

<b>HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 5</b>
<b>4 SEPTEMBER 2017</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Interim Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cabinet Member for Resources	
Contact Officer(s):	Paulina Ford, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 452508

**APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER**

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>
<p>It is recommended that the Health Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appoint Dr Steve Watson as a non-voting co-opted member for the municipal year 2017/2018. Appointment to be reviewed at the beginning of the 2018/2019 municipal year and then annually going forward.</li> </ol>

**1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

1.1 The report is presented to the Committee on behalf of the Interim Director of Law and Governance.

**2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

2.1 The purpose of this report is to request that the Committee appoint Dr Steve Watson as a Non-Voting Co-opted Member to the Health Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions:

4.2 The Scrutiny Committees shall be entitled to co-opt, as non-voting members, up to four external representatives or otherwise invite participation from non-members where this is relevant to their work.

2.2 This report is for the Health Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 4.2 of Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions – Co-optees.

**3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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**4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

**4.1 Independent Co-opted Member**

In accordance with Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions: paragraph 4.2, all Scrutiny Committees are entitled to co-opt, as non-voting members up to four external representatives or otherwise invite participation from non-members where this is relevant to their work.

The Committee have for some time now wanted to add additional expertise to the membership of the Committee by co-opting further members with a medical or health related background. Dr Watson was approached by Councillor Bull who was a member of the Committee at the time as a possible candidate for the appointment. He had been a GP for some years and was now retired. The Senior Democratic Officer contacted Dr Watson and invited him to observe a meeting on 19 June 2017 to see if the role would interest him. Dr Watson has since agreed to put himself forward and has provided the following information for the Committee to consider:

*Before retiring in 2012 due to ill health, Dr Watson was a General Practitioner in central Peterborough for 25 years. During this time Dr Watson was also employed as a sessional 'Locum Consultant' by the Peterborough Community Drug Team for 15 years. Both positions allowed him to have a privileged insight into the physical and mental health problems and socio-economic challenges that Peterborough faces, as well as the strengths and weakness in the provision of health and social care. Dr Watson therefore feels that he might be able to contribute in a positive way to work of the Health Scrutiny Committee.*

**Qualifications include:**

- *BSc Hons Biochemistry*
- *MChB - Medical Degree - Dundee University*
- *DRCOG - Diploma in Obstetric and Gynaecology*
- *MRCGP - Member Royal College of General Practitioners*
- *RCGP Certificate in Substance Misuse*

**Employment History**

*1987 - 2012 General Practitioner and later Senior Partner at The Surgery, 63 Lincoln Road, Peterborough (now combined with North Street Surgery and called Boroughby Medical Practice)*

- *Particular areas of interest were mental health and substance misuse. Lead GP in the practice for mental health and for the provision of general medical services to the local Bail Hostel and Women's refuge.*
- *Was one of the lead GPs in driving the Boroughby Medical Practice project forward until retirement due to ill health in 2012.*

*1993 - 2009 GP with special interest (GPwsi) to Peterborough Community Drug Team (CDT).*

- *Supported the CDT services in the early 1990's when the service lost their consultant psychiatric input and was in danger of being withdrawn. This involved initial assessment and regular review of clients and support to the clinical team.*

*Dr Watson has had many and varied interests but is no longer involved in any aspect of medicine other than as a patient and would have no pecuniary interest in being a member of the Committee.*

It is therefore proposed that the Committee approve the appointment of Dr Steve Watson as an Independent Co-opted Member of the Committee.

**NEXT STEPS**

If the Committee agree to appoint Dr Steve Watson as a Co-opted Member of the Health Scrutiny Committee from 4 September 2017, he can attend all meetings of the Committee and any Task and Finish Groups that the Committee agree that he may be assigned to with no voting rights.

**5. CONSULTATION**

5.1 None

**6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

6.1 The inclusion of the Independent Co-opted Member will allow the Committee a wider, more diverse input to discussion, drawing on the relevant expertise of the additional member.

**7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 The recommendation is made to assist the Scrutiny Committee in fulfilling its terms of reference as set out in the constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions:

4.2 The Scrutiny Committees shall be entitled to co-opt, as non-voting members, up to four external representatives or otherwise invite participation from non-members where this is relevant to their work.

**9. IMPLICATIONS**

**Financial Implications**

9.1 Co-opted Members will receive a special responsibility allowance of £250 per annum as stated in the Members' Allowances Scheme.

**Legal Implications**

9.2 Due process has been followed with regards to the appointment of the Co-optees.

**Equalities Implications**

9.3 Members were keen to ensure that the Committee membership is as inclusive as possible and provides relevant expertise in accordance with the terms of reference for this committee.

**Rural Implications**

9.4 N/A

**10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 None.

**11. APPENDICES**

11.1 None.

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