

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 29 November 2022

Agenda item: Young Inspectors

Wards: Merton

Subject:

Lead officer: Dr Dagmar Zeuner, Director of Public Health

Lead member: Councillor Peter McCabe, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Forward Plan reference number:

Contact officer: Julia Groom, Consultant in Public Health

Recommendations:

- A. To agree that a nominated Young Inspector be appointed to attend the Health and Wellbeing Board at the invitation of the Chair for an initial period of six months.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes that a nominated Young Inspector be appointed to attend Health and Wellbeing Board meetings, for an initial pilot period of six months, in order to bring young people's voice and perspective to Board discussions.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 20th September, members of this Board received a presentation from Young Inspectors, Lola Kareem and Anna Huk on engaging with young people. They outlined how they saw children and young people being heard in Merton and presented the key findings on the 'Being Healthy' theme from the engagement survey.

Explaining what Young Inspectors have learned from their participation work during COVID, they gave examples of how young people themselves are leading on participation-work. The presentation was welcomed by the Board and the ways in which young people can participate more fully in the HWBB going forward were raised.

3 DETAILS

- 3.1. The Young Inspectors requested that the Health and Wellbeing Board Chair and members consider inviting a Young Inspector to future meetings to bring a young person's voice to deliberations and advise on how young people can have a say in decision making, as the HWBB is concerned with the health of all Merton's population of all ages.
- 3.2. Following consideration and consultation, it is proposed that a Young Inspector be nominated through a transparent process and appointed by the

Chair to attend Health and Wellbeing Board meetings for an initial pilot period of six months. This will include the January, March and June 2023 meetings of the HWBB, at which point the arrangement will be reviewed. This will be a non-voting position and on advice from Democratic Services, will not require a change to Terms of Reference.

- 3.3. Discussions have taken place with the Chair of the HWBB about the proposal to appoint a Young Inspector to attend the Board. A short job description of the role will be produced, setting out expectations and support, and Young Inspectors invited to make an expression of interest. Candidates will then be reviewed against the role criteria by the children and young people's Participation and Engagement Manager and the Public Health team and will meet the Chair of the HWBB (and other members by agreement) to consider the appointment. The successful candidate will then be fully briefed and invited to attend the January HWBB. Role criteria will also be used to evaluate the pilot period and a recommendation made to the Board in September 2023.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

N/A

5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

N/A

6 TIMETABLE

The pilot approach will be for six months and then reviewed.

7 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The Health and Wellbeing Board has some statutory membership but beyond that is able to determine its own members. It is also a public meeting.

9 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

Young Inspector representation at the Health and Wellbeing Board will allow for greater involvement of children and young people's voice.

10 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

N/A

11 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

12 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

None

13 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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