

**READING BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ADULT CARE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

TO:	COUNCIL		
DATE:	19th October 2021		
TITLE:	BERKSHIRE WEST HEALTH & WELLBEING STRATEGY		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	CLLR ENNIS/CLLR HOSKIN/CLLR TERRY	PORTFOLIO:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE/HEALTH & WELLBEING, SPORT/CHILDREN BOROUGHWIDE
SERVICES:	ALL	WARDS:	
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy (annexed as Appendix A), which needs to be approved by full Council before adoption according to the constitution of Reading Borough Council (RBC).
- 1.2 As required by statute, the Strategy sets a basis for commissioning plans across both the local authority and the local clinical commissioning groups (CCGs). It is a joint strategy across Berkshire West local authorities and its development to date has properly been driven by the Health and Wellbeing Boards in each authority. The report proposes that Council delegates responsibility to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval of implementation plans and future monitoring arrangements.
- 1.3 **Appendices**
Appendix A - Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030
Appendix B - Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030: Public Engagement Report
Appendix C - Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030: Equality Impact Assessment

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That having considered the feedback from the formal consultation on the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy (annexed as Appendix B), the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy be approved (annexed as Appendix A).
- 2.2 To note the development of the Reading Health and Wellbeing Implementation Plans and that the Health and Wellbeing Board be authorised to approve the Health and Wellbeing Implementation Plans on behalf of the Council.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 Every Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to prepare and publish a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This sets out a consensus approach to inform and influence local decisions about supporting people to be well, promoting a whole system integrated approach. Local health and care systems together with the Local Healthwatch service provider have statutory representation on the Health and Wellbeing Board, so that the Health and Wellbeing Strategy combines these areas of commissioning and delivery as a minimum. In most localities, however, the Health and Wellbeing Board membership is expanded to facilitate action to address the broader determinants of health and address health inequalities. In Reading, additional members are Thames Valley Police, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service and Reading Voluntary Action.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In April 2019, Health and Wellbeing Board chairs from West Berkshire, Reading and Wokingham agreed to the development of a shared Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy across the three boroughs. This was supported by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Integrated Care System (ICS) leadership. The rationale for this approach was twofold - a desire to recognise the cross borough reality for many Berkshire West residents, who often live, work and use services across different parts of Berkshire West; and the aspiration to have an effective influence over planning which takes place on a Berkshire West footprint already.
- 4.2 The strategy was planned to be developed in close collaboration and consultation with residents and local partners, including but going beyond the Health and Wellbeing Board membership in each area, and particularly to engage with the diverse range of voluntary sector and community groups operating across Berkshire West.
- 4.3 A consultation was carried out between December 2020 to February 2021 on the 11 priorities identified during the shortlisting process in 2019. Respondents identified the following 5 priorities as being the most important. Those 5 priorities - listed below not in any particular ranking order - are the foundation of the 2021-2030 draft strategy:
- Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people
 - Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives
 - Help children and families in early years
 - Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people
 - Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults
- 4.4 A draft strategy was subsequently put to consultation for a period of 6 weeks between 24th June to 4th August 2021 in West Berkshire and Reading (with Wokingham opting out of the consultation on the draft strategy). See Public Engagement Report as annexed to Appendix B.

5 PROPOSAL

- 5.1 The aim is to develop a final strategy which promotes a whole system approach to health and wellbeing by focusing partners on approximately 5 priority areas. There was a broad consensus across the three localities as to the highest ranked five areas as above.

A thorough analysis was done to ensure that group responses in the survey returns were properly weighted and also to ensure that the views of those groups identified as seldom heard were properly recognised in the final priority selection.

The strategy has now been finalised and is being presented for approval.

- 5.2 The Berkshire strategy is being used to drive the content of the implementation plans that will represent the delivery tools of the strategy. In Reading, a number of delivery boards have been identified to shape the implementation plans and report on outcomes:

Priority	Delivery board
Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people	Reading Integration Board
Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives	Reading Integration Board
Help children and families in early years	One Reading Partnership - Under 5s workstream
Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people	Brighter Futures for Children
Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults	Adult Mental Wellbeing Steering Group

These implementation plans are currently in development and we ask that the Health and Wellbeing Board approve these plans on behalf of the Council.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2030 acknowledges the importance of climate risks but is not specifically designed to address climate risks at this point in time. The strategy has the potential for the implementing plans wherever relevant to include details actions to address those risks and the health implications of climate risks.

7 COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- 7.1 The Engagement Task and Finish Group supported the development of the Berkshire West Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The group was instrumental in making links to all our communities and in particular those who are harder to reach. The group includes representatives from the three Berkshire West local authorities, the CCG, Local Heathwatch providers and a range of community groups.
- 7.2 The draft strategy was put to consultation over a period of 6 weeks in Reading and West Berkshire and the Engagement Task and Finish Group helped disseminate and reach all communities in these areas to give their views.
- 7.3 A total of 162 responses were received - with 67% responding from West Berkshire and 26% from Reading.
- 7.4 Stakeholder engagement to build the Implementation Plans related to the 5 priorities is continuing. The Implementation Plans will need to be flexible and able to incorporate and reflect any changes as the needs of the population evolve over the life of the strategy.

9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The consultation provided an opportunity to develop an understanding of how the Strategy might impact differently on protected groups. As a vehicle for addressing health inequalities, it is expected that any such differential impact would be positive, and accordingly will support the discharge of Health and Wellbeing Board members' Equality Act duties. See Equality Impact Assessment as annexed to Appendix C.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The production of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS) is a joint statutory duty for local authorities and CCGs, discharged through the Health and Wellbeing Board. Once it is published, the organisations have a duty to have regard to the strategy in their own planning and service delivery.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Consultation feedback has informed the development of the Health and Wellbeing Implementation Plans. This will be delivered within existing resources, realigned where necessary. It is imperative that the Strategy drives the efficient use of resources and to deliver clear health benefits on investment so as to protect a sustainable local health and care system.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Reading Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020