

Notice of Meeting

Health Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 1.30 pm
in Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Market Street, Newbury.

This meeting can be streamed live here:

<https://westberks.gov.uk/hsclive>

Date of despatch of Agenda: Monday, 4 March 2024

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Vicky Phoenix on 07500 679060

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Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at

www.westberks.gov.uk



Agenda - Health Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday, 12 March 2024 (continued)

To: Councillors Martha Vickers (Chairman), Jane Langford (Vice-Chairman), Nick Carter, Nigel Foot and Justin Pemberton

Substitutes: Councillors Billy Drummond, Owen Jeffrey, Paul Kander and Biyi Oloko

Agenda

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3	Actions from the previous Minutes Purpose: To receive an update on actions following the previous Health Scrutiny Committee.	11 - 12
4	Declarations of Interest Purpose: To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any personal, disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct .	13 - 14
5	Petitions Purpose: To consider any petitions requiring an Officer response.	15 - 16
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Agenda - Health Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday, 12 March 2024 *(continued)*

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| 9 | Update from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board | 47 - 50 |
| | Purpose: The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (ICB) to provide an update on activities and commissioning plans. | |
| 10 | Healthwatch Update | 51 - 52 |
| | Purpose: Healthwatch West Berkshire to report on views gathered on healthcare services in the district. | |
| 11 | Task and Finish Group Updates | 53 - 54 |
| | Purpose: To receive updates from the Chairmen of Task and Finish Groups appointed by the Health Scrutiny Committee. | |
| 12 | Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme | 55 - 56 |
| | Purpose: To receive new items and agree and prioritise the work programme of the Committee. | |

Sarah Clarke
Service Director (Strategy and Governance)

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Stephen Chard on telephone (01635) 519462.



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Agenda Item 1

Health Scrutiny Committee – 12 March 2024

Item 1 – Apologies

Verbal Item

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DRAFT

Note: These Minutes will remain DRAFT until approved at the next meeting of the Committee

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2023

Councillors Present: Martha Vickers (Chairman), Jane Langford (Vice-Chairman), Billy Drummond (Substitute) (In place of Justin Pemberton), Nigel Foot and Owen Jeffery (Substitute) (In place of Nick Carter)

Also Present: Nerys Probert (Acting Senior Public Health Programme Officer), Councillor Alan Macro (Executive Portfolio Holder: Adult Social Care and Health Integration), Vicky Phoenix (Principal Policy Officer - Scrutiny), Gordon Oliver (Principal Policy Officer), Sarah Webster (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board), Fiona Worby (Healthwatch West Berkshire), John Ashton, Jody Gordon, Kate Pike, Liz Stead (Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board) and Niki Cartwright (NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board)

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting: Councillor Nick Carter, Councillor Justin Pemberton

PART I

24 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2023 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25 Actions from the previous Minutes

Members were asked to note the progress made in relation to the actions. The Chairman advised:

For Action 15, Niki Cartwright had submitted reports and was present to answer questions. This was item 8 on the agenda.

For Action 17, Sarah Webster was present to update on the winter plan. This was item 9 on the agenda.

26 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

27 Petitions

There were no petitions received at the meeting.

28 Maternal Mental Health

Liz Stead (Head of Midwifery, Maternity, Neonatal and Women's Services, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)) presented the report on maternal mental health.

During the presentation the following points were highlighted:

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- An overview of the importance of the perinatal period was given. One in five women experienced mental health issues in pregnancy or after the birth of their baby.
- Pre-conception support for women with pre-existing mental health conditions was dependent on the level of need and could have been provided by GP's, the Community Mental Health Team, Talking Therapies.
- Routine screening of pregnant women was carried out by midwives at the first antenatal care appointment. When mental health concerns started during pregnancy and led to a pregnant woman becoming acutely unwell, the Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) Perinatal Mental Health Service provided tailored care for women. This was a specialist service for women experiencing extreme or complex mental health conditions during pregnancy that could not be managed in other settings.
- The Birth Trauma Pathway provided Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for women with perinatal post-traumatic stress disorder following a difficult or traumatic birth.

During the Committee's discussion the following points were raised:

- The national concerns of maternal mental health were noted as well as the importance of collaboration between GP's, midwives and health visitors. It was noted that BHFT professionals used record keeping and verbal communication to work closely with colleagues. However, the Committee was advised that collaborative communication between health visitors and midwives could be improved particularly around the detail in care records.
- It was confirmed that pregnant women saw midwives regularly despite the relative rurality of West Berkshire compared to other parts of Berkshire West. Teams worked well for services to be available and accessible. For those very unwell, there was specialist midwifery services at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. Midwives also did home visits if a woman was high risk.
- Liz Stead advised that the main issue in Berkshire West was in the understanding of which cases needed to be referred to the specialist perinatal mental health service. They received inappropriate referrals, and there may not have been a robust enough safety net for women who were refused support from that service.
- There were no areas of concern noted in West Berkshire specifically.
- There was mandatory training in screening for perinatal mental health for all professionals likely to have contact with women during the perinatal period. The ICB collected data from BHFT and the acute trusts to monitor the levels of mandatory training compliance.
- It was highlighted that relevant and accurate data was essential to ensure that inequalities could be addressed. There were two key pieces of work covering the BOB Equity Strategy, and work interrogating population data and checking for accuracy and consistency in records. It was important to make every contact count and to record the right data accurately.
- It was noted that two inpatient provisions were available for the southeast of England (Winchester and Kent). It was advised they were very expensive provisions which were only used when critically necessary. Mothers were better supported at home and in the community.

Action: Liz Stead to share the Perinatal Equity Strategy.

29 Emotional Wellbeing of Children, and Children and Young People Mental Health Services

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Jody Gordon (Emotional Health Academy (EHA) Manager & Primary Mental Health Worker) and Kate Pike (Senior Educational Psychologist, Acting Mental Health Lead and Manager of Mental Health Support Team (MHST)) presented the report on Emotional Health and Wellbeing for Children and Young People in West Berkshire.

Sarah Webster (Executive Place Director Berkshire West, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)) advised that they were unable to provide a detailed report on the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) but would provide one at a future date.

The following points were raised in the discussion:

- It was noted that there were many organisations and partners involved in the process and queried whether there was potential for people to fall down the cracks. It was advised that the EHA and MHST were based in schools and had good relationships with staff. They ran regular assemblies and parent workshops. They were working to demystify the system as it took time to understand. The complex system was necessary to cover a range of needs, professionals and clinicians but they were working towards it not feeling that way for service users.
- It was confirmed that every school in West Berkshire could access the EHA triage service. This included primary, secondary and academies. The EHA triage service was the first place that would advise and guide any query. The MHST were in a number of specific schools. The EHA worked with others and together they covered all schools in West Berkshire. There were subtle differences in the services provided, but every school could access support. In addition, the EHA provided a traded service which schools could pay for if it had available funds. There were capacity limitations to this service.
- All schools should also have a senior mental health lead who were encouraged to take part in training. In March 2024 they would be holding a senior mental health lead conference where different services would be attending, and colleagues could network.
- It was highlighted that the nationally funded programme of MHST was to cover 35% of schools. This was being exceeded in West Berkshire with 50% of schools included. The MHST was reliant on national funding and the ICB were working closely with West Berkshire Council.
- It was noted that CAMHS were overwhelmed with demand and had two year waiting lists for their services. Funding for education and health was welcomed. The MHST funding came from the Green Paper for early identification and prevention and the understanding was that was there to stay.
- The reasons that referrals were closed was discussed. It was clarified that some people did not engage by not responding to communication or by dropping out. The EHA and MHST would try to understand the reasons for this and there was a re-referral process to encourage young people to come back when appropriate. The MHST met with the senior mental health lead at schools every half term. Some families may not be ready for the support, but they would keep in touch.
- No specific negative feedback had been received by the EHA or the MHST. When concerns were raised it would normally be about waiting times.
- It was noted that the Berkshire Youth Survey had a very high response rate and that young people were open to engagement regarding mental health. Mental health was a conversation in schools. Some schools had mental health ambassadors and the pupil voice was incorporated into all the MHST and EHA did.

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- The impacts of Covid were discussed. Since that time there had been increases in emotion-based school avoidance. Neurodivergence added extra complexity to this.
- A public question was raised regarding the support available for children and young people waiting for CAMHS for a long time. It was advised that support was available from an early help perspective. There were interventions in schools, support to train staff and the EHA and MHST worked with parents. The diagnosis was not necessary for the support.
- Young people awaiting ADHD or autism assessments were highlighted as in need of support whilst awaiting diagnosis. From a Local Authority perspective there was an Autism advisory team and professionals to support parents. The ICB advised there was a spectrum of services available on the Neurodiversity pathway provided by BHFT. There were excellent services, but they were struggling with the increase in demand. There had been a 40% increase in referrals from summer 2022 to summer 2023. There was a 14% increase in service activity but this was not enough. This was high on the agenda to reduce the waiting time.
- The SAFE project was a Thames Valley wide service providing specific support for children affected by crime, bullying and child on parent violence.

Action: Kate Pike to share the full service user report with Members.

- It was highlighted that the MHST and EHA performed well in West Berkshire. This was partly due to the teams sitting within education and working well with schools.
- The EHA worked with the voluntary sector such as Berkshire Youth, but had looked at ways to increase their presence with that sector. An EHA worker attended weekly sessions with Berkshire Youth and liaised with the Berkshire Youth manager. They were very good at facilitating young people accessing mental health support. It was noted that Berkshire Youth outreach workers were good at seeking out harder to reach young people. The Waterside Centre was a safe place for those conversations.
- The EHA and MHST were having conversations with families around the impacts of cost of living challenges. For example, concerns around finances were impacting on sessions and the dynamics of families.
- The MHST and schools supported a peer mentor programme where mentors were trained and supervised.
- It was advised that it was difficult to find equivalent services in adult mental health when young people were transitioning to adult mental health support. Talking therapies and online support was discussed. Education, employment and training for young adults would also have scope to offer support. BHFT were looking at how to improve a smooth transition to adult mental health support. Time to Talk supported 11 to 25 year olds and were well equipped to support young adults.

30 Update on Continuing Healthcare

Niki Cartwright (Director of Vulnerable People's Services, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)) gave an overview of the reports on the All Age Continuing Care (AACC) Transformation Plan.

During the discussion the following key points were made:

- The high-level plan was shared with Members. The restructure changes had slowed due to wider structural plans in the ICB. The milestones in the Transformation Plan were shared, and this illustrated the work started already and the completion timescales.

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- The low conversion rate in Berkshire West was highlighted. Berkshire West had the lowest rate in the southeast region and was well below the national average and the regional average. It was confirmed that the southeast region would be commencing a review in January 2024 to answer questions around why this was. This could have been due to the number of referrals or that people were ineligible. There was also an appeals process.
- It was noted that independent reviews were carried out and that the majority of the initial decisions were upheld.
- The National Framework had not been updated for a few years. It was a complicated process with scoring across four domains.

Action: Niki Cartwright to share slides of the eligibility process and the dates of the changes to the National Framework.

Action: An informal meeting to be arranged with Niki Cartwright to support Members understanding of AACC.

31 **Winter Plan report from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board**

Sarah Webster (Executive Place Director Berkshire West, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)) provided an update on their winter plan.

During the presentation the following points were highlighted:

- The ICB winter plan was to reinforce or bolster areas that had surges in demand during winter. The local urgent and emergency care system included the urgent care centre in Reading and Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (BHFT) had an urgent community response team.
- There was additional funding from the government for social care. This was allocated to the ICB and through the local authority's Better Care Fund.
- Their winter planning included the covid and flu vaccination programmes and the response to industrial action. It was noted there were financial consequences to the industrial action, and it had impacted on elective services.
- The key message was about accessing the right support and for communications teams to work together.

The following points were noted during the Committee's discussion:

- Communications and engagement teams should consider playing video messages in community settings as well as GP surgery waiting rooms.
- It was clarified that there had been a reduction in the social care funding from government to the local authority this winter for additional discharges. The funding to the ICB had broadly remained the same. This was due to a change in the calculation used.
- It was confirmed that patients could contact a GP surgery to speak with a Care Coordinator who would use a triage process to signpost patients to the most appropriate person. A digital interface was also being developed.

32 **Update from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board**

Sarah Webster (Executive Place Director Berkshire West, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB)) provided an update.

The following points were noted during the Committee's discussion:

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- The Community Wellness Outreach Service would be going out into the community across West Berkshire as well as inviting those at risk of cardiovascular disease to meet with them. The service was being commissioned and a combination of skilled professionals would be required. It would not be overly medicalised with appropriately trained staff to carry out medical checks and have wellbeing conversations. They would consider a variety of locations and were seeking feedback on that. Public Health was leading on this piece of work.
- It was highlighted that health inequalities existed in West Berkshire affecting life expectancy and healthy life expectancy. It was clarified that the ICB and Public Health had the data on the wards where lives were cut short. The Community Wellness Outreach Service would go out to affected communities.
- The health in all polices approach at West Berkshire Council was welcomed by the BOB ICB.
- Concern was raised around how pharmacies could increase their service offer given the current constraints in provision. It was noted that pharmacies were under strain and that this would be looked at a future Health Scrutiny Committee.
- The difficulties in getting a dental appointment were emphasised. It was a national issue, and it was confirmed that the same issues were faced across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West. A number of practices had handed back their NHS contracts. Flexible commissioning of dental contracts was part of the new primary care strategy.

Action: Sarah Webster to share more detail on the flexible commissioning of dental contracts within BOB.

- It was noted that one of the aims of the Primary Care Strategy (currently in development) was around how General Practitioners could be empowered to do more preventative work and to support people with long term conditions manage those in the best way possible. The Strategy was also challenged by meeting the same day urgent need. Timeframes could therefore not be given.

33 Healthwatch Update

Fiona Worby (Lead Officer from Healthwatch West Berkshire) presented the report on the current activities of Healthwatch West Berkshire.

The following points were noted during the discussion:

- Berkshire West Healthwatch were working with Healthwatch Reading and Healthwatch Wokingham on the GP Access project. Focus groups had been held and vulnerable groups had been visited to identify themes across Berkshire West. There had been 330 responses to the survey, and it would close on 24 December 2023. The report would be ready for March 2024. Key themes emerging from the project was that once people understood the role of care coordinators and additional roles, they were not concerned.
- Healthwatch were monitoring other issues in response to feedback from the public. Cervical screening levels were low nationally and was being looked at within BOB. This was particularly a health inequalities issue with cohorts of women not engaging and across Berkshire. A piece of work could come out of that looking at why this was happening. Healthwatch champions within communities would be able to assist. A further update would be provided at a future meeting.
- Phlebotomy services were a concern as waiting times for blood tests were too long. Healthwatch would continue to look into that.
- Pharmacy waiting times were a concern being raised by the public. People were waiting outside. Public were concerned that pharmacies did not have the capacity

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to provide the increased services and that the closure of pharmacies was a particular issue for people living in rural areas. This was not on the current work plan but could be looked at.

- Healthwatch would be consulting with the public in March 2024 on their health priorities.

34 Task and Finish Group Updates

The Committee considered the amended Terms of Reference of the Healthcare in New Developments Task Group and the Chairman invited comments.

The revised Terms of Reference were agreed with no amendments.

35 Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

The Committee noted the Work Programme. Members could propose items for the Work Programme. There was a form on the website for members of public to nominate topics for Health Scrutiny.

Members discussed additional methods to get topics for the Health Scrutiny Work Programme. It was suggested that an item be in the West Berkshire Council newsletter ahead of each Health Scrutiny Committee meeting asking the public for comments on agenda items.

(The meeting commenced at 1.30 pm and closed at 4.18 pm)

CHAIRMAN

Date of Signature

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Actions arising from previous HSC Meetings

HSC is requested to consider the following list of actions and note the updates provided.

Ref No:	Date	Item/Action	Member/Officer	Comments/Update
1	14/06/2022	JHOSC To progress the JHOSC creation for RBH Redevelopment	Vicky Phoenix	In Progress - Local Authorities and the Building Berkshire Together Team are progressing.
19	12/12/2023	Maternal Mental Health Committee to be provided with the Perinatal Equity Strategy	Liz Stead	In Progress - requested.
21	12/12/2023	Update on Continuing Healthcare Committee to be provided with further information on the eligibility process and the dates of changes to the National Framework	Niki Cartwright	In Progress - to be included in the informal briefing. Date to be confirmed.
22	12/12/2023	Update on Continuing Healthcare An informal briefing to be held to support Members understand of AACC.	Niki Cartwright	In Progress - date to be confirmed
23	12/12/2023	Update from BOB ICB More detail on the flexible commissioning of dental contracts within BOB to be shared with Members	Sarah Webster	In Progress - to be provided by Julie Dandridge at the Health Scrutiny Committee on 12 March 2024.

Last updated: 4 March 2024

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Item 4 – Declarations of Interest

Verbal Item

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Item 5 – Petitions

Verbal Item

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Item 6 – Early Years Health Inequalities

To follow: Report from West Berkshire Council Public Health

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Early Years Inequalities- ICB Commissioned Health Services in West Berkshire

Sally Murray Head of Children's Commissioning
February 2024

Context

- West Berkshire Early Years Inequalities Group chaired by Interim Head of Education Services and attended by health partners. This forms part of the Multiagency Subgroup of Health Inequalities Task force for the Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Focus on
 - prevention in early years
 - factors in school readiness
 - Currently considering Early Years Intelligence such as school readiness data and family hubs.
- Demand for services increased in the years pre pandemic. Pandemic has exacerbated the situation. 21% increase in demand for SLT in less than 2 years.
- Berkshire Healthcare therapies- service delivery shift to more needs led early advice, prevention and intervention- in line with Ordinarily Available concept
- ICB therapies review 2023.
- Therapy services due to be recommissioned by the ICB in 2024.

Meeting speech, language and communication needs-commissioned services in West Berkshire (1)

Commissioner	Acceptance Criteria	Service Delivery	Service Description
<p>ICB (Royal Berkshire Hospital RBH commission Berkshire Healthcare SLT to provide the early years and Neonatal service within RBH CYP therapy team)</p>	<p>Children under 5 experiencing communication difficulties in conjunction with complex special needs.</p> <p>CYP up to 19, in full time education, under a community Paediatrician with feeding difficulties</p> <p>CYP up to 19, with an Acquired Brain Injury affecting communication/ feeding, and are transitioning from acute/ rehab to local community SLT services.</p> <p>In-patient service to those on acute paediatric wards and Special Care Baby Unit at RBFT</p> <p>Video fluoroscopy Clinics</p>	<p>Dingley Child Development Centre</p> <p>Homes</p> <p>Early Years settings</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Royal Berkshire Hospital</p>	<p>Assessment as a single or integrated discipline. Assess CYP with eating, drinking/ swallowing difficulties.</p> <p>Provide specialist advice & strategies on management of any feeding/swallowing difficulties to minimize risk to client's health & safety</p> <p>Participate in multi-disciplinary assessment for Alternative & Augmentative Communication systems (AAC),and facilitate their introduction.</p> <p>Facilitate referral to a tertiary specialist centres where appropriate.</p> <p>Jointly run Paediatric Video fluoroscopy Clinics with Radiology colleagues to support clinical assessment of feeding difficulties in infants, children & young people</p> <p>Provide support & advice to SLT colleagues regarding clients with complex needs</p>
<p>ICB Children and Young People's Integrated Therapies (CYPIT)</p>	<p>Children who are registered with a GP in West Berkshire, attending a range of early years settings, Children's Centres, children's homes, mainstream and resource base schools and special schools, 2 in West Berkshire</p> <p>Children and young people with difficulties with speech, language, communication, and/or, daily living have been identified; as a result of a developmental condition or unknown factors</p>	<p>Clinics, nurseries, children centres, school, home, a respite facility or at a community hospital locations depending on the needs and circumstances of the service user.</p>	<p>0-19 years-Wokingham, Reading and West Berkshire.</p> <p>Advice and strategies for the family/carer, nursery, or school</p> <p>Training for the family/carer, nursery or school</p> <p>Group or paired interventions, delivered by therapists and/ or assistants</p> <p>Individual support, delivered in a range of settings, delivered by therapists and / or assistants</p> <p>Contribute to EHCPs and relevant processes.</p> <p>Provision for those children with a SALT requirement in section G of their EHCP.</p>

Meeting speech, language and communication needs-commissioned services in West Berkshire (2)

LA Commissioned Services	School age children with an EHCP with SLT listed as an education need under section F, issued by West Berks LA and attend settings in Appendix B.	CYPIT Schools (appendix B) Homes Clinical Settings	Assessment and intervention requiring specialist SLT support in section F in the form of: Direct therapy, education/ training and other activities
West Berks LA	Every Child a Talker Identified children in EY Settings with social communication difficulties	CYPIT Education Settings	Delivering joint training sessions for EY settings Delivering joint training sessions for families Providing coaching sessions after the training for families and setting staff Creating virtual support for developing social communication
University of Reading Clinic	Children aged 17 months to 18 th birthday. Open referral system. Any postcode Don't take complex needs, eating/drinking/swallowing difficulties	At University of Reading Clinic	Offer assessment, differential diagnosis (appropriate to SLT scope of practice), treatment and onwards referrals. Face to face and virtual clinics. Nursery/school staff can join by Teams or in person with consent

Meeting speech, language and communication needs in the Early Years (1)

- Needs led
- Open access
- Advice line- speak to a SLT
- 177 waiting at start of January 2024.
- Currently no one waiting
- Families may be given strategies, directed to early language development workshops or offered an appointment depending on needs.

Concerned about a child's communication skills?



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

- How can I help my child learn more words?
- How can I help them listen to me?
- How can I help them play with me?
- Am I doing this right?



Call our Enquiries Line to get advice from a Speech and Language Therapist:

0118 904 3700

Lines are open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am - 3.30pm.

Available for parents/carers of children aged 0-5 years with a Berkshire GP.

Meeting speech, language and communication needs in the Early Years (2)

Early language development workshops

Monthly online workshops covering early language development. Also, in person in the Health Bus

Designed for parents and carers and those working within early years settings.

- Communication Foundations
- Communication Building Blocks
- Scaffolding Communication
- Autism and Speech Sounds workshops currently being developed

Next live Health Bus session in West Berkshire- June 2024.

- 9 out of 10 people said they would recommend this workshop to a friend, family member or colleague
- 94% rated their knowledge after the workshop as good or excellent
- 93% rated their confidence after the workshop as either somewhat or extremely confident.



The Health Bus is coming!

NHS
Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and Families services

Early Language Workshops

On **1st November**, the Early Years Speech & Language Therapy Team will be visiting sites across Berkshire on the Health Bus. Our Speech & Language Therapists will be available for any questions between **1pm and 3pm** and will also be delivering workshops live between **1:30pm and 2:30pm**.



Please scan the QR code below for more information:



Newbury Library

The Wharf
Newbury
RG14 5AU

1st November, 1- 3pm



cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk

Meeting speech, language and communication needs in the Early Years (3)

- Early Years Surgeries.
- Forum for all Early Years settings. Training, advice.
- Currently working on a targeted training offer for settings that will be available in the Autumn.
- Early Years Information Pack. Every early years setting in Berkshire should have access to this pack which contains further advice and strategies on a range of topics. Live link – materials kept updated
- Online resource available to all [Communication and hearing | Children Young People and Families Online Resource \(berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk\)](https://www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/communication-and-hearing-children-young-people-and-families-online-resource)

The screenshot shows the Berkshire Healthcare website. The header includes the NHS logo, 'Berkshire Healthcare Children, Young People and Families services', and 'Berkshire Healthcare website'. Navigation links include 'Get involved', 'News', 'Work for us', and 'Blog'. Social media icons for LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter are present, along with a search icon. The main navigation menu includes 'Mental & Emotional Health', 'Health & Development' (which is highlighted), 'ADHD & Autism', 'Our services', 'Referrals', and 'Contact us'. The 'Communication and hearing' section is titled in blue. Below the title is a paragraph: 'Our team run online workshops on early language development. They are designed for parents and carers and those working within early years settings. We have three training sessions available on different topics to equip you with everyday strategies to support your child, aged up to five. Find out more information and how to register here.' Below this text is a grid of 17 boxes, each containing a topic name: Auditory processing, Babbling and baby talk, Basic communication strategies, Deafness and hearing loss, English as an additional language, Expressive language, Grammar, Listening and attention at school, Sequencing and narrative skills, Social communication (pragmatics), Speech sounds, Stammering, Steps to talking, Toddler talk, Typical speech sound development, Unclear speech, Understanding language, and Vocabulary.

Auditory processing	Babbling and baby talk	Basic communication strategies	Deafness and hearing loss
English as an additional language	Expressive language	Grammar	Listening and attention at school
Sequencing and narrative skills	Social communication (pragmatics)	Speech sounds	Stammering
Steps to talking	Toddler talk	Typical speech sound development	Unclear speech
Understanding language	Vocabulary		

Occupational Therapy provision

Commissioner	Acceptance Criteria	Service Delivery	Service Description
ICB (Berkshire Healthcare contract)	Children who are registered with a GP in West Berkshire, attending a range of early years settings, Children's Centres, children's homes, mainstream and resource base schools and special schools (2 in West Berkshire) Children and young people with difficulties, communication, motor skills, mobility, movement and/or, daily living have been identified; as a result of a developmental condition or unknown factor	CYPIT into clinics, nurseries, children centres, school, home, respite facility or at community hospital locations depending on the needs and circumstances of the service user	West Berkshire-Occupational therapy service –school-age children (initial assessment towards EHCP) Provision for those children with an OT requirement in section G of their EHCP.
Local Authority	School-aged CYP with a therapy need in section F of their EHCP issued by Wokingham, Reading, or West Berks as an educational need and attend educational settings	CYPIT Schools (appendix B) Homes and clinical Settings during holidays	Occupational therapy is commissioned to provide treatment management to CYP with a Plan requiring specialist occupational support (section F)
ICB (RBH Dingley Contract)	Children aged from birth to end of year 11 and for children aged under 19 years with pre-existing Special Educational Needs and under the care of a paediatrician from registered healthcare professionals Families, children and young people who are registered with a Berkshire West GP or ordinarily resident in the Berkshire West area	Dingley Child Development Centre, West Berkshire Community Hospital Local special schools and mainstream schools Domiciliary visits/ other settings as required	Preschool children School-aged children who do not have an OT provision on their EHCP Children with neurodevelopmental problems Children with developmental coordination disorder Children with complex needs and /or long-term conditions

Meeting OT and sensory needs in the Early Years

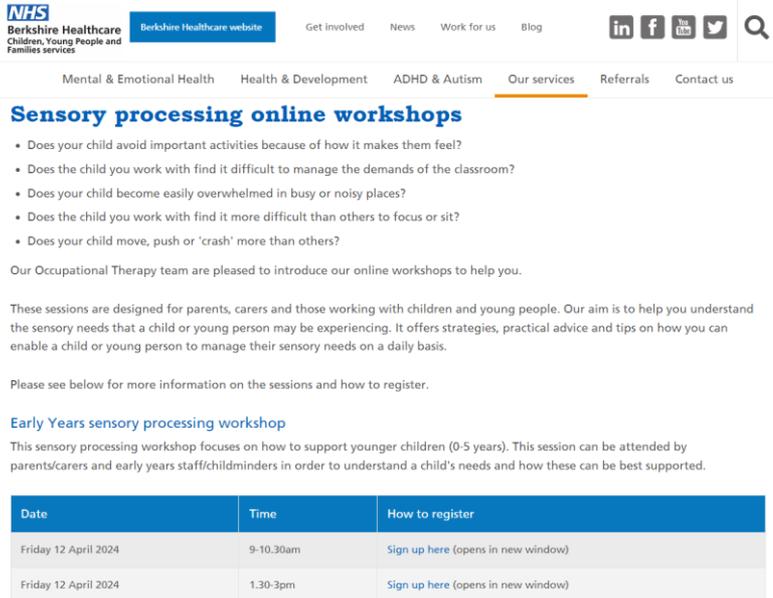
Children's Occupational Therapists support

- Motor skills (fine and gross motor)
- Everyday living skills: e.g. Feeding, dressing, scissor skills, pencil skills
- Posture/seating needs: provision of equipment not provided
- Access to learning environment e.g. physical disabilities
- Impact of sensory processing difficulties on the above deficits

Support available

- Training and advice for families and settings
- Early Years sensory processing workshops
- Sensory processing videos available on YouTube
- Online toolkit

[Independence and school readiness | Children Young People and Families Online Resource \(berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk\)](https://www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/children-young-people-and-families-services/sensory-processing-online-workshops)



The screenshot shows the NHS Berkshire Healthcare website. The header includes the NHS logo, 'Berkshire Healthcare Children, Young People and Families services', and navigation links like 'Get involved', 'News', 'Work for us', and 'Blog'. There are social media icons for LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, along with a search icon. The main navigation bar includes 'Mental & Emotional Health', 'Health & Development', 'ADHD & Autism', 'Our services' (highlighted), 'Referrals', and 'Contact us'. The page title is 'Sensory processing online workshops'. Below the title, there are five bullet points asking about child behaviors. A paragraph states that the Occupational Therapy team is pleased to introduce these workshops. Another paragraph explains that the sessions are designed for parents, carers, and those working with children and young people. A final paragraph asks users to see below for more information and how to register. A section titled 'Early Years sensory processing workshop' describes the focus on supporting younger children (0-5 years). At the bottom, there is a table with two rows of workshop dates and times, and links to sign up.

Date	Time	How to register
Friday 12 April 2024	9-10.30am	Sign up here (opens in new window)
Friday 12 April 2024	1.30-3pm	Sign up here (opens in new window)

Physiotherapy provision

Commissioner	Acceptance Criteria	Service Delivery	Service Description
ICB (CYPIT Contract)	Children who are registered with a GP in West Berkshire, attending a range of early years settings, Children's Centres, children's homes, mainstream and resource base schools and special schools: 2 in West Berkshire Children and young people with difficulties, motor skills, mobility, movement and/or, daily living have been identified; as a result of a developmental condition or unknown factors	Clinics, nurseries, children centres, school, home, a respite facility or at a community hospital locations depending on the needs and circumstances of the service user.	CYP living in West Berkshire 0-19 years old Contribute to EHCPs and relevant processes. Provision for those children with a physiotherapy requirement in section G of their EHCP.
LA Commissioned Services (CYPIT Contract)	School-aged CYP with a therapy need in section F of their EHCP issued by Wokingham, Reading, or West Berks as an educational need and attend educational settings	CYPIT Schools Homes and Clinical Settings during Holidays	Assessment and intervention to CYP who present with a non-acute condition affecting their physical development and/or function with a Plan requiring specialist physiotherapy support (section F)
ICB (Royal Berkshire Hospital Dingley Contract)	Children aged from birth to end of year 11 and for children aged under 19 years with pre-existing Special Educational Needs and under the care of a paediatrician. Families, children and young people who are registered with a Berkshire West GP or ordinarily resident in the Berkshire West area	Dingley Child Development Centre, Local special schools and mainstream schools Domiciliary visits/ other settings as required	Inpatient therapy Outpatient Services for children with neurodevelopmental, orthopaedic, rheumatological and respiratory problems Outpatient Ponseti clinic with Orthopaedic Surgeon from Oxford



Supporting emotional health and wellbeing needs in the Early Years

- Health Visiting team
- GP
- Perinatal Mental Health Team- maternal mental health during pregnancy up to one year after the child is born
- Health Bus
- SHaRON online forums
 - perinatal
 - dads
 - parents and carers
- Autism Berkshire working with Parenting Special Children.



Supporting general health and development in the Early Years

- GP
- Health Visitor
- Referral to Paediatricians/ Dingley Child Development Centre. The Dingley Child Development Centre brings together a team of specialists who assess and treat children and young people who need help to overcome a developmental issue or a complex illness.
- Notifying LA of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

ANY
QUESTIONS?



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Community Pharmacy provision across BOB

Background

1. Community pharmacy makes up one of the four pillars of the primary care system in England, along with general practice, optical services and dentistry. It provides dispensing and selling of medicines as well as other NHS and publicly funded services including hypertension finding, new medicines review and the new Pharmacy First service.
2. Community pharmacy operates on a contractor model similar to other primary care providers. This means community pharmacies are usually independent businesses contracted by the NHS to provide certain services for local populations. Community pharmacy is funded through a complex mix of income streams. The Drug Tariff sets out the remuneration and reimbursement that pharmacies can expect from the NHS as part of their contract work under the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework¹. On top of this, many will receive additional income from both NHS and non-NHS sources.
3. In July 2022, BOB ICB assumed the delegated responsibility for commissioning pharmaceutical services.
4. Across BOB there are 252 community pharmacies of which 7 are distance selling pharmacies, 15 pharmacies are offering over 72hrs of opening hours with one offering 100hrs of opening time.

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNAs)

5. Since April 2013, every Health and Wellbeing Board in England has a statutory duty to publish and keep up-to-date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services for the population in its area.
6. These PNAs² are used by Integrated Care Boards to make decisions on which NHS-funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. They may also be used by bodies involved in commissioning local health services to identify gaps in relation to local priorities.

¹ [NHS England » Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework 2019-2024](#)

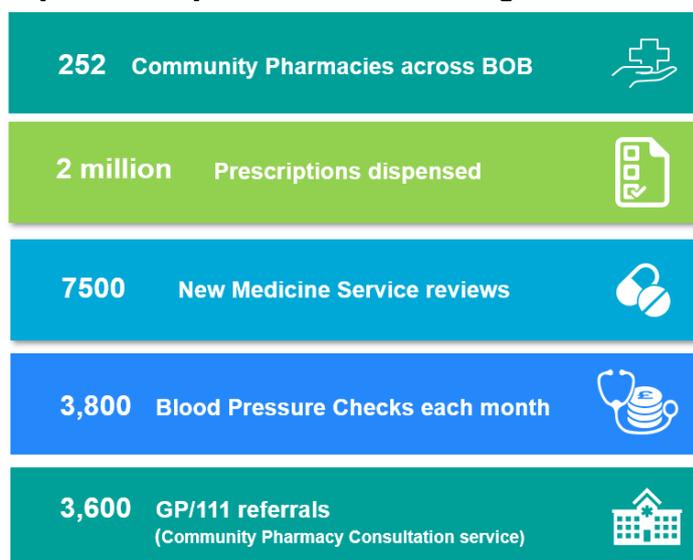
² See Appendix 1

The Changing face of community pharmacy

7. In January 2023, LloydsPharmacy announced it would withdraw pharmacy services from all Sainsbury's supermarkets with many of its other community pharmacies sold to new owners. This has contributed to approximately 20% of BOB pharmacies having new owners.
8. As a result BOB ICB has now seen an increase in the number of independent owner/small chains as well as distance selling pharmacies that works exclusively at a distance from patients. DSPs includes mail order and internet pharmacies that remotely manage patients medicine logistics and distribution.
9. Whilst Community Pharmacies are still the core provider of dispensing prescriptions we are now seeing more face to face clinical services delivered by community pharmacy including a hypertension screening service, new medicines service and a oral contraceptive service. More recently we have seen the launch on 30 January 2024 of the Pharmacy First service whereby community pharmacy can see, and if appropriate, treat 7 common conditions with antibiotics so supporting access to primary care services and relieving pressures on GPs.

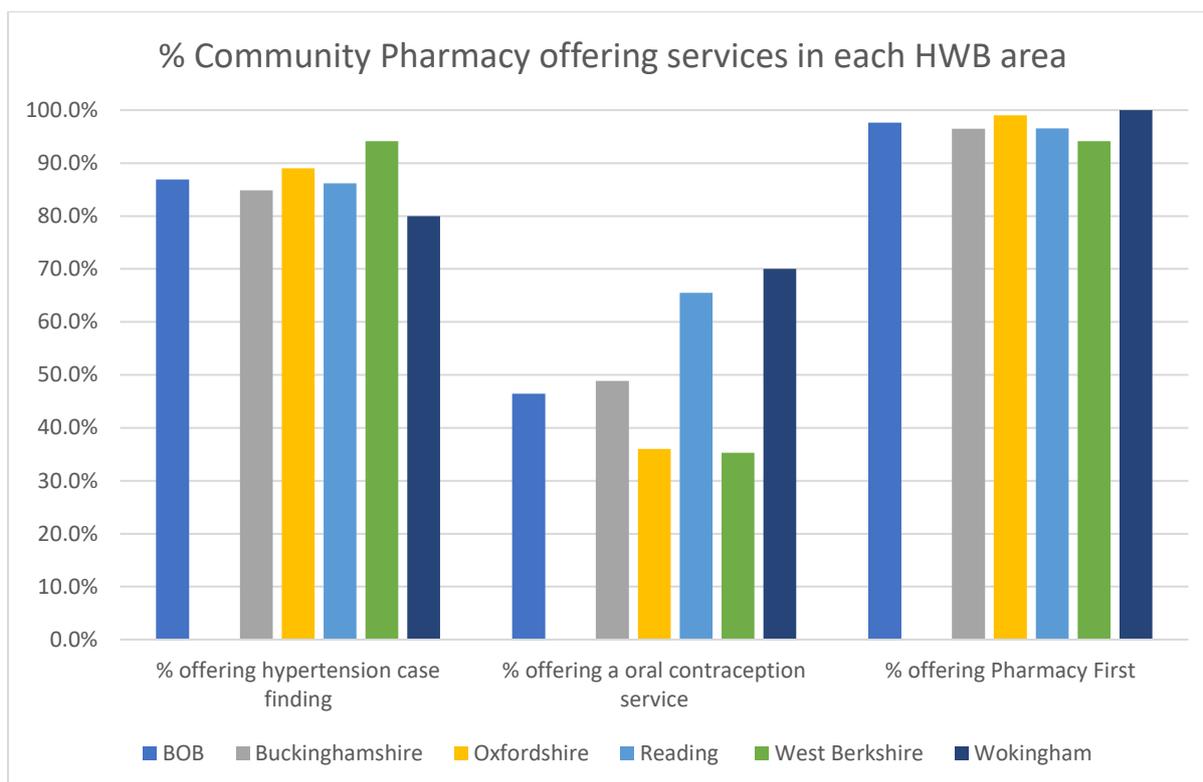
Service Provision across BOB

10. BOB Community Pharmacy delivers the following³ on a monthly basis



11. There remains good access to these services with sign up to deliver the Pharmacy First service with only two high street pharmacies choosing not to deliver the service and the other remaining pharmacies being those that are distance selling within BOB. The public can find out which pharmacies are providing what services by using the NHS service finder. [Find services near you - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
12. Community Pharmacy has also played an important role in both the flu and the COVID vaccination programme offering additional access local to these services.

³ Correct on 1 February 2024



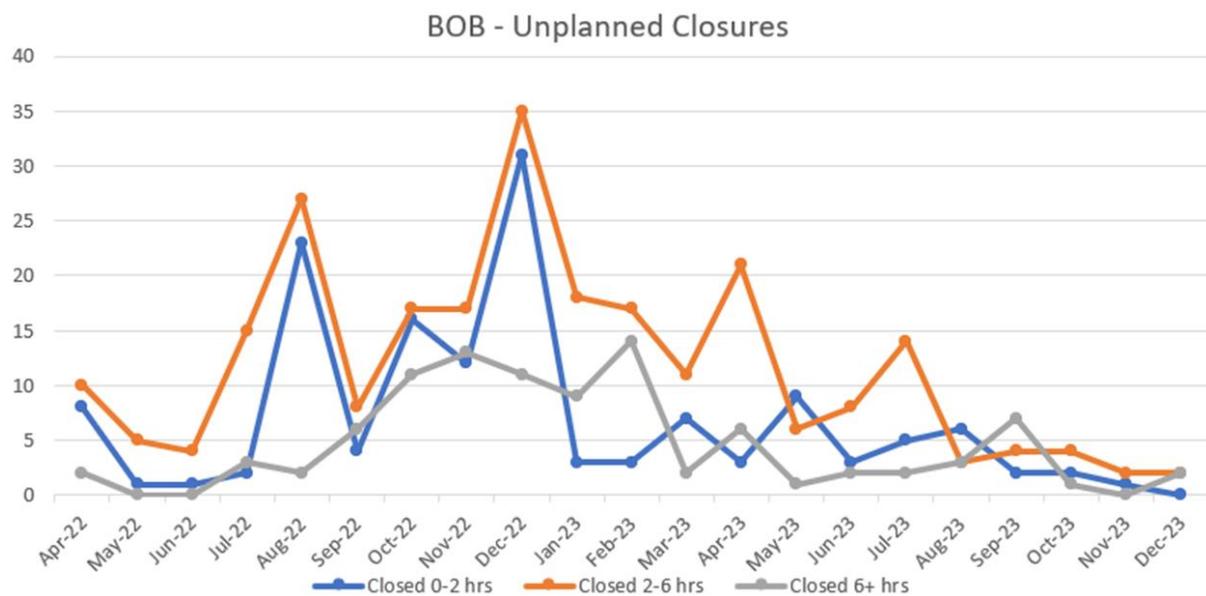
This information is correct on 1 February 2024

Pharmacy closures

13. Across BOB we have seen the closure of 11 pharmacies since April 23 with two pharmacies opening during this time.
14. Where a contractor wishes to withdraw from a pharmaceutical list they are required to give notice to the ICB:
 - pharmacies with 40 core opening hours – at least three months
 - pharmacies with 100 core opening hours – at least six months
 - pharmacies with more than 40 core opening hours where a direction is in place – at least three months
 - dispensing appliance contractors – at least three months
15. Following notification of closure of a pharmacy, Health and Wellbeing Boards will consider if they need to review their Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and identify if there is any gap identified. Application to join the pharmaceutical list is controlled through the NHS Pharmaceutical Regulations.
16. The ICB working alongside the Local Pharmaceutical Committee also assesses the local impact of closing a pharmacy linking with other local community pharmacies to ensure that they can absorb dispensing numbers as well as provide other services. This can often strengthen remaining community pharmacies making them more financially viable.

Unplanned closures

17. Changes in the regulations in July 23 have made it a requirement for NHS community pharmacy owners to have a business continuity plan for the temporary suspension of a service due to illness or other reason beyond their control. Since winter 2022 the numbers of unplanned closures have dropped considerably with only exceptional circumstances such as sickness of a locum or flooding incidents being the cause of unplanned closures.



Reduction of pharmacy opening hours

18. Between 2005 and 2012, a number of pharmacies were included in a pharmaceutical list where they agreed to provide services for 100 hours per week, rather than the usual 40 core opening hours. With effect from 25 May 2023 such pharmacies were able to apply to reduce their total number of core opening hours.
19. In order for any application to be approved by the ICB, 4 requirements need to be met
- at least 72 core opening hours,
 - core opening hours between 17.00 and 21.00 Monday to Saturday,
 - core opening hours on a Sunday between 11.00 and 16.00
 - the same total number of core opening hours on a Sunday
20. BOB ICB has received applications from 15 out of 16 100 hours pharmacies to reduce their hours. Those granted met all four requirements and reduced early morning (6am) and late evening 9.00pm to Midnight hours where population needs for pharmaceutical services were very low. This has made pharmacies more financially viable by reducing staffing commitments in these hours. Since it has been in operation BOB ICB has not received any complaints about access to pharmacy during these hours.

Workforce

21. The Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey is an annual survey that strengthens the visibility of pharmacy workforce data within the community pharmacy sector. The 2023 survey closed on 17 December with key findings expected soon⁴
22. The 2022 survey should that across BOB there was 727 pharmacists (headcount) (439 WTE) which was up from the 2021 survey of 690 pharmacists (headcounts) but the whole recruitment and retention is a key issue facing all primary care staff. Initiatives are being developed including working closer with the School of Pharmacy at Reading University to try and deliver more foundation opportunities to newly graduated pharmacies across BOB.

Next Steps

23. The **Draft BOB Primary Care strategy**⁵ will present unique opportunities for community pharmacy and embeds community pharmacy as a core pillar in primary care.
24. We will also see the strengthening and embedding of the Pharmacy First Service to provide better access to the public for the seven common conditions either through walk ins or referrals from 111 or the local GP. A public facing communication campaign is expected to be launched soon.
25. As part of this we will see **digital improvements** with community pharmacies able to link electronically to practices and GPs able to make Pharmacy First electronic referrals to Community Pharmacy which will enable better communication.
26. We will also continue to work to increase the use of the **NHS app** encouraging those able to order repeat prescriptions on-line as well as using the NHS app to track the progress of the repeat prescriptions.

Julie Dandridge
Head of Pharmacy Optometry and Dentistry
Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board
February 2024

⁴ [Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey | Health Education England \(hee.nhs.uk\)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/your-voice/primary-care/primary-care-strategy)

⁵ [Primary Care Strategy | http://yourvoicebob-icb.uk.engagementhq.com](http://yourvoicebob-icb.uk.engagementhq.com)

Appendix 1

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment		
PNA	Published on	Link to Published PNA
Buckinghamshire	1st October 2022	Buckinghamshire PNA 2022-2025
Oxfordshire	1st April 2022	Oxfordshire PNA 2022-2025
Reading	1st October 2022	Reading PNA 2022-2025
West Berkshire	1st October 2022	West Berkshire PNA 2022-2025
Wokingham	1st October 2022	Wokingham PNA 2022-2025

Appendix 2 – Pharmacy closures

Buckinghamshire Health and Well being Board

ODS Code (F-Code)	ICS (STP)	Date Closed	Contract Type	Pharmacy Trading Name	Address 1	Address 3	Address 4	Post Code
FFW03	BOB	31/05/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Oxford Road	High Wycombe	Buckinghamshire	HP11 2DN
FAC69	BOB	31/05/2023	Community	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Lake End Road	Taplow	Buckinghamshire	SL6 0QH
FKL13	BOB	13/06/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Maxwell Road	Beaconsfield	Buckinghamshire	HP9 1QH

Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board

ODS Code (F-Code)	ICS (STP)	Date Closed	Contract Type	Pharmacy Trading Name	Address 1	Address 3	Address 4	Post Code
FWW50	BOB	14/05/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Oxford Road	Kidlington	Oxfordshire	OX5 2PE
FLL49	BOB	30/05/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Central Drive	Didcot	Oxfordshire	OX11 7ND
FAR03	BOB	10/06/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Pioneer Square	Bicester	Oxfordshire	OX26 6FA
FM953	BOB	13/06/2023	Community	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	642 Oxford Road	Banbury	Oxfordshire	OX16 9XA
FR885	BOB	13/06/2023	100 Hours	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Witan Way	Witney	Oxfordshire	OX28 4FF
FWC93	BOB	23/12/2023	100 Hours	Ahmeys Pharmacy	2 Market Square	Bicester	Oxfordshire	OX26 6AA
FA290	BOB	23/03/2024	Community	Boots UK Ltd	Thame Health Centre	Thame	Oxfordshire	OX9 3JZ
FRM62	BOB	29/03/2024	100 Hours (Amended)	Cowley Pharmacy	258 Cowley Road	Oxford	Oxfordshire	OX4 1UH

West Berkshire Health and wellbeing Board

ODS Code (F-Code)	ICS (STP)	Date Closed	Contract Type	Pharmacy Trading Name	Address 1	Address 3	Address 4	Post Code
FEJ88	BOB	22/04/2023	Community	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Savacentre, Bath Road	Reading	Berkshire	RG31 7SA
FVP85	BOB	22/04/2023	Community	Lloyds Pharmacy (in Sainsbury)	Hectors Way	Newbury	Berkshire	RG14 5AB
FN512	BOB	16/09/2023	Community	Superdrug Pharmacy	81-82 Northbrook Street	Newbury	Berkshire	RG14 1AE
FE788	BOB	17/02/2024	Community	Boots UK Ltd	Thatcham Health Centre	Thatcham	Berkshire	RG18 3HD

Reading Health and Wellbeing Board

ODS Code (F-Code)	ICS (STP)	Date Closed	Contract Type	Pharmacy Trading Name	Address 1	Address 3	Address 4	Post Code
FDE03	BOB	30/04/2023	Community	Lloyds Pharmacy	High Street	Reading	Berkshire	RG8 9AT
FPG88	BOB	20/08/2023	100 Hours	Tesco Pharmacy	Tesco Extra	Reading	Berkshire	RG1 8DF

Social Care Inquests – annual update

Committee considering report:	Health Scrutiny Committee
Date of Committee:	12 March 2024
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Alan Macro
Date Head of Service agreed report:	14 February 2024
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	15 February 2024
Report Author:	Jo England
Forward Plan Ref:	N/A

1 Purpose of the Report

To advise Health Scrutiny Committee on the current position regarding Social Care Inquests.

2 Recommendation

None. For information only.

3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
Financial:	There are potential financial implications; the Council has insurance in place for any civil claims but other ancillary payments, such as waiving care costs, are not. Each matter is considered on a case by case basis.
Human Resource:	Inquests place a burden on staff in both Social Care and Legal Services, due to the amount of information that needs to be gathered and submitted to the Coroner in a short period of time.
Legal:	Work undertaken will seek to ensure that the Council is meeting its legal obligations.

Risk Management:	There is a risk that the Coroner may issue a Prevention of Future Deaths report following an Inquest. Work undertaken seeks to mitigate wider associated risks (see above).			
Property:	N/A			
Policy:	N/A			
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
Equalities Impact:				
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
Environmental Impact:		X		
Health Impact:		X		
ICT Impact:		X		
Digital Services Impact:		X		

Council Strategy Priorities:		X		
Core Business:		X		
Data Impact:		X		
Consultation and Engagement:				

4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 As a result of an increased number of cases in which West Berkshire Council was being approached by the Berkshire Coroners' Office for information and/or identified by the investigating Coroner as an Interested Person in Inquests, work was undertaken to strengthen internal processes relating to these matters and this report is an annual update.
- 4.2 A summary of recent/current Inquest activity is provided below.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 Following concern regarding a growing volume of Inquest activity within West Berkshire, a meeting was chaired by Nigel Lynn on 25 May 2022 to identify required actions, if any, to manage these. All actions identified at that time have been completed.
- 5.2 One of the relevant actions was the establishment of an Inquest Review Panel. This Panel meets on a regular basis and includes representatives from ASC, Legal, H&S and Insurance as a minimum. These Panel meetings provide corporate oversight of cases where the Coroner has asked for information and/or those which are more complex and to consider if a Lessons Learned piece should follow/how learning from the Inquest process can be disseminated. The Panel also provides a useful method of monitoring cases which have identified areas of development, particularly with partner agencies such as Health.
- 5.3 Other actions which were identified to strengthen internal processes in relation to deaths in West Berkshire's area include: reviewing the reporting function in CREST to consider if it can be made easier for staff and ensure issues are identified at an early stage corporately, review the Inquest Protocol internal guidance document and arrange training regarding Inquests for Officers.

- 5.4 Since the last report in March 2023, West Berkshire Council has received 2 requests for information involving a Coroner’s investigation (prior to this, the number of requests from May 2020 to March 2023 was 13 requests).
- 5.5 None of these have required the Council to be an Interested Person (providing evidence, receiving disclosure and attendance at the Inquest). In all cases there was some level of Health involvement which is unsurprising given the circumstances surrounding each one. Both individuals were receiving a domiciliary package of care.
- 5.6 No requests were made in relation to safeguarding processes.

6 Conclusion

There has been a significant reduction in requests for information from the Coroner and/or Inquests where WBC is an Interested Person, this would suggest that the range of actions have been completed in relation to Coroner investigations within West Berkshire have been effective. This has included a review of internal guidance, procedures, delivery of training and the development of an Inquest Review Panel.

7 Appendices

None.

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delays in implementation could compromise the Council’s position | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee or associated Task Groups within preceding six months | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Item is Urgent Key Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Report is to note only | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Wards affected: All Wards affected.

Officer details:

Name: Jo England
Job Title: Joint Interim Service Director - ASC
Tel No: 01635 519006
E-mail: jo.England@westberks.gov.uk

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Version:		Date Modified:	
Author:			
Owning Service			

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Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board

January 2024

[BOB ICB Board Meeting](#)

[BOB ICB Primary Care Strategy](#)

[NHS Industrial Action](#)

[Covid and flu vaccination programme](#)

[BOB ICB Stakeholder Newsletter](#)

[Berkshire West specific updates](#)

1. ICB Board Meeting

The BOB ICB held its board meeting in public on 16 January 2024; papers are available on [the BOB ICB website](#) .

2. BOB ICB Primary Care Strategy

The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) has published its draft Primary Care Strategy which highlights our ambitions for the future of general practice, community pharmacy, optometry (eye care) and dentistry across BOB.

The draft strategy outlines three priorities to help deliver these ambitions:

1. to improve access so patients get the right support first time to manage their health and wellbeing;
2. to develop proactive and personalised in the community care for patients with complex health needs;
3. to prevent ill health by using and sharing data with our partners about the health needs of local communities.

To help deliver these priorities we are proposing to further develop the following services:

- Non-complex same day care
- Integrated Neighbourhood Teams
- Cardiovascular Disease Prevention

Non-complex same day care

Primary care will better manage patients who require same day support; but whose conditions are not complex. The aim is to improve the patient experience as they get the support they need promptly. This will be achieved by triaging patients more efficiently with an initial contact made with the right health service or professional. This way of working will allow GPs to focus on patients with more complex needs (having more than one health condition).

Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

GPs will work with multi-disciplinary teams in the community made up of hospital consultants, district and community nurses supported by care navigators, physiotherapists and the voluntary sector to provide personalised, proactive care to patients with more than one health condition (complex) such as frail elderly people.

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention

Primary care will work with health and care partners to reduce the risk of patients developing CVD by tackling smoking, obesity and high blood pressure. CVD is one of the most common causes of ongoing ill-health and deaths across the ICB leading to heart attack and strokes. This approach will rely on using and sharing data (Population Health Management) between partners to understand better the health needs of our local communities.

Stakeholders, patients and the wider public are invited to share the views about our ambitions in the draft strategy via a new online survey at: <https://yourvoicebob-icb.uk.engagementhq.com/primary-care-strategy> – to help further inform and shape these plans. The survey closes on 29 February 2024.

A printed copy of the survey is available by post or by telephone for people without online access. To request a copy please contact 0300 123 4465 or email engagement.BOBICS@nhs.net

3. NHS industrial action

BMA Junior Doctors have undertaken two further periods of Industrial Action since the. The first was for 72 hours from 7am on Wednesday 20 December to 7am on Saturday 23 December 2023. The second was for 6 consecutive days from 7am on Wednesday 3 January to 7am on Tuesday 9 January 2024. It should be noted that this was the longest continuous period of industrial action ever seen in the history of the NHS.

These strikes took place during one of the busiest periods for the NHS and the focus of all Trusts across BOB trusts was to ensure patient safety and maintain critical emergency and urgent care services. The ICB and NHSE supported Oxford University Hospitals NHS FT to ensure patient safety at the John Radcliffe ED and

commissioned additional hours from the Horton and City Urgent Care Centres to redirect GP appropriate patients away from EDs where possible.

During all previous periods of industrial action across the BOB area (excluding January 2024 period) 24,244 acute outpatient appointments, 3,684 elective procedures and 9992 community appointments have had to be rescheduled. It should be highlighted, however, that these figures are an underestimate of the full impact as they do not include the appointments and operations that were not booked at the point strike dates were announced.

4. Covid and flu vaccination programme

The core delivery of the Covid and Flu vaccination programme concluded on 15 December 2024. Currently the programme across the BOB area has delivered 558,503 flu and 394,353 COVID vaccinations representing 54.9% and 59.4% of the respective eligible populations.

A targeted outreach offer of vaccination continues until 31 January 2024 to ensure all those who wish to be vaccinated continue to have access across the system. BOB has worked closely with providers and has delivered the highest uptake among health and social care workers, 49.4%, across the Southeast and significantly above the national average.

5. BOB ICB Stakeholder Newsletter

The BOB ICB [Communications and Engagement Strategy](#), approved by the Board in July 2023, committed to the introduction of a BOB-wide Stakeholder Newsletter. Following engagement with communications colleagues at all Trust providers, local authorities and with Place directors, [the first edition of the monthly newsletter was published](#) earlier this month.

The format of the newsletter includes a section containing news and images relevant to health, social care and public health across the whole BOB system and three Place specific sections with more 'local' interest.

Initially it has been distributed to all BOB MPs, local authority chief executives and leaders, scrutiny committee chairs and Health and Wellbeing Boards, NHS Trust boards, Local Medical Committee chairs, Pharmacy, Optometry and Dental committees, Healthwatches, GP Patient Participation Groups (where possible) and communications colleagues across all NHS and local authority partners for cascade through their networks

There is an option within the newsletter for people to subscribe directly and it is publicised via the ICB social media channels to encourage members of the public to subscribe. The monthly newsletter will be adapted and amended as it develops and receives feedback from recipients.

6. Berkshire West specific updates

- The Community Wellness Outreach Service is now live in Reading and West Berkshire with Wokingham planning to start shortly. This 18-month pilot is funded through ICB inequalities monies and will offer NHS Health Checks and wider wellbeing support to patients most in need, by taking services out into our communities. The pilot will be evaluated against metrics measuring the impact of the service on CVD diagnosis rates and wider patient wellbeing. A full update will be provided to the next Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.
- Work is underway to agree key priorities for our Berkshire West Place Based Partnership in 2024/25, building on the areas we have worked on together this year. Children and Young People's Mental Health (including SEND) will remain a focus area, along with a focus on Same Day Urgent Access and also enhancing preventative services for our residents where possible. Implementation of the Primary Care Strategy and continuation of our Community Wellness Outreach will be a priority. It is important to note the challenging financial background that we are working within, and all organisations are expected to work together to ensure we can continue to deliver and improve services within our constrained financial budgets.
- Our plans are being developed alongside the wider ICB planning process and in alignment with the key BOB system goals which are currently being formalised. The ICB also continues to work closely with RBFT and other partners on the Building Berkshire Together initiative, part of the New Hospitals Programme, with a particular focus on formulating integrated care pathways which will inform the associated future estates requirements. We also want continue to work more closely with local authority planning teams to ensure future primary care capacity needs are factored into Local Plans and associated policy documents, and to also work with wider partners to identify shared estates opportunities including through the One Public Estate programme.

Report to the Scrutiny Board March 2024

Priority	Update
<p>2024/2025 Proposed Workplan</p>	<p>Our Workplan this year will centre on a theme of Accessibility, focusing on 5 separate topics under that banner: Pharmacies and Pharmacies First, Health Inequalities, Maternal Health, Youth Health, Social Care at Home: Unpaid Carers</p> <p>A survey has been sent out to the public for consultation on their health priorities, which will be open until the end of March. Please do share and complete yourselves.</p> <p>https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/WhatMattersToYou_24_25/</p> <p>Local projects are currently being discussed and will be developed under each topic with Unpaid Carers being a Berkshire West project in collaboration with Healthwatch Reading and Healthwatch Wokingham.</p>
<p>Increasing awareness of Healthwatch West Berks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be working with the PPGs to help raise awareness of Healthwatch. • Continuation of ensuring services have Healthwatch leaflets and flyers available to public. • We will be attending events and visiting services across health and social care throughout the coming year to raise awareness of Healthwatch and encourage public feedback. • Will be placing posters on community boards across West Berks.
<p>Healthwatch Monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s cervical screening at an all-time low nationally – possible piece of work with BOB regarding this. • Phlebotomy – The service at Newbury Community Hospital has improved but will keep monitoring.
<p>Looking Forward</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Outreach Project – We have been invited to discuss how public feedback can be obtained once the service starts. • GP Access Project – Currently in analysis, draft ready end of March. • Annual Report – We will be starting to write our annual report in April, draft ready by end of May.

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Health Scrutiny Committee – 12 March 2024

Item 11 –Task & Finish Group Updates

Verbal Item

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Health Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

The following items will be considered in addition to Standing Items: Updates from Task and Finish Groups

Last Updated:
March 2024

Ref	Item	Purpose	Health Body	Prioritisation Score
12 March 2024 (Report Deadline 22 February)				
8	Pharmacy	Update on Pharmacy services and current provision since attending Health Scrutiny Committee in March 2023.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	13
9	Early Years	A review of the approach and system of support for Early Years in West Berkshire.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board, West Berkshire Council	15
10	Inquest Review Panel	To receive the annual report from the Inquest Review Panel.	West Berkshire Council	N/A
11 June 2024 (Report Deadline 24 May)				
11	Adult Mental Health Services	To review the Community Mental Health Transformation Programme and Adult Mental Health Services in West Berkshire. Including a review of how mental health services are delivered to the rural population in West Berkshire.	Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Public Health	13
12	Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services	To review the approach to the mental health of young people in West Berkshire.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	14
13	Director of Public Health's Annual Report	To review the Director of Public Health's Annual Report	John Ashton, Director of Public Health	N/A
14	Diabetes	To receive an update on Diabetes Services since attending the Health Scrutiny Committee in June 2023.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	N/A
15	Dementia	To receive an update on dementia diagnosis rates, pathways and the BOB ICB strategy on Dementia pathways since attending the Health Scrutiny Committee in June 2023. To include the strategic approach to prevention including involvement of public health.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	N/A
17 September 2024 (Report Deadline 30 August)				
16				
17	Suicide Prevention	To review the approach to suicide prevention in West Berkshire.	TBC	13

18	Access to Primary Care	An update on access to primary care across West Berkshire since attending Health Scrutiny Committee in September 2023.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	14
10 December 2024 (Report Deadline 22 November)				
11 March 2024 (Report Deadline 21 February)				
Other Items to be programmed				
	Dentistry	Update on the current provision and progress since attending Health Scrutiny Committee in December 2022.	NHS England and NHS Improvement, Public Health	TBC
Standing Items				
	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	To receive an update from the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board on their activities.	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board	At every meeting
	Healthwatch West Berkshire Report	To receive an update from Healthwatch West Berkshire on patient feedback received, reports prepared and other activities.	Healthwatch West Berkshire	At every meeting
	Director of Public Health Annual Report	To review the Director of Public Health Annual Report	Public Health	Annual
	Inquest Review Panel	To receive the annual report from the Inquest Review Panel	West Berkshire Council	Annual - March