



Ageing Well Task Group

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership

- Public Health & Wellbeing
- Adult Social Care
- West Berkshire Library Service
- VCWB
- Sovereign Housing (Extra Care Scheme)
- Community United
- Eight Bells for Mental Health
- Corn Exchange
- BHFT Memory Clinic, Falls Service, Community Nursing
- Falkland Grange Care Home
- Winchcombe Place Care Home
- Age UK Berkshire – Dementia Friendly West Berkshire, Carers Partnership, Older Persons Services
- Get Berkshire Active
- SCAS
- RBFRS
- West Berkshire PCN Social Prescribers
- West Berkshire Methodist Churches

Current Activity

- Social Media Comms including promotion of PPP electric blanket safety testing and information that supports people living with dementia to adjust to the winter daylight saving.
- Task & Finish Group working closely with ASC to support non digital access and greater use of the new West Berkshire Directory

Future Actions

- Explore working with VIA, our drug and alcohol service, to raise awareness and encourage engagement in support around alcohol consumption in older people



Building Communities Together Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership

Chair: TBC; **Deputy Chair:** Supt. Andy Penrith

Statutory Partners: West Berkshire Council, Thames Valley Police, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Probation and Health (Public Health and Integrated Care Board)

The BCT Partnership also has representatives from: Community and Voluntary Sector, Healthwatch, Registered Housing Providers, Education, Faith Sector and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Current Activity

The Partnership met on 22/10/2024.

Serious Violence

- The last meeting of the Serious Violence Steering Group took place on 19/09/2024 and was Chaired by Chief Inspector David Whiteaker. Next meeting is 5/12/2024.
- Under the Serious Violence Duty, a yearly needs analysis will be completed by the end of the 2nd Qtr. 2024/25 alongside a review of the current plan (by the end of November 2024). This should be completed by the end of November and early indication is that there will be little requirement to further update the delivery plan or the priorities within the strategy. If required a revised Strategy will be published by the end of January.
- A focus group with young people took place to hear their views on serious violence and how they think it could be reduced – these will be reviewed and incorporated into the plan where appropriate.
- Key work being developed is a repeat of the schools' survey; consultation with more young people to ensure the strategy and delivery actions fit their needs and expectations.
- Focus for the next quarter is on completing those updates and identifying ways to sustain any interventions or posts that are externally funded as current Home Office funding will end in April 2025.

Safer Streets Fund

Work on each of the five interventions continues.

- 2nd Community Clear-up Day took place on 30/07/2024. Representatives from both the OPCC and Home Office attended, and the project received some very positive feedback: 'We came away with such a positive impression of the projects and could really see how much hard work and passion goes into each one from both your teams and the delivery partners'.
- The last Community Clear up Day is scheduled for Tuesday 18th February 2025.
- CCTV was installed early October by CDS which sadly was vandalised within 24 hours ongoing up. All 8 cameras were damaged with wires cut or cameras being pulled down and damaged.

2 suspects have been arrested, interviewed and bailed. This was evidence from the CCTV cameras which were up and running. CDS have recovered all cameras except one and are hoping to reinstall by the end of November.

This is a set back to the project, but CCTV is important for the area and still achievable.

- Community Guardians – recruitment to the two posts has not been successful and due to time limitations, the project will now continue without Guardians; the project is only funded to the end of March 2025.
- Youth work continues with Berkshire Youth. Work continues to use the MUGA at The Willows School on The Nightingales. Football sessions were offered to Years 6's and above but there was very little interest.
- BY continue to work with Greenham young people on other projects.
- Work continues with LIME training and sessions delivered to all schools; this is ongoing throughout the school terms until summer 2025.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Work in this area is currently extremely limited – see 'Challenges'.

Prevent

- Prevent Local Risk Assessment has been submitted to the Home Office.
- 2024 Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) data collection questionnaire has been circulated to stat partners for completion by 16/12/2024.
- National Referral Form has been updated to improve compatibility.

Channel

- Channel Panel meeting 13/11/2024.
- 1 case currently on Panel.

Domestic Abuse

- 2024/25 funding confirmed for WBC under Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021; MOU has been signed.
- West Berkshire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2023-27 has been signed off by the Executive.
- The Giving Tree campaign launched on 4 November and closes on 6 December. People can either collect a gift tag for a child or adult from a tree at either WBC Market Street offices, Newbury and Theale libraries or via the online platform.

Modern Slavery

- The Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 submitted to the Home Office.

Community Forums

- Planning was the topic for the 10 September 2024 Community Forum which was held at Thatcham Rugby Club Henwick and addressed the difference between CIL and S106; update on Local and National planning changes; West Berkshire's online and digital planning services and nutrient neutrality.
- Next Forum is arranged for 19 November and will take place in Hungerford and will be look at 'Cost of Living and flood/winter preparedness' and will include information on local initiatives.

Members' Community Bids

- The processing of claims from the last Members Bids Panel continues.
- 2024 Members Bid round commenced 1 November 2024 and will close 3 January 2025. The decision-making panel will meet in mid-January 2025.

District Parish Conference

- Held on Tuesday 29 October in hybrid format and saw approximately 40 people attend to hear presentations on:
 - Service Delivery Offers for Town and Parish Councils brochure
 - Library Service – future development options for Town and Parish Councils
 - Tackling the climate and ecological emergency update
 - Young People: What can we offer collaboratively (Berkshire Youth)

Challenges

- **Funding from April 2025 onwards** – there is current uncertainty around several funding streams which are all due to finish at the end of March 2025 and will affect service delivery – OPCC CSF Fund, serious violence, supporting families.
- **Statutory Duties** - annual Prevent benchmarking highlighted areas where West Berkshire is not meeting its statutory duty, this is being addressed but will take time due to capacity.
- **Staffing pressures within BCT Team** continue. The majority of ASB related work is not being covered and the BCT Team Manager has picked up DA, Prevent and Channel as the post-holder left in early September 2024 which is a pressure due the related statutory duties; recruitment is being progressed.

Children's Early Help & Prevention Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership

- The Advocacy People
- Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Brighter Futures for Children
- Children and Young People Voice
- Healthwatch West Berkshire
- Home Start West Berkshire
- Pangbourne Primary School
- Parent Carer Forum Representative
- Thames Valley Police
- Thatcham Park Primary School
- WBC Building Communities Together Team Manager
- WBC Emotional Health Academy Manager
- WBC Exclusion Reintegration Team Leader
- WBC Housing Manager
- WBC Operational Manager CFS
- WBC Senior Public Health Programme Officer
- WBC Service Director – Children's Social Care
- WBC Service Director - Communities & Wellbeing
- WBC Service Manager CFS
- WBC Team Manager CFS

Current Activity

Our last Children Prevention and Early Help Partnership was held on 9th September and our next is on 9th December.

Early Help Dashboard (Early Response Hub)

At each quarterly meeting, the Early Help Dashboard is reviewed, this reflects the work mainly of the Early Response Hub (ERH).

Q2: 1150 early response forms were completed in Q2, (an increase of 18% from Q1). Timescales for completion has reduced, this is due to timescales being counted from referral date rather than from date received into ERH and current demand and capacity. This area remains a priority to be addressed.

Of the 1150 early response forms:

- 133 were received via the online referral form, the highest users of the form were schools who submitted 29 forms in the quarter (22%).

- Self-referrals via the online form were 22 (17%).
- Health colleagues utilised the form on 11 occasions (8%).
- 46 forms (35%) showed as source unknown, this was due to a reporting error, which has now been rectified.
- The remaining forms and percentages were made up of CAHMS, EHA and internal source.

The highest level of risk factor for this quarter was Child Mental Health, followed by Domestic Abuse, and Parental Mental Health and poor school attendance/exclusion.

Mirroring the previous quarter (Q1) 'Advice and Consultation' was the highest-ranking outcome followed by 'Referrals to Other Services', 'My Family Plan', 'Statutory Assessment', and 'ERH intervention'.

76 interventions were completed this quarter, in 72% of those completed, the feedback was positive. 17% stepped up for a statutory assessment, with 9% declining support and 1% disengaging.

We are conducting a Child in Need (CIN) pilot, called Family Achievement Model, looking to prevent escalation of families who meet statutory services (CIN), using alternatively qualified staff to engage with families. This pilot is linked into ERH.

239 Family First Assessments were completed in this quarter. Of significance, 30 (12.5%) progressed for a statutory assessment, 47 (19.6%) progressed for a My Family Plan. The majority ended with no additional action.

Overall, we see a slight decrease in all activity across ERH in Q2, other than referrals for Triple P 'Reducing Parental Conflict' which had a slight increase of 9 additional referrals. It is pleasing to see that there was an increase in the number that engaged with the programme. From the 33 referrals received, 18 (60%) engaged with the programme. In Q1, (33%) of those referred engaged with the programme.

Supporting Families

The current funding linked to Supporting Families ceases in March 2025. Notice has been given on all who are working under this remit.

Family Hubs

Expansion of Family Hubs offer continues to be progressed, with Family Hub staff commencing their migration to record on the same system as Children's Services staff (Care Director), Family Hub Managers commencing attendance at Children's Services Management Team meetings, as well as Family Hub teams' engagement with Children's Services Practice Week taking place this Quarter.

Coram Parent Champion programme induction training takes place at Central Family Hub throughout November and December 2024. Following this, West Berkshire's first cohort of 10

Parent Champions will begin to roll out the programme - aiming to improve the engagement of parents/carers in the design and delivery of all our services to families. Specifically, aiming to better enable families to understand and engage with the range of early intervention/prevention services available to them in West Berkshire.

Future Developments

As a council we are invested in early help and early intervention and exploring ways in which our ERH and Family Hubs can be further aligned to ensure families have further access to the right help, at the right time, from the right person. A development session took place internally in November and on-going work is being explored. Further information on this will be provided in our next update.

New Case Management System

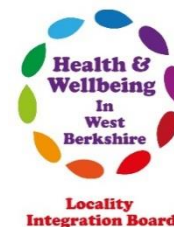
A new case management system (Mosaic) will be implemented in October 2025, and work is in progress to ensure this system works across the EH areas.

Future Actions

ERH remains in high demand and future actions include:

- Continuing working with agencies and the voluntary sector to share knowledge and collaborate to promote a whole system approach in expanding the 'Family Help' agenda.
- The service response to the Family Help agenda is the continued use and development of the Family Help and Achievement model of practice.
- Continuing to explore and analyse data to ensure all interventions and responses are timely.

Rebecca Wilshire
Service Director, Children's Social Care
November 2024



Locality Integration Board

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership:

The core membership of this group is as follows:

Maria Shepherd, Joint Interim SD for Adult Social Care, Co-Chair
Helen Clark, ICB, Co-Chair
April Peberdy, Public Health
Ellora Evans, Clinical Director, Primary Care Network (Primary Care)
Pete Osbourne, Clinical Director, Primary Care Network (Primary Care)
Helen Clarke, Clinical Director, Primary Care Network (Primary Care)
David Dean, Community Pharmacy, Thames Valley
Fiona Worby, Healthwatch
Heather Codling, Chair of HWB
Patrick Clark, Portfolio Holder, Adult Social Care
Helen Williamson, Berkshire Foundation Healthcare Trust
Luch Shorthouse, Royal Berkshire Hospital
Rachel Peters, Volunteer Centre
Kate Toone, Adult Social Care
Marion Angas, Adult Social Care

The guests invited during the last 3 months are:

Ashmita Chandra – Frimley ICS to provide an update on Connected Care
Hannah Cole – Adult Social Care to provide an update on Carers Strategy and Action Plan
Sarah Swift, Dementia Care Advisor Service
Solutions 4 Health (Health & Inequalities Community Outreach Programme)

Current Activity:

- BCF Q1 and Q2 Report for NHS England
- Dementia Care Advisor Service
- Deep dive into data from Health & Inequalities Community Outreach Service
- Quarterly updates from Connected Care Programme
- Carers Strategy & Action Plan

Future Actions:

- Monitor BCF spend and performance
- Report from Pharmacy first to include data for West Berkshire



Mental Health Action Group

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership

Membership currently includes the following organisations:

- West Berkshire Council – Public Health and Wellbeing
- West Berkshire Council – Adult Social Care
- West Berkshire Council - Members
- Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust - CMHT
- Eight Bells for Mental Health
- Recovery in Mind
- Healthwatch
- Community United

(We are currently reviewing the membership)

Current Activity

- A successful first meeting of the new Mental Health Forum was held on 14th October, with post-meeting evaluation finding 100% of people felt it was 'good' (74%) or 'great' (26%). This co-produced event brought together service users, voluntary sector and public sector partners. Following a creative workshop, the meeting considered and decided on a range of issues about how future meetings should be planned and managed. A programme for future meetings has been proposed.
- A follow on meeting on bereavement had to be postponed because a large number of people could not attend. It is hoped to hold a further meeting in December.
- The Group has been reviewing its ways of working and membership, hoping to boost attendance and effectiveness.
- The Group is starting to review the Delivery Plan as it relates to adult mental health, as part of the Health and Wellbeing Board's wider review.
- A new, 'Let's Get Mindful' fund has been launched by West Berkshire Council and the Greenham Trust. The LGM fund is to enable not-for-profit groups to implement meaningful and impactful projects that support people with mental health challenges. The fund also ensures that organisations have access to financial resources to expand their work, offer additional support, purchase necessary equipment, or launch new initiatives. Where possible, the fund will focus on areas in West Berkshire that are considered most in need and projects that support people that are considered vulnerable and/or isolated.

Future Actions

Future actions include:

- Continuing to support the development of the Mental Health Forum
- Supporting National Grief Awareness week (2nd-8th December)
- Continuing the development of proposals to provide support to help people fill in forms.
- Reviewing and revising the health and wellbeing strategy delivery plan.

Skills and Enterprise Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership:

EBP, West Berkshire Council, Groundwork, The Advocacy People, DWP, Healthwatch West Berks, Parkway Shopping, Newbury Weekly News, NHS, AWE

Current Activity

1.4.6: Green skills and jobs – seeking funding opportunities to extend the successful project, currently delivered in other areas of Berkshire, to develop skills and employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the Green economy (Groundwork).

Update Nov 2024 update- Groundwork have just launched their first 6-week Green Skills project in Reading, funded by REDA Reading Borough Council have provided us the various green spaces that will allow participants to learn new skills, have employability workshops and have the opportunity to take the City and Guilds Brushcutter and Strimmer course, which will them the qualification to gain employment in Landscaping, Grounds Maintenance and other Green Sectors.

Isabel King has referred over ASCEND participants who she thinks may benefit from this wonderful opportunity.

1.4.7: Supported Internships – development of local provision of supported internships to enhance the employment routes for people with disabilities (Newbury College).

The College has been working with WBC and 'Ways into Work' in developing two approaches: first, through the NHS 'Route to Recruit' strategy (led by Ways into Work) and identifies placements at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. There are two learners identified for this route from September 2024. Second, is placement in local businesses which links to WBC's target for 12 placements, with seven high needs learners currently identified, starting from September onwards.

1.4.8: Employability sessions – extension of the support provided by DWP to local schools and colleges to enhance the understanding of employment options for young people. Particularly focussed on under-represented groups and on the wide range of routes to skills and future employment (DWP)

November 2024 update- The DWP is currently delivering the Support for Schools project to approximately a dozen schools in Berkshire. At present this is working well, and they have a meeting with Berkshire Enterprise co-ordinators to promote this.

2.8: Support people with learning disabilities, engaging with them and listening to them through working with voluntary organisations

November 2024 update - Destinations 2024 has now taken place - it was successful event with over 60 businesses and 1,200 students attending. The spread of businesses was the most diverse it has ever been. We kept the 1st hour as a SEND specific session to ensure that students with additional needs had every opportunity to engage with the employers. We welcomed students from Mary Hare, Brookfields, The Castle, Icollege and Mile House as well as SEND students from mainstream schools.

2.8.4: Extension of the "Delivering Life Skills" Programme, delivered by the EBP.

The H&WB approved funding for this programme in 2022/23, which was delivered in secondary schools by the EBP. All sessions were completed by July 2023, with a significant increase to 250 participants. The further funding bid for 2023/24 was discussed at the HWB Board, however there are currently no identified funds to support these activities in 2023/24. Greenham Trust are providing continuing funding for part of the programme, but, at present, the offer to Schools has been reduced.

November 2024 - the situation remains the same - we received funding from GCT to run 8 DLS workshops during the 2023/24 academic year and impacted 160 students. We are continuing to seek funding to continue to run this programme this academic year.

Future Actions

Destinations Expo 2025 has been confirmed as taking place on 9th Oct 2025 at Newbury College. EBP continues to seek funding to expand the delivery of the DLS programme.

Groundwork is set to deliver three more projects in Reading over the coming nine months and is also potentially looking to expand to Newbury.



Substance Behaviour Harm
Reduction Partnership

Substance Behaviour Harm Reduction Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group (November 2024)

Membership

The S&BHRP includes the following members. Membership is regularly under review.

- West Berkshire Council - Public Health and Wellbeing (Chair)
- West Berkshire Council – Building Communities Together Team
- West Berkshire Council – Housing
- West Berkshire Council - Health in Schools Co-ordinator
- West Berkshire Council – Adult Social Care
- West Berkshire Council – Children’s Services
- Public Protection Partnership
- Thames Valley Police
- National Probation Service
- Education
- Combatting Drugs Partnership
- Berkshire West Tobacco Control Alliance
- BOB ICB
- Community Alcohol Partnership
- Solutions 4 Health
- Health Watch West Berkshire
- Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust
- VIA
- Soup Kitchen
- Berkshire Women’s Aid
- Two Saints
- Sovereign Housing
- South Central Ambulance Service
- Service user
- Community Wellness Outreach

Current Activity

The last meeting of the partnership took place on 10th October 2024.

Reading Festival took place at the end of summer, whilst not within West Berkshire, it is known that West Berkshire residents, especially young people attend the festival. Therefore, it was considered by the partnership that an oversight of health harm prevention provisions in place and their effectiveness was required. There were no fatalities linked to drugs or alcohol at the festival site over the festival weekend. A targeted media campaign (#Lookoutforeachother) for those who had purchased tickets for the festival commenced 10 days prior to the festival starting and a social media influencer was commissioned by Reading Council’s communication providers, Blue Lozenge, to attend the festival and gather insights from young people, which I am of the understanding will be used to inform targeted campaigns next year.

Onsite, drug charity Service Change Grow Live were present throughout the course of the festival, Naloxone kits were readily accessible and drug testing, including testing for Nitazines was available.

Over the summer, members of the partnership reviewed the Drug and Alcohol policy for schools owing to school's exclusion data highlighting that the number of pupils being excluded for alcohol or drugs did not equate to the number of referrals received from schools to The Edge young people's drug and alcohol service. The updated policy was shared with secondary school Pastoral Leads at the Secondary Pastoral Leads Collaborative meeting on 1st October and has subsequently been sent to all schools. Furthermore, at this meeting the attendees were provided with a presentation on nicotine pouches to raise awareness. This presentation was also delivered to secondary school PSRHE leads on 3rd October.

Following concerns expressed by Lambourne Junction CIC regarding substance abuse issues within the Lambourn Valley and a want to address these through a collective approach, a number of members of the partnership attended an initial workshop on 23rd September. During the meeting concerns were discussed and actions suggested, which are being drawn up into a plan. A further meeting to monitor progress will be scheduled for the new year.

The Community Wellness Outreach provision contract had now been varied to include Tobacco Dependency Advisors in attendance to offer smoking cessation support for residents attending the provision who are smokers. A Tobacco Dependency Advisor is also now present at the Thatcham Community Larder on a Wednesday afternoon.

Throughout the month of October, the Public Protection Partnership, Public Health and Solutions for Health shared both national and local communications in respect of Stoptober.

There has been a recent drug alert regarding the circulation of 'gummies' (sweets containing illicit substances) within the West Berkshire area being sold to adults and children that have been confirmed as containing the psychoactive substance in cannabis, THC. The alert has been circulated to relevant partners across West Berkshire. Nevertheless, the alert prompted a review of our drug alert pathway to ensure that it is being followed correctly and alerts are reaching the required partners

In preparation for the anti-drink spiking campaign due to take place across the nighttime economy within West Berkshire over the Christmas period, a meeting between Drink Safe, myself and TVP to discuss possible collaboration, however a collaboration will not be taking place at this time at this time. West Berkshire's nighttime economy has zero confirmed drink-spiking incidents to date. TVP officers consider they have a strong plan in place to support the nighttime economy, including drink-spiking testing kits to give out to premises and training in bystander awareness for those who work within the nighttime economy.

A campaign focusing on parental supply of alcohol to children is also in the planning stages amongst partnership members.

Future Actions

- Continue to support Lambourne Junction CIC and report outcomes back to H&W Board
- Ensure drug alert pathway is clear, consistent and reaches required partners
- Parental supply of alcohol campaign to be delivered

Suicide Prevention Outreach worker

Project Report Update for Trustee Meetings

Quarter 2

Project Scheme/Title:	Suicide Prevention Outreach project
Period:	July August September
Aim/Objective:	To provide training and resources throughout West Berkshires, voluntary organizations, small businesses, sports, and social organizations
Activities Resources contacts made etc	<p>I delivered Suicide First Aid Courses in July, August, and September, which saw attendees from motor parts garages, school workers, flag dv, berks women's aid, and youth groups and counsellors. The course in August was our first full-day course for those working with Children and Young people. All receive a personalised certificate of attendance and a badge to display, those attending a day course are given information on how to apply for a Level 4 qualification accredited by the Royal Society of Public Health (RSPH)</p> <p>I attended the Suicide Prevention Action Group meeting and updated all on my activities and also shared with all the new CYP full-day course that I am now able to deliver.</p> <p>I continue to meet regularly with Garry Poulson Chair of the Suicide Prevention Action Group.</p> <p>I attended a meeting with Paul Graham Health and Wellbeing in Schools Coordinator at West Berks Council, and a proposed date for November at Shaw House was discussed , it is hoped that 16 representatives from local secondary schools will be able to attend.</p> <p>I continue to deliver information and hope to be able to leave adhesive QR information leaflets which I think will be very beneficial, particularly in Pubs and Clubs.</p> <p>I attended the annual NCSPET Virtual Conference, the theme of which was "Suicide Prevention: Factors in Focus." This was both inspiring and incredibly applicable to my learning. I found the Safer Prescribing Initiative proposed by the Ollie Foundation to be very useful, particularly given my background as a former prescribing Nurse. Using a "Prescription Safe Plan" will be shared in my courses.</p>
Significant events/successes:	<p>Delivering the off-site course to Europarts as part of their mental health awareness day was very successful. Most attendees were men and all were very engaged and shared that they found the course incredibly helpful and relevant to them all.</p> <p>The delivery of our first CYP Suicide First Aid course was very successful and so relevant for the area that all who attended worked in. All agreed to share amongst their colleagues for possible future courses.</p> <p>Some feedback comments –</p> <p>" Was a tough subject but the tutor showed us empathy and listened to us "</p> <p>"I will be more confident to deal with suicide "</p> <p>"Very good and beneficial as people managers this will assist in my career and personal life"</p>

<p>Any Difficulties?</p>	<p>Despite many expressing interest in attending training, it can be difficult for some to be released from work to attend or be available in school holiday time. It is difficult to find a solution here but going forward as more and more emphasis is placed on the importance of Mental Health awareness in the workplace, it should be seen as a good inclusion in employee's regular training.</p>
<p>Planned Future Activities Training Events</p>	<p>Another off-site closed training event at Shaw House for representatives from local secondary schools. It has been agreed that I can apply to study RSPH Level 4 Award in Suicide First Aid (reduced cost for tutors), it has a guided learning time of 16 hours alongside a post-course assessment.</p> <p>I will continue to attend Tutor drop-ins at the National Centre for Suicide Prevention Education and Training and regular meetings with Garry Poulson and Rachel Peters . I will continue to share available resources and continue to share the awareness that Suicide is one of the most preventable deaths “ most do not want their lives to end, they want the pain to stop”</p>