

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	Health & Well being Strategy		
Report to be considered by:	Joe Mooney	on:	18 September 2006
Forward Plan Ref:	ID1226		

Purpose of Report:

The Health and Well-being Partnership forms part of West Berkshires Local Strategic Partnership. It provides a framework for partners across statutory, voluntary and business sectors to work together to improve the health and well being of the people of West Berkshire. This includes development and delivery of the Healthier Communities and Older Person Local Area Agreement.

Recommended Action:

To note and approve the Health & Well-being Strategy*

Reason for decision to be taken:

As given in the report

List of other options considered:

None

Key background documentation:

Community Plan/ Local Area Agreement

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Supporting Information

1. Background

1.1 The partnership forms part of the West Berkshire partnership – the Local Strategic Partnership for the District, which brings together the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to combine the efforts of many organisations in co-ordinated actions to improve the quality of life for all. We recognise that working with partner organisations to deliver common outcomes is mutually beneficial and allows us to achieve much more than in isolation.

- Develop better services for people in West Berkshire, particularly the socially excluded
- Make better use of existing resources
- Attract new external funding for projects and services

The Health & Well-being Partnership aims to develop and strengthen partnership working across statutory and voluntary sectors.

1.2 This strategy document sets out the overarching aims and aspirations of the partnership for the next 3 years. It is an overarching document and does not seek to reproduce other plans and documents that already exist in relation to promoting health & well-being across West Berkshire.

1.3 West Berkshire has a solid foundation of partnership working on which to build. Our local commitment to this approach has already led to a number of well received and nationally recognised shared arrangements, including jointly run and managed health and social care services, as well as services delivered in partnership by the statutory and voluntary sectors.

1.4 West Berkshire Council's Community Services Directorate has been deliberately designed to meet best practice guidance on the Council's role in championing the needs and aspiration of adults and promoting wellbeing that goes beyond the organisational boundaries of adult social care.

This approach is exemplified by one of the projects within the partnership's Local Area Agreement. The Outreach Project will take a targeted range of preventative services and information from across a number of agencies to people who may otherwise have difficulties accessing support through age, isolation or disabilities. The project is a partnership involving a number of Council services, the Primary Care Trust, the Department of Work & Pensions and the voluntary sector.

1.5 The Local Area Agreement forms a key component of our Action Plan. We will be working with groups across the Partnership to agree how these priorities are delivered and to ensure that action is undertaken.

1.6 In addition to working towards achieving the LAA outcomes the Partnership will be addressing a number of other themes to bring a closer engagement across sectors to achieve better outcomes for people in West Berkshire:

- Supporting community / building capacity to enable preventative initiatives and promote self care
- Understanding and quantifying the potential of aligned and pooled resources and their deployment
- Sharing and understanding of cost / benefits
- Sharing approaches to building an evidence base of what works
- Workforce development.

- 1.7 A key challenge will be the further development of joint commissioning arrangements across the Partnership. Issues to work through will include:
- Defining the scope of commissioning
 - Governance and accountability
 - The implications of new reforms within the NHS such as Practice based Commissioning; Choice and Payment by Results
 - Financial and information sharing
 - The role of the private and independent sector

These areas will be explored with the aim of agreeing an overall policy framework for joint commissioning across the health and Well-being partnership, which can provide coherence as well as clarity of roles and responsibilities for commissioners.

Appendices

Health & Well-being Strategy

Implications

Policy:	As detailed in the report
Financial:	None at this stage
Personnel:	None at this stage
Legal:	None at this stage
Environmental:	None at this stage
Equalities:	None at this stage
Partnering:	None at this stage
Property:	None at this stage
Risk Management:	Governance structures are being agreed to acknowledge and manage risks across the Partnership
Community Safety:	None at this stage

Consultation Responses

Members:	
Leader of Council:	Graham Jones
Overview & Scrutiny Commission Chairman:	Jeff Brooks
Ward Members:	Not applicable
Opposition Spokesperson:	Not applicable
Policy Development Commission Chairman:	Not applicable
Local Stakeholders:	Extensive consultation across partnership as detailed in report
Officers Consulted:	Corporate Board, Community Services SMT
Trade Union:	N/A