

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**30th May 2013****3. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group.

1. ENGAGING THE PUBLIC IN THE WORK OF THE NEW BROMLEY HEALTH & WELL-BEING BOARD.

What steps is the Board proposing to take to inform the public of the new purpose and role of the Board?

Will this involve:

- (a) Using the council's website?
- (b) Articles and advertisements in the local press?
- (c) Council-sponsored events?
- (d) Delivering leaflets on the lines of 'Environment Matters'?

Reply:

A press release regarding the new Health & Wellbeing Board is planned for beginning of June in the local papers. Likewise information about the role, responsibility and membership of the Health & Wellbeing board is being prepared for publication on the Council website (www.bromley.gov.uk).

The appointment of a chairman of Bromley Healthwatch, the consumer champion for health and social care, is underway. Once the appointment process is completed, Healthwatch will play a key role in engaging members of the public, including patients and service users, in how health and social care services are delivered locally. Bromley Healthwatch have a statutory position on the Health & Wellbeing Board.

2. SECRET EARLIER MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

What specific exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act has the Council used to keep the meetings and Agenda papers secret over past years?

Reply:

Meetings of the shadow board were not required to be held in public to allow free and frank discussion between the Council and its partners - Section 36 of the Freedom of information Act (prejudice to the conduct of public affairs) applies.