

**TO: THE EXECUTIVE  
6 SEPTEMBER 2011**

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORT ON “REVIEW OF THE BRACKNELL  
HEALTHSPACE”**

**Director of Adult Social Care and Health**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To determine the Executive’s response to the recommendations in the report by the Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel’s Working Group on “Review of the Bracknell HealthSpace”.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the following recommendations of the Working Group on “Review of the Bracknell HealthSpace” be accepted:-**

- 2.1 **The Council’s Executive Member and Director of Adult Social Care & Health ensure that the Council as a whole continues to actively support the HealthSpace and Brant’s Bridge developments.**
- 2.2 **The Executive Member ensures there is much more open and regular communication with Members on the progress of the project and the Council’s actions on it.**
- 2.3 **Notes the response of the PCT at Annexe 1.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Working Group has spent considerable time on the review and whilst the majority of the recommendations are directed elsewhere, the Executive is happy to support the recommendations above, set in the context of paragraph 3.2 below.
- 3.2 Since the Working Group met to consider the health space development, a new government has been elected and introduced significant health reforms which will be crucial to the council. This includes changes to commissioning via GP consortia, new responsibilities for public health, establishing health watch and Health and Well Being Boards. The Executive Member has already set up mechanisms to regularly inform members of developments as well as attendance at Overview and Scrutiny. He has also asked the Director of Adult Social Care and Health to work closely with the Scrutiny chair to brief items on the forward plan. With this as the changing context, the Executive supports the recommendation 2.2.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not applicable.

## **5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 The Working Group's review of the HealthSpace development has focussed on matters wider than the role of the Council. In relation to the two recommendations, the following paragraphs advise on the progress.
- 5.2 The changes proposed to the NHS are far reaching and at officer level, the Director of Adult Social Care and Health is the strategic lead for the Council. This is particularly important as the commissioning arrangements change from the PCT to the Bracknell Forest and Ascot GP Consortium. The Director has been invited to be a member of the Board in the transition period.
- 5.3 The Council has been successful in its bid to be a Health and Well Being Board 'Early Implementer' with the Board being scheduled to meet in September. The Health Bill will (if passed in its current form) have an enhanced role for Health Scrutiny.
- 5.4 In the light of the changes, there will need to be clarity of respective roles of the various groups and information requirements for those participating. Consideration is being given to how best to achieve this following the completion of the Health Bill anticipated later this year.
- 5.5 Brant's Bridge has successfully opened and is supporting local people. The Planning Committee has resolved to grant planning permission for the HealthSpace subject to a Section 106 agreement being completed and a satisfactory car park management plan being agreed by Committee. A draft Section 106 agreement has been produced and is expected to be completed in September. Ashley House have recently retained new transport consultants and following discussions with them, we are anticipating a revised car park layout and management plan to be submitted for consideration by the Local Planning Authority in September as well. It also has the necessary approvals from the Strategic Health Authority and the new Primary Care Trust Cluster. Members of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel were apprised of this at their last meeting.
- 5.6 The response of the PCT to the recommendations is at Annexe 1.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal provisions are addressed within the main body of the report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 There are no finance implications arising out of this report.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 N/A

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 N/A

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 None

### Method of Consultation

7.2 None

### Representations Received

7.3 None

### Background Papers

Addendum to the Review of the Bracknell Healthspace by a Working Group of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Panel

### Contact for further information

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