

Recommendations from the Health Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group into Healthcare in New Developments

Chairman of the Task Group: Cllr Carolyne Culver

Response from: Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) and West Berkshire Council Executive.

Portfolio Holder(s): Cllr Patrick Clark Executive Portfolio Holder Adult Social Care and Public Health
Cllr Denise Gaines Executive Portfolio Holder Planning and Housing

Recommendation	Executive / ICB Response: Agree / Not Agree / Agree in Part to the recommendation and comments.	Portfolio Holder / Lead Health Partner / Lead Officer and timelines for delivery
1) Planning and Health to continue to improve collaboration on planning consultations and in developing flexible ways of working well together.		
1a) The Development Manager, Planning Policy Manager, Senior Primary Care Estate Manager and Senior Programme Manager (Primary Care Estates) to meet regularly to review their engagement on applications and that responses are timely and evidenced. To seek out and together review best practice regularly and make improvements in their ways of working. To hold each other to account and communicate effectively. To work closely on negotiations and to think broadly about the needs of the community and involve other stakeholders.	Agree. The ICB welcomes a regular engagement with the Council's Planning team to discuss applications and to review the ways of working regularly. WBC Planning team welcome this and propose to set up a quarterly meeting with BOB IC, the Planning Service Lead and Development Manager.	Actioned Planning Service Lead and Public Health Service Lead have set up a working group to further develop the Councils approach to health in new development. Planning Service Lead has set up regular meetings with BOB ICB.

1b) The West Berkshire Council Planning Team to work with GP practices directly to understand their needs and requirements for new developments.	ICB do not agree. It is the commissioning role of the ICB to understand GP needs and requirements for new development. The Council's Planning team is welcome to contact the ICB if there is any plan for new primary care provision. The ICB will then review the proposal and internally liaise with our GP partners. WBC Planning Team to explore the most appropriate way to engage with GP's across the district - to discuss the planning process and understand the issues and options.	To be explored by Planning Service Lead Within 12 months
1c) The ICB to review how they work with GPs regarding the primary care needs of new developments and to consider any improvements that could be made.	ICB Agree in part. The ICB has a dedicated procedure to review and assess any potential primary care estates projects and there is no plan to change the procedure. The ICB has embedded the Premises Cost Directions 2024 and Primary Care Capital Grants Policy into our internal process in reviewing primary care estates projects. The ICB will continue to work closely with our Primary Care Networks (PCN's) GP Partners, the Council and other relevant local stakeholders to maximise developer contributions, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and other available fundings to support primary care estates development.	The Council are not able to control this aspect
2) To explore new opportunities in funding and delivery of primary care in the community.		
2a) The Senior Primary Care Estate Manager and Senior Programme Manager (Primary Care Estates) to consider how they can input into the CIL charging structure when it is next reviewed. To be prepared through seeking best practice elsewhere to provide evidence requested	Agree. The ICB welcomes the Council to consider allocating a dedicated funding towards primary care annually to support primary care estates development, given the importance of having adequate primary care services to provide to residents of West Berkshire.	Potential for a CIL charging schedule review is currently being explored by the Planning Service.

and to be clear how much is needed for new developments.	WBC agree to engage with ICB at next CIL charging schedule review.	
2b) The Planning Policy Manager to consider a review of the CIL spending strategy.	Agree. The ICB welcomes to be engaged during the process of the CIL spending strategy. WBC to explore opportunities for developing a CIL spending strategy.	Planning Service Lead Within 12 months
2c) The Council, in collaboration with key stakeholders, to consider the opportunity of health hubs or multipurpose community facilities. This could be owned by the local authority and leased to the ICB or GPs, or created by developers in the first phase of development and sold to GP practices for a nominal fee. To consider best practice, the local approach and new ways of delivering provisions. The NHS requirements to be built into the Council's wider thinking around multipurpose hubs.	ICB Agree in part. The ICB cannot hold any estates. Any facilities can only be owned or leased to GPs or other NHS Foundation Trusts within Berkshire West area. The ICB welcomes the consideration of the opportunity of health hubs or mixed-use community facilities. The ICB would be happy to be involved in any forthcoming discussions about this as the ICB is required to ensure that the contractual arrangement of the facilities is suitable for GPs and the facilities are operationally and financially viable. The Council has launched its new community outreach hub model – Let's Talk West Berkshire which proposes that residents will be able to access trusted, high-quality information and advice in existing venues such as leisure centres, libraries, village halls and community group settings. Where possible and relevant, incorporating health provision into these community hubs will be explored. If any need and opportunity for new-build hubs are identified, these would be considered on their individual planning merits and advice provided accordingly on a site by site basis taking into account the aspirations to achieve multi-purpose community facilities that include health provision.	
2d) The ICB to continue work on workforce planning and staffing to support any	ICB do not agree.	The Council are not able to control this aspect.

infrastructure and to work closely with the local authority. The Berkshire West Place Director to keep the Health Scrutiny Committee updated.	The ICB does not have staff resourcing to support this. However, the ICB is willing to continue to work with the Council's Planning Team in planning and primary care matters.	
3) The Healthy Planning Protocol (HPP)		
3a) The Senior Programme Officer for the Wider Determinants of Health to request a peer review of the Healthy Planning Protocol from relevant colleagues at the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) that specialise in healthy place shaping and the planning process. Consider implementing any changes and recommendations that arise through the review.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. The Healthy Planning Protocol is still under development and is not yet finalised. Best practice guidance is being utilised to develop the protocol and opportunities for other review mechanisms are being explored and will be implemented where appropriate.	Planning and Public Health Service Leads Within 12 months
3b) Further collaboration by Senior Programme Officer for the Wider Determinants of Health, the Development Manager and Planning Policy Manager with developers to finalise guidance and supporting documents with developers. To consider how to guide developers when consulting with the public for HIAs.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. Upon finalisation of the protocol and guidance engagement is planned to take place through the Developer Industry Forum.	Planning Service Lead Within 9 months
3c) The Health Scrutiny Committee to endorse the Healthy Planning Protocol, including Health Impact Assessments and any associated Service Level Agreements, to Heads of Service and Corporate Board.	Agree in part. The ICB would not enter into a Service Level Agreement with the Council. However, the ICB is happy to have a further discussion with the Council to identify the most appropriate partnership arrangement between the Council and the ICB. The Planning and Public Health Service Leads are working together to finalise the Healthy Planning Protocol and Health	Planning Service Lead Within 3 months

	Impact Assessment approach with a view to implementing once the Local Plan Review is Adopted (anticipated June 2025).	
4) Implementation of the Healthy Planning Protocol. Resources are needed to facilitate collaborative working and stakeholders need to be trained and have the appropriate expertise.		
4a) The Health Scrutiny Committee to endorse an application to Corporate Board/Financial Review Panel to approve a new Officer post for implementing the HPP.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. Resource requirements and funding arrangements are under consideration.	
4b) The Senior Primary Care Estate Manager and Senior Programme Manager (Primary Care Estates) to work with the Senior Programme Officer for the Wider Determinants of Health to ensure the HPP is suitable for the ICB and staffed accordingly. The ICB to ensure there is suitable resource to implement this effectively in collaboration with stakeholders.	Agree. The ICB would like to have more details from the Council's Senior Programme Officer regarding the level of involvement of the ICB in the Protocol as the ICB would only have very limited staff resourcing to be involved in the process. The Planning Service and Public Health are working together, with the engagement of ICB to determine the resource requirements and the level of input required from ICB.	Planning and Public Health Service Leads Within 3 months
4c) The Planning Policy Manager and Development Manager to review if Planning have adequate resources needed to implement HIAs, improve collaboration and deliver the appropriate training. National guidance is available which can begin to strengthen the approach whilst the HPP is in development.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. Public Health Reserves Funding is available to fund additional resource to secure this.	Planning and Public health Service Lead Within 3 months
4d) The Senior Programme Officer for the Wider Determinants of Health, Development Manager and Planning	Agree. ICB has no comments to make.	

Policy Manager to consider how best to engage with developers, for example via the developers' forum, to encourage them to use healthy design, provide health features in developments, and remind them that such actions help to fulfil their own companies' ESG commitments.	WBC Planning Team propose to engage with the existing Developers Industry Forum, once the Local Plan is closer to adoption, to communicate any new policy requirements and have health in planning as an agenda item for discussion and knowledge sharing, with the support of Public Health.	Planning Service Lead Within 9 months
4e) Public Health to deliver a public health prevention approach workshop for all elected Members, including public health data skills (the West Berkshire Observatory and Public Health Outcomes Framework data) and the HPP.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. WBC Public health Support this and are planning training on the West Berkshire Observatory. Now the Senior Programme Officer for the wider determinants of health has been filled, and the officer will be leading on the corporate wide health in all policies programme, which will include workstreams on developing data and intelligence and upskilling the workforce including members.	Public Health Senior Programme Officer – ongoing.
4f) The Senior Programme Officer for the Wider Determinants of Health, Development Manager and Planning Policy Manager to consider further training on healthy places in planning for all Members.	Agree. ICB has no comments to make. WBC Planning Team and Public Health will consider this alongside future Member Training options, including whether to integrate this into the workshop proposal at 4e	Planning Service Lead Within 6 months
5) Wider approach to Healthy Places; consideration of design guides and community engagement for sustainable communities.		
5a) The Council to explore 'design guides' or frameworks to supplement the HPP and supporting documents for prospective developers. These to be shaped around public health and council priorities.	Agree in part. ICB has no comments to make. There is existing design guidance available which supports healthy places. There is no plan to develop a new design guide for WBC at present due to other essential priorities and resource pressures. However, when work programmes are reviewed, further	Planning Service Lead Within 12 months

	consideration will be given to the need and opportunity for a revised local design guide should it be deemed necessary.	
5b) The Council to consider community engagement and engagement with town and parish councils and West Berkshire Council Members for continuity and accountability in design and in keeping the communities sustainable.	ICB has no comments to make. WBC Planning Team will seek to achieve good community engagement on future planning policy and supplementary guidance following best practice in terms of design and healthy places. In particular, this will be a consideration in the development of a supplementary planning document for the proposed development of up to 2,500 homes at North East Thatcham.	Planning Service Lead Within 12-18 months

This template provides a structure which respondents are encouraged to use. However, respondents are welcome to depart from the suggested structure provided the same information is included in a response. The usual way to publish a response is to include it in the agenda of the Health Scrutiny Committee.