

Title of Report:	Update from the Royal Berkshire Hospital on Maternity Services and 'Choose and Book'	Item 6
Report to be considered by:	Healthier Select Committee	
Date of Meeting:	20 January 2011	

Purpose of Report: To consider the update provided by the Royal Berkshire Hospital and consider what action, if any, is required.

Recommended Action: To note the update report and take a decision on future action.

Healthier Select Committee Chairman	
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Supporting Information

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the last meeting of the Select Committee Members asked for an update on two Work Programme items relating to the Royal Berkshire Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RBH). These were the topics of maternity services and the 'Choose and Book' system of accessing consultant appointments.

2. Background

Maternity Services

- 2.1 The issue of maternity services was previously looked at by the Health Scrutiny Panel on 6th October 2008. Members received a detailed presentation from the Chief Medical Officer at that time.
- 2.2 Professor Rory Shaw described the year on year increase in babies being delivered comparing figures from 2002 to 2008. An extract of the minutes of this Health Scrutiny Panel (6th October 2008) can be found at Appendix A.
- 2.3 Members were told that once the threshold of 6,000 births per annum was reached this would mean enhancements to the existing unit were required to comply with the regulations (i.e. increased size of the unit, staffing levels, etc.)
- 2.4 Members are asked to consider the most recent update on the maternity services as provided by the RBH from Keith Eales, the Trust's Director of Corporate Affairs (see Appendix B).

'Choose and Book'

- 2.5 Members of the Committee had reported some concerns about the 'Choose and Book' system which is designed to allow patients to book appointments with consultants using online technology.
- 2.6 The RBH were asked to comment on whether these issues, and problems with booking, had now been resolved. Their response can also be found at Appendix B.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 Members are asked, in light of this briefing (Appendix B), which items can be considered completed and should be removed from the Healthier Select Committee's work programme.

Appendices

Appendix A – Extract of the minutes of the Health Scrutiny Panel held on 6th October 2008.

Appendix B – Update on services at the Royal Berkshire Hospital – January 2010