

**HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
3 DECEMBER 2009**

**WORKING GROUP UPDATE REPORT
(Working Group Lead Members)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress achieved to date by the Working Groups of the Panel reviewing: Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies; the Bracknell Healthspace; and the NHS Trusts' performance against NHS Core Standards.

2 SUGGESTED ACTION

- 2.1 **That this update report be noted.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies Working Group

- 3.1 The Working Group reviewing preparedness for public health emergencies has now met on six occasions during which it has:
- agreed the scope of the review;
 - met the NHS Berkshire East Acting Director of Public Health to explore the Berkshire East Primary Care Trust's (PCT's) Emergency Response Plan and learn about Swine Flu;
 - interviewed the Council's Head of Environmental Health and Safety to learn about his position within the authority and his role and duties connected with emergency planning and response;
 - met the Council's Emergency Planning Manager concerning her role in preparing for and co-ordinating the Council's response to emergencies; and
 - discussed responding to public health emergencies at an operational level with the PCT's Deputy Director of Commissioning (Strategy & Planning) whose responsibilities include the preparation of the PCT's Emergency Response Plan.
- 3.2 A further meeting with a representative of the South Central Ambulance Service has been arranged.

Bracknell Healthspace Working Group

- 3.3 The Working Group reviewing the Bracknell Healthspace has met on nine occasions during which it has:

- agreed the scope of the review;
- carried out various research and analysis;
- Visited a major polyclinic in Aldershot;
- met a number of people connected with the Healthspace project, including:
 - the PCT's Chief Executive, Director of Strategic Commissioning and Project Director;
 - the Managing Director Berkshire NHS Shared Services;
 - the CEO and a Director of Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals Trust;
 - the Chief Operating Officer and the Development Manager of the private sector developer;
 - the GP who was included in the PCT's evaluation panel;
 - the Council's Executive Member and Director.

3.4 The Working Group's report has been drafted and is under consideration.

NHS Core Standards

3.5 At the Panel meeting on 3 September Members formed a working group. The group met on 25 September. Draft letters commenting on the NHS Trusts' performance against the NHS Core Standards in the first half of 2009/10 were then produced and circulated to Members for comment, and subsequently amended and sent as attached.

Background Papers

None

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