Executive Summary

'Developing an integrated system' is one of the five priorities of the Tower Hamlets Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Tower Hamlets Together (THT) is the partnership vehicle for delivering this (bringing together the Council, CCG, Barts Health, East London Foundation Trust, GP Care group and the Council for Voluntary Service). The attached presentation summarises its vision, values, background, operating context, outcomes framework and proposed governance. The issues in this presentation were discussed at a closed session of the Board on the 20th December and are now brought to the public meeting.

The Board is asked to note that the proposed governance structure aims to formalise the accountability of the Tower Hamlets Together Board and Joint Commissioning Executive to the Health and Wellbeing Board. This in turn will require that the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board be modified to reflect this. It is proposed to change these for the Annual Council Meeting on the 23rd May.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Agree to take forward work to change the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board for sign off at the next Health and Wellbeing Board (date tbc)
1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

1.1 To establish clear lines of governance between Tower Hamlets Together and the Health and Wellbeing Board. This will ensure that the Health and Wellbeing Board will be playing its full oversight role across the health and care economy and clarify its accountability for delivery of the 'integrated system' priority of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

2.1 Without the governance proposed, there would be a disconnect between the major vehicle for health and care integration (Tower Hamlets Together) and the Health and Wellbeing Board. Tower Hamlets Together is one of the key partnerships driving improvement in health and wellbeing in the borough and it is therefore critical to set out the governance relationship between Tower Hamlets Together bodies and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

3. **DETAILS OF REPORT**

3.1 See attached presentation

4. **COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

4.1 This report recommends the formalisation of the accountability of the Tower Hamlets Together Board and Joint Commissioning Executive to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4.2 There are no direct financial implications on Council resources as a consequence of the recommendation within this paper.

5. **LEGAL COMMENTS**

5.1 Section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (‘the 2012 Act’) requires every upper-tier local authority to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board (‘HWB’) and that section also sets out the Membership requirements.

5.2 Whilst the HWB is considered a committee of the Council established under section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972, it is clear from the 2012 Act that HWBs are different to other section 102 committees. For example, regulations disapply the requirement for political proportionality and enables Directors of the Local Authority to become members of the board.

5.3 Sections 195 and 196 of the 2012 Act set out the statutory functions of the HWB. As a Committee of the Council, it is open to the Council to delegate further functions to the HWB provided that they accord with the HWB’s statutory functions. In delegating further functions, the Council must consider its Best Value Duty. The Council is obliged as a best value authority under section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 to “make arrangements to secure
continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness” (the Best Value Duty).

5.4. Any changes to the HWB’s Terms of Reference must be agreed by Council pursuant to Article 4.02(d) of the Constitution. The Board can discuss and recommend changes but these can only be implemented following agreement by Council.

5.5. In its consideration of this Report and its recommendations, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). There is some information in the report relevant to these considerations in paragraph 6 below.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1. Tower Hamlets Together principles reflect One Tower Hamlets considerations. The outcomes and intelligence driven approach seek to ensure that the health and case system targets resources based on need either geographically or based on demographic dimensions of equality. In addition, there is a strong commitment to coproduction and equal relationship with service users and carers.

7. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

7.1 Tower Hamlets Together links to this agenda in two respects. Firstly, there is alignment between a prevention orientated health and care system (promoting active travel e.g. cycling, walking and use of public transport) and sustainability. Secondly, through its estates workstream there are opportunities to promote sustainable action for a greener environment e.g. reducing emissions.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

8.1. Tower Hamlets Together can be framed as a vehicle for mitigating the risk of a fragmented health and care system resulting from lack of aligned working between its major constituent organisations. Bring the Health and Wellbeing Board into the overall governance framework mitigates this risk further.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Tower Hamlets Outcomes framework includes an 'I' statement on sense of safety. This aims to ensure that health and care system plays its part in addressing issues in the borough relating to crime and disorder.
10. **EFFICIENCY STATEMENT**

10.1 Although the report is not linked to proposed expenditure, one of the underlying principles of Tower Hamlets Together is cost effectiveness and reduction of duplication within the health and care system.

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**Appendices and Background Documents**

**Appendices**
- Tower Hamlets Together: Vision, Outcomes, Governance

**Background Documents**
NONE