

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Wellbeing Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	16 May 2014	
TITLE:	South Western Ambulance Service (North Area) Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Councillor membership	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
None		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The South Western Ambulance Service (North Area) Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee ('Ambulance JHOSC') includes three scrutiny member representatives from B&NES. Following the resignation of Cllr Jackson from one of these positions, there is currently a vacancy for a B&NES member to join the Ambulance JHOSC. The Wellbeing PDS panel has previously agreed to continue this joint scrutiny following acquisition of Great Western Ambulance Service by the South Western Ambulance Service in 2013. The Wellbeing PDS Panel is therefore asked to nominate a panel member to join the committee and fill this vacancy.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To agree a nominee who will join the existing cohort of B&NES representatives on the Ambulance JHOSC.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

3.1 Whilst there are members and officer costs in attending scrutiny meetings, none are additional to previous arrangements.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 The council has a statutory duty to promote the health & wellbeing of the inhabitants of its area and reduce inequalities amongst its population.

4.2 Unlike some external bodies, member representation on the Ambulance JHOSC is not statutory. However, it is good practice to maintain good links between local health scrutiny and regional scrutiny bodies.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The Great Western Ambulance Service (GWAS) was acquired by South West Ambulance Service (SWAS) in February 2013. An Ambulance JHOSC had previously met to consider issues of concern across the former GWAS area.

5.2 The panel received a briefing on 20th September 2014 on the financial, resource and constitutional issues of the evolving model of the Ambulance JHOSC. Having deliberated over this advice, the panel supported the continuation of an Ambulance JHOSC for the former Great Western Ambulance area based on the current model of officer support.

5.3 The Terms of Reference for the Ambulance JHOSC (as revised in January 2014) allows B&NES to nominate three councillors. Two places are already held by Cllr Clarke and Cllr Ball. Following Cllr Jackson's resignation, a new third B&NES representative is sought.

5.4 Panel members may be mindful that the requirement to observe political proportionality in making appointments to joint health scrutiny committees has been waived by councils so as to give each one the maximum flexibility in making its appointments.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 There is a vacancy for a B&NES councillor on the Ambulance JHOSC

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The council's s151 and Monitoring Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	<i>Emma Bagley 01225 396140</i>
Background papers	<i>Minutes of Wellbeing PDS Panel September 2013:</i> http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=460&MId=3328&Ver=4
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