

Title of Report:	Response to the scrutiny review into Health Partnership Working
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	3 August 2010

Purpose of Report: To be informed of the response to the Commission's recommendations following its review into health partnership working.

Recommended Action: To note the information.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman	
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Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its special meeting on the 12 February 2010 the Commission carried out a review into the extent to which organisations work together through the West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing Partnership, particularly when making budgetary decisions that may have an impact on others.
- 1.2 Recommendations were formed as a result of this meeting and these were agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 2 March 2010. The recommendations were as follows:
- (1) The Council's Corporate Director (Community Services) and the NHS Berkshire West's Director of Partnerships and Joint Commissioning should agree that decisions having significant budget ramifications on other organisations should not be enacted until the financial year following that in which the decision was taken. The in-year cost of the decision should be managed and borne by the organisation with the original budget allocation.
 - (2) The Council's Corporate Director (Community Services) and the NHS Berkshire West's Director of Partnerships and Joint Commissioning should establish a protocol to ensure joint commitment and responsibility between organisations on the Joint Strategic Commissioning Partnership to the provision of greater notice of impending reviews. This should be at directorial level, regardless of the financial impact.
 - (3) The Council's Corporate Director (Community Services) and the NHS Berkshire West's Director of Partnerships and Joint Commissioning should provide a personal commitment for the resolution of issues through channels more informal than established partnerships, where appropriate.
- 1.3 The recommendations were accepted at the Executive meeting on 22 July 2010 and the full Executive report is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.4 A response has also been received from NHS Berkshire West and this is provided at Appendix B.

Appendices

Appendix A – Scrutiny Review of Health Partnership Working – 22 July 2010 Executive report

Appendix B – Response of NHS Berkshire West