

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
HEALTHWATCH BLACKPOOL
HELD AT THE SALVATION ARMY CITADEL, RAIKES PARADE, BLACKPOOL
ON THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2016 AT 1.00PM**

Present: Ms K Burrell, non-Executive Director
Mr E Jackson, non-Executive Director
Ms J Rose, non- Executive Director (Chairman)
Ms M Whyham, non-Executive Director

In attendance: Ms D Conlon, Chief Executive Empowerment
Mr S Garner, Healthwatch Manager Designate, Empowerment
Mr M Towers, Company Secretary (Co Sec)
Miss Y Burnett, Company Secretary Support.

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| 1. | <p>Chairman welcome and apologies for absence</p> <p>The Chairman, Mrs Rose welcomed everyone to the first Annual General Meeting since Empowerment took over the operations lead for Healthwatch in April 2015. Apologies for absence were received from Independent Directors Dr Davis and Mr Molyneux.</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 December 2014</p> <p>The meeting agreed to note the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 December 2014.</p> | |
| 3. | <p>Presentation of the Annual Report 2014/ 2015</p> <p>The Chairman presented the Annual Report and acknowledged the contribution from Empowerment in producing the report retrospectively. She highlighted the strategic priorities and highlighted that two successful events had been held, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) event held jointly with the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre’s Council for Voluntary Services and the End of Life team who were setting priorities for the next five years.</p> <p>Healthwatch Blackpool had sought to increase the awareness of information, advice and signposting available for its participants and in response had developed a database for use by the public. Mrs Rose reported that the collaborative arrangements were being developed with the patient participation group and patients networks to encourage engagement and address concerns including social isolation, dementia, cancer, diet and nutrition and transport.</p> <p>The meeting was advised that Healthwatch Blackpool had engaged with older people (over 65) and young people (under 21), disadvantaged, vulnerable and hard to reach groups. Mrs Rose acknowledged that the relationship with young</p> | |

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| 4. | <p>people and the organisation required further development.</p> <p>Mrs Rose explained that 39 “Enter and Views” of care homes had been undertaken in Blackpool and the findings of Healthwatch Blackpool had been submitted to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).</p> <p>It was reported that the organisation had representation on two key strategic Bodies, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the CCG Governing Body ensuring that the views, needs and experiences of local people were acknowledged and reflected in strategic decision making.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that following the change in operations lead in April 2015 there had been a period of uncertainty and instability, but with the commitment and dedication from the Empowerment team, which Mrs Rose accredited to Ms Claire Powell (former Services Manager) leadership, she was of the opinion that the organisation would continue to grow from strength to strength.</p> <p>The meeting agreed to receive the Annual Report 2014/ 2015.</p> <p>Presentation of the Annual Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2015</p> <p>Mr Towers, Company Secretary, reported that apologies had been received from Mr Alistair Miller of , John Potter and Harrison Chartered Accountants. However, he had given assurance, as the independent reviewer, that there was no cause for concern or issues with the Director’s report and financial statement.</p> <p>Mr Towers added that due to the change in operations lead, the accounting period had been reduced to a nine-month period up to 31 March 2015.</p> <p>The meeting agreed to receive the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2015.</p> | |
| 5. | <p>Introduction to the new Independent Board Directors</p> <p>Mr Towers advised the meeting that part of the arrangements with Empowerment was the establishment of a recruitment panel to identify Board members that would support the strategic operation of Healthwatch Blackpool. He confirmed that five Board members had been appointed, Mrs Mary Whyham, Mr Eddy Jackson, Miss Katie Burrell, Dr Mike Davis and Mr Greg Molyneux and those members that were present made themselves known to the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting was informed that Mrs Rose had indicated her intention to resign from the position of Chairman, which she had held for over 18 months and from the Board. On behalf of Healthwatch Blackpool, Mr Towers thanked Mrs Rose for her dedication and commitment over the years particularly during the transitional period when she had provided a consistent presence.</p> | |

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| 6. | <p>Mr Towers reported that the first Board meeting would be held on the rising of the Annual General Meeting to formally agree the Annual Report and the Accounts and the new arrangements would take effect from 1 April 2016.</p> <p>Opportunity for Questions</p> <p>There were no questions from the floor for the Healthwatch Blackpool Board Members.</p> | |

The meeting ended at 1.30pm