Supplemental Items for Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 1.30 pm

in Council Chamber Council Offices
Market Street Newbury

Part I

Page No.

10 **Task and Finish Group Updates** 1 - 2
Purpose: To receive updates related to Task and Finish Groups appointed by the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee.



Sarah Clarke
Executive Director - Resources

For further information about this item, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Gordon Oliver (Principal Policy Officer - Democratic Services & Scrutiny) on 01635 519486, e-mail: gordon.oliver1@westberks.gov.uk

Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at www.westberks.gov.uk

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Update on the Response to the Emotional Wellbeing Task Group Report

The Emotional Wellbeing Task Group reported its recommendations to the extraordinary meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee that took place on 15 July 2025, The Committee resolved to refer the Task Group's recommendations to the Executive and the Thames Valley Integrated Care Board (ICB) for consideration.

The Task Group's recommendations were considered by the Executive on 21 May 2026, which resolved to:

- Acknowledge the operational changes affecting the delivery of mental health and early intervention emotional well-being services in West Berkshire.
- Agree the responses set out at paragraph 5.16 of that report.
- Agree that several recommendations fall outside the remit or current resource capacity of WBC Children's Services and should be referred to the appropriate system partners (specifically the ICB, Leisure, schools, and commissioned providers).
- Endorse the position that further delivery against these recommendations will require:
    - Additional resource from the ICB; and/or
    - Cross-system agreement through the Family First Partnership and Best Start/Family Hubs programme.
- Refer the report to the Health and Wellbeing Board to assist with informing their ongoing work.

The report was considered by Health and Wellbeing Board on 24 September 2026. Health sector colleagues involved in the commissioning of Children and Young People's Mental Health Services attended the meeting remotely to answer questions in relation to this report.

The Board resolved to:

a) Approve the joint West Berkshire Council and ICB response to the Task Group recommendations as presented to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee; and

b) Use this to inform its ongoing strategic oversight of mental health support and improvement for the children and young people of West Berkshire, including through steering the work of the newly formed All Age Mental Health Board and the Families First Board.

'All Age Mental Health and Wellbeing' is one of the Health and Wellbeing Board's three core priorities, and a new governance structure and delivery plan were approved at the meeting on 24 September 2026. This takes into account the Task and Finish Group's recommendations. The Board will continue to monitor implementation of the delivery plan over the coming years.

Also, Councillor Dominic Boeck asked a Member question at the meeting on 24 September 2026, which related to the report on the Response to the Task Group's report:

"What specific actions have been taken or are planned in response to the recommendations of the Task Group?"

A detailed response was provided, which has been reproduced in full as part of the transcript of questions and answers.