

To: Luminus CIC Board

From: Sam Botsford, Healthwatch Surrey Contract Manager

Date: 08/04/25

## **Proposal to appoint 2 new LHWAG members**

### **Context**

Since its inception, the Local Healthwatch Advisory Group (LHWAG) has comprised of 2 CIC board directors and 2 Healthwatch Surrey volunteers (1 former board member). The intention had always been to diversify and expand this group however, external recruitment has not proven successful.

In Summer 2024, we revisited the roles within the group and identified that the gaps in geographical representation within the group meant that support to the Healthwatch team was inconsistent in some areas, therefore we prioritised filling these gaps and were delighted that 2 existing Healthwatch Surrey volunteers were interested in taking on roles within the group. Since Autumn 2024, Linda Smullen and Joan Juniper have attended meetings to observe and contribute informally. Following the success of this period we would like to ask the CIC board to endorse Linda and Joan as permanent members of the LHWAG.

### **About Linda**

Linda retired in 2022 after 40 years of working for the NHS as a paediatric Allied Health Professional and Clinical Services Manager, providing ever stretched services. She started with Healthwatch Surrey after retiring, firstly as an engagement volunteer where she proved to be an excellent communicator with the public and has moved on to do other things as well, such as the reading panel and desk-based research.

Linda lives in Banstead so will be our Surrey Downs Place representative on the Local Healthwatch Advisory group.

## About Joan

Joan is a registered nurse, with a Masters in Healthcare management, and works part time as an Associate Lecturer in Healthcare at the University of Surrey. She has recently stood down as the public governor for Waverley at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, where she had been since 2015 ensuring best quality healthcare for patients and their families and carers. She was a carer herself until recently and has volunteered with Healthwatch Surrey since 2023.

Joan is based in Elstead so will be our Guildford and Waverley Place representative on the Local Healthwatch Advisory group.