

## **Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 27 June 2023**

Agenda item:

Wards: All

## **Subject: Health and Wellbeing Board Young Inspector**

Lead officer: Julia Groom, Consultant in Public Health

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

Contact officer: Sukpal Uppal, Participation and Engagement Manager, Children Lifelong Learning and Families.

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### **Recommendations:**

- A. To agree that the pilot of a Young Inspector member of the Health and Wellbeing Board be extended for a period of six months, prior to a formal review.
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## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report proposes that the initial pilot project of having a Young Inspector member of the HWBB, currently filled by Anna Huk, be extended for a period of six months. This will continue to bring young people's voice and perspective to Board discussions prior to a formal review in January 2023.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In September 2022, members of this Board received a presentation from Young Inspectors, Lola Kareem and Anna Huk setting out how they saw children and young people being heard in Merton. They presented the findings on the 'Being Healthy' theme of the engagement survey and 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 were considered.
- 2.2 At its meeting in November 2022, the HWBB agreed to an initial pilot project for a Young Inspector to be invited to the Board. This was intended to bring a young person's voice to deliberations and guide how young people can have a say in decision making. The Young Inspector, Anna Huk, was nominated through a transparent process, and appointed by the Chair to attend HWBB meetings over a six month period, including Boards in January, March and June 2023.

## **3 DETAILS**

- 3.1 In the three Board meetings that Young Inspector, Anna, has attended to date, she has made a valuable and considered contribution to deliberations. She has effectively brought a young person's voice to discussions in a way which has helped inform several areas of work. Her contribution on the ways in which young people engage with the media has been particularly insightful.

- 3.2 Following this action by the HWBB, all Merton Scrutiny Panels have now also acted to include a Young Inspector on Panels for an initial period of one year.
- 3.3 It is proposed that the initial HWBB pilot period of six months now be extended for a further six months to January 2024. This will allow for Anna or a subsequent nominated Young Inspector to attend HWBB meetings in September and November 2023 and January 2024.
- 3.4 During this time it will be possible to review the pilot and gain learning from the wider experience of Scrutiny Panels. It will also allow time to evaluate the implications of a more permanent arrangement on the HWBB terms of reference. If a permanent arrangement is recommended then any required changes to the terms of reference to be brought to the HWBB for agreement.
- 4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**
- The alternative would be to bring the pilot of having a Young Inspector attending the HWBB to an end.
- 5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**
- As part of the review of the pilot project it is proposed to consult with HWBB members and the Young Inspector and CYP engagement lead.
- 6 TIMETABLE**
- The proposal is for the pilot to be extended for six months to January 2024.
- 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 allows 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