

Report to:	HEALTHWATCH BLACKPOOL
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Company Secretary
Date of Meeting	12 July 2016

ROLES OF THE BOARD AND EMPOWERMENT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to define the relationship and roles of the Board and that of Empowerment to assist each in undertaking their duties.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the draft outline of the roles and relationships between the two bodies attached at Appendix 11(a)

2.2 To consider at the next meeting the commissioning relationship between Empowerment and the Council in relation to the delivery of local healthwatch.

3.0 Reason for Recommendations

3.1 To seek clarity for Board members and officers from Empowerment with regard to their roles and responsibilities.

4.0 Formation of Healthwatch Blackpool

4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 required all local authorities to commission a local Healthwatch. Healthwatch was to be the new local health and social care consumer champion and would represent the views of local residents of all ages, advocating and influencing the delivery and commissioning of health and social care services on their behalf. From 1 April 2015, Empowerment was successful in winning the contract from Blackpool Council for delivering Healthwatch in Blackpool.

4.2 Whilst Empowerment has this role this has to be delivered through a body corporate. Healthwatch Blackpool is a company limited by guarantee and fulfils that purpose. This Board as Directors are aware, has been appointed to work with Empowerment in delivering the objectives of Healthwatch. At the last Board meeting, the revised Articles of Association were agreed by the Board, subsequently agreed by the Council and are now lodged at Companies House.

- 4.3 However, in order to make this relationship work between the Board and Empowerment, it is advantageous to have a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities. Attached at Appendix 11(a) is a document, which aims to set out the differing roles between the Board and Empowerment. The responsibility for the Board rests with the Chairman of the Board and the responsibility for Empowerment rests with the Chief Executive of Empowerment.
- 4.4 The Board is asked to consider and agree this relationship protocol and keep it under review.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 11(a) – Roles and Responsibilities Protocol

7.0 Financial and Legal considerations:

- 7.1 None.

**8.0 Other considerations:
(Performance, Risk, Human Resource and Equalities)**

- 8.1 The duties of the Board cover regular financial reporting and performance management. A mutually understood set of roles and responsibilities will help Healthwatch Blackpool perform more effectively.

9.0 Consultation with Volunteers (if appropriate)

- 9.1 No consultation was appropriate with this report.