

Title of Report:	Maternity services for West Berkshire's residents
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	24 February 2015

Purpose of Report: To set out draft recommendations for the Commission's consideration.

Recommended Action: To agree the proposed recommendations.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Brian Bedwell – Tel (0118) 9420196
E-mail Address:	bbedwell@westberks.gov.uk

Contact Officer Details	
Name:	David Lowe
Job Title:	Scrutiny and Partnerships Manager
Tel. No.:	01635 519817
E-mail Address:	dlowe@westberks.gov.uk

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting of 24 January 2015 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission examined the circumstances surrounding recent closures to the Royal Berkshire' Hospital's maternity unit. Following the consideration of the Item it was agreed that a small working group would identify recommendations for consideration by the full Commission. This report sets out those recommendations.

2. Draft recommendations

- 2.1 A report should be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission in September 2015 by the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust setting out
- (1) The findings of the Birth-rate Plus Assessment and the actions that have been taken in response to them
 - (2) The number of closures on the unit between 1 January and 31 August 2015, the duration of and reason for each
 - (3) The progress on the action plan developed following the CQC review
 - (4) The effect of the post-CQC inspection action plan, particularly on
 - (a) Normal birth rates, as compared with the national average
 - (b) Cesarean sections and induction rates, as compared with the national average
 - (c) The length of stay, as compared with the national average
 - (d) The number of diversions, as compared with the national average
 - (e) The physical working environment.
 - (5) Accepting that the target is aspirational, the progress being made towards achievement of 168 hours per week of clinical cover on wards
- 2.2 By no later than 31 March 2017, the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust should examine the business case for the establishment of a maternity unit at the West Berkshire Community Hospital. The report should include a full cost/benefit analysis and take account of recent and planned population increases.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Commission agrees the proposed recommendations.

Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.