Update on Health and Wellbeing Board for Health Scrutiny Panel July 2011

Senior managers at director level from local authorities, PCT and Public Health, along with Clinical Commissioning leads and lead politicians from Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire, have met on a number of occasions to explore options for the set of up of Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWB) in the West of Berkshire.

Through these meetings it was agreed that there would be a HWB in each of the three unitary areas. This agreement was on the basis that this arrangement would be reviewed over time to monitor effectiveness and to track other changes.

Primary aim of the HWB will be to oversee the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to ensure that commissioning decisions across the health and social care economy account for identified need.

The WBC board will meet on a bi-monthly basis as an executive committee of the local authority, with a membership that comprises of Leader of the Council as chair,

Portfolio leads for the relevant directorates, Directors of Adult and Children's social care, Director of Public Health and representation of the Clinical Commissioning Groups and Healthwatch. Other members will be co-opted onto the Board as required. Sub groups for specific strands of work will form in line with the work programme of the Board.

It is intended that the Board will be operating in shadow form ahead of the April 2012 deadline and established to assume the full function of HWB by April 2013.

June Graves July 2011