



**June 2025**

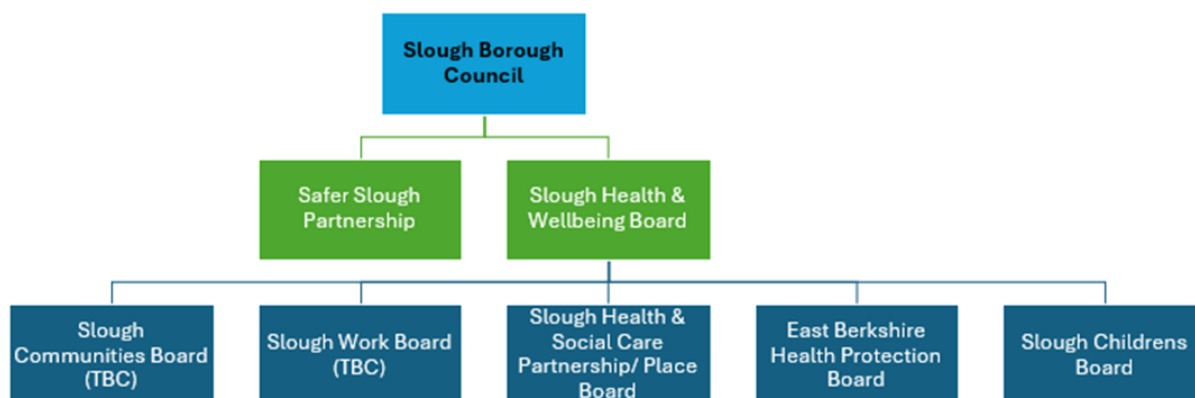
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## Slough Place Partnership

**Martha Earley, NHS Frimley, Associate Director of Places and Communities**

The Slough Health and Social Care Partnership Board has a dual function. It supports the Health & Wellbeing Board and functions as a Place Board within NHS Frimley Integrated Care Board and the Integrated Care System (ICS).



The Health and Social Care Partnership Board supports the development of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and partners work together to progress integration initiatives and implement the annual Place Plan. It also provides leadership and direction to the NHS, voluntary sector and local authority partners to support the development of integrated models of commissioning, delivery and shared governance. At the last meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> April, partners came together in Upton Park Hospital to discuss the needs of the local population, themes and insights to support the development of the 10-year Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Members of the Co-Production network also attended the meeting, enabling the group to hear the views of local people.

## Health Protection Partnership

**Sarah Rayfield, Slough Borough Council, Consultant in Public Health**

The East Berkshire Health Protection Board provides oversight and assurance to the three Health and Wellbeing Boards across Berkshire East, regarding the adequacy of prevention, surveillance, planning and response to health protection issues. The Board meets quarterly with updates from UKHSA and Frimley ICB. Key issues for the Board include:

- The Future of the Health Protection System workplan – work undertaken by UKHSA to understand Health Protection system roles and responsibilities as well as What Good Looks Like for high quality Health protection systems. There are plans to undertake a local self-assessment to understand our current position.
- Workshops are being held across the wider system to identify what is needed to support the delegation of immunisations to ICBs.
- NHSE is working in an advisory capacity to support the NHSE's implementation of the NHS vaccination strategy, along with the Frimley ICB vaccination strategy.

- The HIOW/TV Local Resilience Forum Pandemic framework is currently under review before the national exercise in September. A pre-exercise took place in May 2025.

## East Berkshire Combatting Drugs Partnership

**Jason Kew, Berkshire East Combatting Drugs Partnership Lead**

Highlights from the Combatting Drugs Partnership include:

- **State of the drug market** is increasingly volatile, with heroin and nitazenes being frequently confirmed in our supply. Urine testing at local providers (for opiate substitute dispensing) is frequently confirming the presence of fentanyl's within supply - indicating illicit counterfeit Oxycodone prevalence amongst street benzo's.
- **Mitigations** - to mitigate against the above risk, Berkshire CDP LDIS has a robust response plan for potent synthetic opioids, which comprehensively attains all but most of the Gov't's preparedness plan recommendations - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-preparedness-for-synthetic-opioids-in-england>
- **Funding resources** – a request to collectively source £10k to seed fund a early warning surveillance system is being made to the OPCC and Drug and Alcohol commissioners. This data set will draw in information from SCAS, Police and Coroners and provide consistency with all Berkshire providers to review and record drug related deaths and near misses.
- **Family Drug and Alcohol Court** - unfortunately Berkshire are no longer in a position to progress this important project. The Centre for Justice Innovation are scoping whether it can approach philanthropic high net worth individuals to seed fund a FDAC.
- **CDP Coordinator** - working with the Thames Valley OPCC to enable investment onto treatment from the retail and business industry. This work dovetails into TVP's 'Making town centres safer' priority and the need to increase drug treatment options to improve both health and crime reduction outcomes.

## Healthwatch

**Claire Shropshall, Healthwatch East Berkshire Manager**

Healthwatch Slough remains fully staffed with support from the new Healthwatch East Berkshire Manager Claire Shropshall (in post from 1st May to replace Jo Dixon). The team have recently completed a Women's Health Project – hearing from 580 women across Slough, Bracknell Forest and Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead to explore their views about local NHS services for women's health (excluding maternity care). The full report will be shared in due course. Our 'What Matters Most' survey has also now closed which will be used to determine our priorities for the coming year, recent engagements in Slough have included attending the Modest Sisters and Slough Story Time Groups as well as a children's group at the Mosque and an ESOL class. We also participated in an autism celebration event and a refugee workshop.

## NHS Frimley ICB – Primary Care Update

**David Mphanza, Head of Primary Care – East Berkshire**

The ICB is currently engaging PCNs in the annual event where they get to share their successes from the year 24/25 and their intentions for the year 25/26 and how they are working towards the objectives outlined within this, [Network Contract DES Contract specification 2025/26 – PCN requirements](#).

A key focus for the PCNs is Neighbourhood Health, specifically the frailty pathway and anticipatory care.

## Slough CVS

Asma Aziz, CEO for Slough CVS

- **Leadership & Governance:** In the process of onboarding new trustees with expertise in finance, communications, and strategic planning; prioritising stronger collaboration between trustees and staff.
- **Funding Success:**
  - £334,501 over 3 years from the National Lottery to enhance volunteering, funding support, and training.
  - £47,450 from NHS Frimley to continue work on immunisation and tackling health inequalities.
- **Community Hub Development:** Reconfigured 27 Church Street into a wellbeing hub with new tenants, upgraded facilities, and plans for free space for community partners.
- **Strategic Investment: Managing** £170,000 in #OneSlough grants from SBC to fund community projects in the area of health inequalities, community cohesion, and support for children and carers.
- **Cross-Sector Collaboration:** Co-hosted a successful Slough Networking Forum with Slough Public Health with 130+ attendees, driving the co-production of Slough's 10-year Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- **Upcoming AGM:** Planning an in-person AGM in September 2025—the first since the pandemic—celebrating SCVS's impact and welcoming new trustees and partners.

## Vaping Bill

Russell Denney-Clarke, Slough Borough Council, Trading Standards and Licensing Manager

The ban on the sale of single use vapes comes in to force in England on 1st June 2025. Trading Standards is the lead team for this piece of work in the Borough. In January 2025 when the law was announced, we did a mailshot (attached) to inform businesses of the ban and to start run down their stocks of single use vapes. In March and April around 200 businesses were visited by officers to give a verbal advice, take photos of stock and give information on underage sales. Currently in the run up to the ban, a further round of follow up visits are being conducted to further understand the state of the market.

A vape is single use if it is not rechargeable or not refillable.

Officers have the power to seize and issue a monetary penalty of up to £200.

### Single use vapes ban

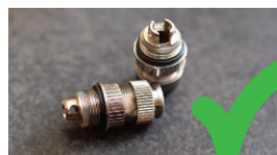
From 1 June 2025 the sale of single use/disposable vapes will be banned. Applies to retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and importers.

#### Is it single use?

- Not made to be re-used or re-filled.
- Cannot charge the battery.
- Cannot replace the heat coil.

#### Able to refill?

- Can e-liquid be bought separately for it?
- Can it be filled again, after it runs out?
- Can it be filled from the outside?



#### In summary

Anything that cannot be replaced, when it runs out, means that it would be a banned disposable/single use vape.

- No battery recharge - **BANNED**
- No e-liquid replacement - **BANNED**
- No heat coil replacement - **BANNED**

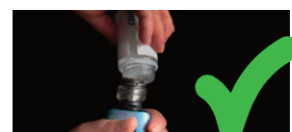


#### Is it allowed after 1 June 2025?

- Can the battery be charged?
- Can the e-liquid be filled from outside?
- Can the heat coil be changed?

#### If you can...

- Charge it but not refill it **OR**
- Refill it, but not charge it,
- Then it is single use and it will be banned.



Stop buying these products now and run down stocks OR ask suppliers for sale or return on stock before 1 June 2025. Any items found after 1 June 2025 will be seized and legal action may follow.

## Swap to Stop

**Janet Ige, Slough Borough Council, Public Health Lead – Adults & Kerry-Ann Bryant, Slough Borough Council, Public Health Officer – Tobacco Control**

Slough Borough Council has recently submitted an expression of interest for the Department of Health and Social Care funded Swap to Stop Scheme. The scheme aims to support adult smokers to quit by providing free vape starter kits alongside behavioural support.

If successful, this will be the SBC and Partners' second time participating in the scheme. Through this proposal we aim to continue to increase capacity and access to our local stop smoking service by enhancing our referral pathways for priority groups, including those with Mental Health conditions.

Our commissioned Integrated Health and Wellbeing Service, Healthier Slough, will collaborate with the Community Mental Health Team and Turning Point to provide vape starter kits, vouchers, and brief advice, with referrals made to Healthier Slough for ongoing support. Through this scheme we hope to continue reducing the smoking rate and health inequalities in Slough.

## Integrated Placement Support Service

**Vanita Dutta, Slough Borough Council, Public Health Principal**

The Individual Placement and Support for Substance Use (IPS SU) programme in Berkshire provides personalised employment support for people receiving structured community treatment for drug and alcohol dependency. Aimed at those who are unemployed or at risk of losing their job, the programme helps individuals find and sustain meaningful paid work aligned with their goals. Delivered by Change Grow Live (CGL) across six Berkshire local authorities—with Slough as the lead commissioner—IPS SU employs specialist staff to offer tailored, one-to-one support, from job searching to workplace integration. The model is rooted in evidence showing that employment plays a key role in supporting recovery and well-being. The programme celebrated its first successful employment placement in May 2025.

## Warm Homes Grant

**Alisha Withem, Slough Borough Council, Public Health Officer – Wider Determinants**

The Warm Homes: Local Grant (WH:LG) is a UK government-funded scheme that is to be delivered by Local Authorities (LAs) to help low-income homeowners and private tenants in England to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. It provides energy performance upgrades and low carbon heating to households that meet the following criteria:

1. They are owner-occupiers or private renters.
2. They have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) between D and G.
3. The household has an annual gross income below £36,000; OR receives specified means tested benefits; OR is in an area of deprivation (Index of Multiple Deprivation income deciles 1-2).

SBC have been awarded £1.5m of funding to deliver the scheme with the potential for further funding to be allocated by DESNZ. The Housing, Environment and Regeneration and Public Health and Public Protection directorates are partnering to implement and deliver the WH:LG. This scheme will improve the housing and environment where people reside in

Slough which impacts individuals health and wellbeing building on Priority Three: Strong, Healthy and Attractive Neighbourhoods of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## Clear Hold Build

### **Becs Curley, Slough Borough Council, Partnership Lead for Serious Violence, Risk and Exploitation**

Clear Hold Build started in April 2024 as a collaborative approach between Thames Valley Police and Slough Borough Council to address serious organised crime in Langley. The first year – Clear phase - of this multi-agency approach to tackling crime, community safety, anti-social behaviour and building trust has now been completed. The project was officially launched as Safer Langley in November '24 and includes the work of dozens of partners from the statutory, voluntary, community, business and education sectors. Since launching, the initiative has resulted in 67 stop searches and 41 arrests through officers carrying out high-impact patrols.

In April '25, the initiative was declared the winner of the 2025 Thames Valley Police Laycock Award which recognises best examples of problem solving within the police.

It has also resulted in community projects aimed at young people, action days for volunteering, training for practitioners and a rise in the reporting and sharing of intelligence.

Residents have taken the lead with forming a new Langley Neighbourhood Action Group which meets every six weeks to discuss issues around ASB, violence against women and girls, graffiti and environmental crime, retail crime and car crime.

The project is now entering the second year and formally moving over to the Hold phase.

### **Office for Health, Improvement & Disparities – South East Public Health Conference**

Janet Ige, Slough Borough Council, Public Health Lead – Adults & Levine Whitham, Slough Borough Council, Food & Safety Manager

SBC PH & PP colleagues were extremely successful in being one of only two local authorities in the South East to be selected to deliver two oral presentations at the Southeast Public Health Conference, 2025 themed “Building Future-Ready Public Health Systems”.

The first presentation showcased the redesign of the Integrated Health and Wellbeing Service (IHWS), highlighting the progress made locally in shifting from reactive to preventive care through a co-produced, evidence-based model that integrates community services and tackles health inequalities. This redesign was informed by extensive community engagement, including surveys, focus groups, and collaboration with clinical and voluntary sector partners. It underscores Slough's commitment to delivering an accessible, equitable, and future-ready public health service that meets the evolving needs of its residents.

The second presentation highlighted the effort of a cross-departmental approach to tackle the rise in shisha use in Slough, alongside poor compliance with tobacco laws and health regulations, prompted a multi-agency effort to address public health risks. Public Health, Trading Standards, and other departments collaborated to educate businesses, conduct inspections, and support improvements across 11 premises. Within a year, all businesses reached full compliance, showcasing the success of a coordinated, long-term approach to regulating lifestyle-related health issues.

