



## POSITION STATEMENT AND CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF NALM

February 25<sup>th</sup> 2013

Dear Member,

NALM is now looking to the future and considering whether it should transform into a new national body promote effective public involvement and influence in health and social care, and in particular to monitor and support the development of powerful new Healthwatch organisations.

As you know LINKs will be abolished on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2013. The NALM Steering Group believes that it has the vision, capacity and skills to continue its campaigning work to develop more powerful, influential and effective public involvement organisations, which in particular will be able to work towards addressing the deficiencies on public involvement highlighted by the Francis Report.

We believe there are three main options for the development of NALM:

- A) As a body that seeks mainly to recruit LHW organisations and individual members of LHW in which case we may become known as: The National Association of Healthwatch Members (NAHM)
- B) As a body that seeks to recruit members widely as individuals and organisations, with no particular focus on Healthwatch, but focussed on involvement, accountability and democracy in health and social care. *AGREE*
- C) As a campaigning think-tank which does not seek members but invites supporters to affiliate and contribute to the work of the new organisation which is focussed on involvement, accountability and democracy in health and social care. *AGREE*

**A short consultation paper is attached. We want to know your views on our future of NALM and in particular whether if you believe we should develop into a new organisation whether you would personally support this transition.**

**Please let us have your view on the future of NALM if possible by March 15<sup>th</sup> 2013**