

Health and Wellbeing Board

19 January 2015

Health and Wellbeing Board – membership

1. Purpose

To request consideration of a suggestion to change the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board to include the Council's Cabinet portfolio holder for Social Care.

2. Recommendation

That the Health and Wellbeing Board consider a change to its membership to include the Cabinet portfolio holder responsible for Social Care.

3. Report detail

The Health and Social Care Act specifies those bodies which must be represented on the Board. The membership comprises key commissioning decision makers and includes, amongst others, the 'Director of Adult Social Services for the Local Authority'.

The Council's Cabinet is the governance and accountability body which makes decisions on recommendations of the Health and Wellbeing Board and each Cabinet member has a portfolio which represents areas of the Council's activities upon which they will take the lead and speak on related issues at Council meetings.

Whilst the relevant Council Director is a member of the Board, the Cabinet's priorities for social care can only be properly expressed by the portfolio holder who has the same role as the Chair of the Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group. It would be appropriate therefore, and consistent with the Health and Wellbeing Boards' duty to encourage integrated working between health and social care commissioning, for the Cabinet member whose portfolio includes responsibility for Social Care to be a member of the Board.

The Act provides discretion for Health and Wellbeing Boards to 'appoint such additional persons as it thinks appropriate'. Any change in membership would be reported for information to the next meeting of the Council in order to inform its nominations to committees at each Annual meeting.

Author

Helen Owen, Democratic Services

☎ 01922 654522

✉ owenh@walsall.gov.uk