New role of the “Public Partnership Forum”

1. The network will expand its remit to cover health, social care and social wellbeing. This will include issues that have an impact on broader wellbeing such as transport and supporting income maximisation.

2. The network will provide a mechanism for the Health and Social Care Partnership to discuss key issues with the public.

   The network will host at least 5 meetings per year to discuss issues that are:
   a. Midlothian-wide and
   b. Cut across different client groups and services.

   More detail regarding the process for establishing and carrying out these meetings is given below.

3. The network will provide another mechanism for gathering feedback from the public about their experiences and priorities.

   Meetings will provide an opportunity for people to raise issues or suggestions from their own experience or that of groups that they belong to. The network will not be responsible for taking issues forward, but will direct them to the relevant service or group.

   The network will host at least one wider event per year to bring together community groups and networks to discuss the cross-cutting health and care issues they experience. Issues will be prioritised and ways to take forward the key issues will be identified in partnership. For example common issues identified through neighbourhood planning processes could be discussed so that there can be a coordinated approach to tackling them.

4. The network will support the strengthening of engagement in health and social care by providing a place for people from existing groups and organisations to network, learn from each other and share experiences. This process will be facilitated at the regular meetings and at the annual event.

5. The name of the network will change to better reflect its new role.
Further detail regarding meetings hosted by the new network

I. The network will provide a mechanism for the Health and Social Care Partnership to discuss key issues with the public.

II. The network will host at least 5 meetings per year to discuss issues that are:

   a. Midlothian-wide and
   b. Cut across different client groups and services.

III. Local issues and client or service specific topics should be taken forward in partnership with existing community groups, or by seeking engagement directly with relevant service users or carers.

IV. A key topic for discussion at every meeting will be identified by the Health and Social Care Joint Management Team in partnership with the network. These topics must provide a clear opportunity for influence and debate. A relevant member of the Health and Social Care Joint Management Team will attend every meeting of the network to discuss the topic.

V. The network will invite wider groups to attend the meetings. It is hoped that having a clear focus will help to engage a broader range of people.

VI. The network will follow up on discussions and will request feedback regarding the impact of the discussion.

VII. In addition to the regular two-monthly meetings the network can choose to host additional meetings to discuss specific topics as required, for example to respond to a consultation.