

Title of Report:	Terms of Reference for the Health Scrutiny Panel
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	18 May 2011

Purpose of Report: To discuss and approve the Terms of Reference for the Health Scrutiny Panel

Recommended Action: That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission approves the Terms of Reference for the Health Scrutiny Panel

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman	
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Supporting Information

1. Health Scrutiny Panel

1.1 The Health Scrutiny Panel will be a Panel of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission.

2. Objectives

2.1 The Panel will have the following objectives which align broadly to the activities of the Healthier Sustainable Community Strategy theme, focussed on:

1. reducing health inequality;
2. improving the health and well-being of local people;
3. ensuring children and young people can be healthy; and
4. promoting the independence of vulnerable people.

3. Proposed Terms of Reference

3.1 Its terms of reference would be:

(i) To consider the way in which local healthcare services are commissioned and delivered; facilitate the health and well-being of the community of West Berkshire; contributes to health improvement; and reduce inequalities.

(ii) To ensure that the needs and wishes of all the population (including socially excluded groups) for health and health related services have been identified.

(iii) To ensure that all services which have an impact on the health of local people are accessible to, and can be accessed by, all parts of the local community.

(iv) To determine whether the outcomes of intervention are equally good for all groups and sections of the local population.

(v) To scrutinise any proposed significant changes to local health service provision and assess the impact of these on local people.

(vii) To seek and take account of the views of residents of West Berkshire and work with stakeholders and providers in formulating recommendations.

(viii) Monitoring, working with the local HealthWatch, the effectiveness of existing service provision, identify gaps and areas for improvement and development.

(ix) That appropriate recommendations from the Health Scrutiny Panel are referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board for consideration.