment of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Board with the London Borough of Haringey, which will operate as a sub-committee of the Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards. The Council is asked to agree the appended terms of reference and confirm the membership of the Board. The Council is also asked to amend the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board to allow such functions as it chooses to be delegated to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board as partnership arrangements develop.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (i.e. a Joint Committee) be established to discharge on behalf of both boroughs the function of encouraging integrated workings between commissioners and providers of health and care in the two boroughs in so far as it relates to areas of common interest and for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of their populations;
- 2.2 That the Terms of Reference of the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board be approved as set out at Appendix 1;
- 2.3 That the membership of the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board be confirmed as set out at Appendix 1;
- 2.4 That the Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board be amended to permit when appropriate delegation of more functions to the Haringey and Islington Joint Health and Wellbeing Board, as described at paragraph 3.6.

### **3. Background**

#### Establishment of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Board and Terms of Reference

- 3.1 The London Boroughs of Islington and Haringey have developed a joint health and care initiative known as the Islington and Haringey Wellbeing Partnership. The Wellbeing Partnership is the coming together of NHS organisations and local authorities in Haringey and Islington. It is driven by a shared recognition that major changes are needed to ensure that health and care services are of the right quality and capable of meeting the future needs of our local communities.
- 3.2 The Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards have agreed that a more formal joint arrangement would strengthen the governance of the wellbeing partnership and provide a platform for joint working and oversight and decision-making in the future. The appended terms of reference of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Board (Joint Committee) were drafted by both authorities and were endorsed at the 31 January meeting in common of the Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards. These state that the Joint Committee will encourage and promote local partnerships, collaboration and integrated working; provide strategic oversight to the Wellbeing Partnership; provide a mechanism to enable joint decision-making; and represent the collective interests of the boroughs. It is also intended for the Joint Committee to contribute to the development of the North Central London Sustainability and Transformation Plan. The Health and Wellbeing Board resolved that the joint arrangements be recommended to the Council for approval.
- 3.3 The Joint Committee will be a sub-committee of the Islington and Haringey Health and Wellbeing Boards. The procedural rules governing meetings incorporates aspects of Islington and Haringey's current arrangements and the responsibility for hosting and clerking meetings is proposed to rotate between the boroughs.

#### Membership

- 3.4 It is proposed that most members of the constituent Health and Wellbeing Boards are members of the Joint Committee. To ensure equality between the boroughs, voting rights are limited to elected members, two CCG members, and Healthwatch, although in practice it is expected that decision-making will be on a consensual basis. The London Borough of Haringey has appointed a voluntary sector representative to its Health and Wellbeing Board and it is expected that this representative would represent the interests of both the Islington and Haringey voluntary sectors on the Joint Committee.

#### Further development of joint arrangements

- 3.5 It is expected that the joint arrangements will develop over time. For this reason, it is suggested that the Constitutions of Islington and Haringey Councils should be amended to allow the respective Health and Wellbeing Board to delegate more functions to the Joint Committee as it chooses. This would allow the Joint Committee to take on additional functions as appropriate, and could, for example, enable statutory documents, such as the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, to be developed at a cross-borough level in future.
- 3.6 To enable the functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board to be delegated to the Joint Committee, it is proposed to make the following addition to the Terms of Reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board:

*“The Board may arrange for any of its functions to be delegated to a sub-committee of the Board, or exercised jointly with other Health and Wellbeing Boards in accordance Section 198 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The Board may enter into joint committee arrangement with other London Borough’s Health and Wellbeing Boards in respect of any or all of its functions*

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial Implications**

The Wellbeing Partnership will support the financial sustainability of local health and care services. Supporting joint arrangements will have resource implications which will need to be met from existing budgets; however these are considered to be minimal. It is proposed for the Joint Committee to meet four times per annum. As a result, it is proposed to reduce the number of Islington-only Health and Wellbeing Board meetings from four to two per annum. As the administrative support for the meetings of the Joint Committee will be alternate between the boroughs, there will be no overall increase in the number of meetings supported by Islington Council.

### **4.2 Legal Implications**

Section 198 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 provides that two or more Health and Wellbeing Boards may make arrangements for any of their functions to be exercisable jointly. In addition, Section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables two or more local authorities to set up a Joint Committee to discharge their functions jointly. The establishment of the joint committee requires the approval of both local authorities.

### **4.3 Environmental Implications**

There are no environmental implications arising directly from this report.

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

The holding of joint meetings is a governance matter and does not have direct resident and equalities implications. However, the Wellbeing Partnership will help to tackle health inequalities in both Islington and Haringey.

## **5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

5.1 The recommendations proposed will strengthen the governance of the Wellbeing Partnership and support collaboration and integrated working between Islington and Haringey. The Partnership is intended to support the populations of both boroughs to

live healthier, happier and longer lives; improve health and care services so that people experience more joined up, better quality services at the right time in the right place; and make sure the local health and care system delivers high value care, and is financially sustainable. Islington and Haringey have similar populations, with similar health and care needs, and a shared ambition and vision to provide high-quality, integrated, people-centred services. It is proposed that the joint arrangements be reviewed after one year of operation to ensure that the Joint Committee operates effectively and for the benefit of both boroughs.

**Appendices:**

- Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference

**Background papers:**

- None.

**Final Report Clearance**

Signed by



15 February 2017

.....  
Director of Law and Governance

.....  
Date

Report author: Jonathan Moore, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Tel: 020 7527 3308  
E-mail: [Jonthan.Moore@islington.gov.uk](mailto:Jonthan.Moore@islington.gov.uk)