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**Meeting:** Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 22 November 2010

**Subject:** Healthier Communities Strategy 2010-2031

**Report of:** Councillor Carole Hegley, Portfolio Holder for Social Care and Health

**Summary:** The Healthier Communities Strategy (HCS) outlines the key priorities we will take to improve health and wellbeing throughout Central Bedfordshire and to support and enable the priorities of the Sustainable Communities Strategy to be achieved.

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**Advising Officer(s):** Julie Ogley, Director of Social Care, Health and Housing

Celia Shohet, Assistant Director of Public Health- NHS Bedfordshire

**Contact Officer(s)** Craig Lister, Public Health Manager - NHS Bedfordshire

Patricia Coker Head of Partnerships Central Bedfordshire Council

**Public/Exempt:** Public

**Wards Affected:** All

**Function of:** Joint Function of the Council and the PCT

<b>CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS</b>
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<b>Council Priorities:</b>
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The Healthier Communities Strategy outlines the key priorities we will take to improve health and wellbeing throughout Central Bedfordshire thus enabling the two key themes from the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS):
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• creating the conditions for economic success and community prosperity</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• raising standards and tackling inequality.</li></ul>                            |

As well as the following Central Bedfordshire Together priorities;
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting and caring for an ageing population and those who are most vulnerable</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promoting health and reducing inequalities</li></ul>                                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keeping our communities safe</li></ul>   |

•	Maximising employment opportunities and delivering housing growth to meet the needs of our communities
•	Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people
•	Ensuring our local people have skills to prosper
•	Nurturing a sense of pride and belonging
•	Getting around and caring for a green and clean environment
<b>Financial:</b>	
The Strategy makes no financial recommendations. The recommendations and priorities set out in the Strategy would be used to guide future service delivery.	
<b>Legal:</b>	
None	
<b>Risk Management:</b>	
The Strategy is evidence based and reflects priorities for the population. Evidence based service planning should promote cost effectiveness and reduce reputational risk.	
<b>Staffing (including Trades Unions):</b>	
None	
<b>Equalities/Human Rights:</b>	
An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached to the report.	
<b>Community Safety:</b>	
No Implications for Community Safety at this stage.	
<b>Sustainability:</b>	
The Healthier Communities Strategy is aligned with the priorities of the SCS	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**1. that the Social Care, Health and Housing**

consider and comment on the Healthier Communities Strategy as the key strategic driver to improve the health and wellbeing of all residents of Central Bedfordshire and at the same time reducing inequalities.

## **Introduction**

1. The Healthier Communities Strategy 2010-2031 sets out the key priorities need to deliver improvements to the health and wellbeing of Central Bedfordshire residents. It is one of the strategies that underpins the Sustainable Communities Strategy
2. A core component in the development of the Healthier Communities Strategy was the link between the health of a given community and the potential for economic development of that community.
3. The key priorities of the Healthier Communities Strategy are to:
  - Ensure a healthy start to life
  - Reduce health inequalities and increase healthy life expectancy
  - Support people to have healthier lifestyles
  - Promote choice and access to high quality services based on needs and preference
  - Support and care for an ageing population and those who are most vulnerable
4. By enabling and supporting a range of programmes and developing strong partnership working we will provide an environment within Central Bedfordshire where there is potential and opportunity for everyone to benefit.
5. The Strategy sets out how we plan to meet the challenges in the short, medium and long term. The strategy was co-produced through the Health Improvement Delivery Partnership and circulated widely for consultation.

## **Background**

6. Health of the Central Bedfordshire population is generally equal to or better than the England average. Notwithstanding this, there are pockets of significantly lower levels of health which are typically aligned to areas with lower socio-economic status.
7. The Healthier Communities Strategy has been developed with the oversight of the Healthy Communities and Older People (HCOP) Board. It identifies the processes and services required to deliver improved health and wellbeing to the Central Bedfordshire population. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment has underpinned the development of this strategy.
8. Delivery of the Healthier Communities Strategy will be overseen by the Health Improvement Delivery Partnership. It is underpinned by an outcome delivery plan which sets out milestones and progress to evidence improvements in health and well-being.

## **Development and Consultation**

9. The Strategy has been developed by a Delivery Partnership which had representation from NHS Bedfordshire, Central Bedfordshire Council and a range of partner organisations including the voluntary sector.
10. A draft version of the strategy was agreed by the Central Bedfordshire Corporate Management Team (CMT) in May 2010
11. The Healthier Communities Strategy was submitted to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) in June 2010.
12. It was subsequently presented to the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) forum, where a few minor amendments were requested, but was generally very positive about the inclusiveness of the strategy.
13. The Healthier Communities Strategy has been out to consultation from 1<sup>st</sup> August to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010. The strategy together with a briefing letter and returns template was hosted on the CB website and actively promoted through via HCOP, EIA, Central Bedfordshire and NHS Bedfordshire.

## **Conclusion / Next Steps**

14. Comments from the consultation process have been collated and where relevant have informed amendments to the strategy.
15. Comments from the OSC will further inform the Healthier Communities Strategy.
16. The Health Improvement Outcomes Delivery Plan is currently undergoing final development in association with partner organisations and feedback from the consultation process.
17. The final version of the Healthier Communities Strategy will be submitted for final approval to HCOP.
18. Progress against outcomes will be monitored and submitted at agreed intervals to the Performance and Leadership group which reports to HCOP.

## **Appendices:**

Appendix A – Healthier Communities Strategy consultation draft  
Appendix B – Equality Impact Assessment submission

**Background Papers:** (open to public inspection)  
None

**Location of papers:** Priory House, Chicksands