

Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission 23 rd February 2021 Covid-19: briefing on a project on tackling engagement and vaccine hesitancy in ethnic minority communities in Hackney	Item No 5
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OUTLINE

The issue of vaccine hesitancy in particular ethnic minority communities has received national media attention over the past weeks. The local HCVS in conjunction with Public Health and Healthwatch Hackney have been organising on the issue and held a [community meeting on 18 Feb](#) to discuss the concerns and help tackle the barriers to take-up of the vaccine.

One of the organisations which has been tasked with echoing public health messages about COVID safety in communities has been the Hackney based SWIM (Support Where it Matters) Enterprises. This is a Community Interest company which empowers people in Hackney to improve their health wellbeing and life chances. You can read more about them here: <https://www.swimenterprises.com/>

The Chair has invited the following to answer questions on this urgent work:

Peter Merrifield, CEO of SWIM Enterprises
Jake Ferguson, CEO of HCVS

Also present will be:

Jon Willams, Executive Director, Healthwatch Hackney
Dr Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health

ACTION

The Commission is requested to give consideration to the briefings and discussion.