

**HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
26 APRIL 2012**

**WORKING GROUPS UPDATE REPORT
Assistant Chief Executive**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Working Groups of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel notes the progress achieved to date by the Panel's Working Groups.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Health Reforms

- 3.1 The Working Group comprises Councillors Finch (Lead Member), Mrs Angell, Mrs Barnard and Virgo. It has been formed to monitor the implementation of the major changes from the 2010 NHS White Paper and the Health and Social Care Bill, with a particular focus on the transfer of public health responsibilities to the Council. The Working Group has held two meetings to date, most recently on 17 November 2011. The Group decided to suspend further meetings of the Working Group until the legislative changes became known. With the recent enactment of the legislation, a further meeting of the Working Group will be arranged soon.

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- 3.2 The Working Group comprises Councillors Virgo (Lead Member), Baily, Finch, and Mrs Temperton; and Mr Pearce. It has been formed to make an input to the Council's statutory 'Health and Wellbeing' strategy. The Working Group has held two meetings to date, most recently on 6 December 2011. The Group are likely to meet next in May to engage in the development of the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

'Shaping the Future' of Health Services in East Berkshire

- 3.3 The Chairman has decided to form a Working Group to consider the forthcoming major consultation by NHS Berkshire (Primary Care Trust) and Heatherwood & Wexham Park Hospitals Trust on 'Shaping the Future'. This is aimed at reconfiguring healthcare services in response to the changing national and local clinical priorities. The planned timetable for the consultation has been deferred by the NHS, and the Working Group has not yet been formed. Meanwhile, the Chairman and Vice Chairman have continued informal discussions with the Chairmen of the Health Scrutiny Committees for Buckinghamshire County Council, Slough BC, and RB Windsor & Maidenhead, the PCT and Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospitals Trust on developments.

Unrestricted

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED/ ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS/ EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / OTHER OFFICERS/ CONSULTATION – Not applicable

Background Papers

None

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