Health and Wellbeing Board questions on the Thames Valley Cancer Alliance:

1. In response to whether the TVCA included Macmillan and the hospice movement; Ms Ricketts agreed to find out if they were part of the Alliance. Mr Williams added that the hospices were linked in closely to the work carried out locally.

Third sector and voluntary groups as well as patient representatives are involved and engaged throughout the Thames Valley Clinical Network Cancer Alliance programme. These include MacMillan, Cancer research, Prostate Cancer UK and the hospice movement, Heads Together etc. This includes local groups in Bucks as well as cancer specific groups across the Alliance. The TVCA Board is made up of statutory organisations as it was agreed with the groups that this is the accountable body for delivery of the cancer standards.

Here is the TVCA website for further information on the work of the Alliance in improving cancer care:-

http://tvscn.nhs.uk/networks/cancer/

2. A Board member asked whether there were any differences between children and adult cancer pathways. The Chairman asked for a short report for the next Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.

All child suspected cancer referrals are directed to the Oxford Cancer Centre, and the patients are usually seen on the day, and treatments commence very swiftly (national 31 day target).

Children are treated on a shared care arrangement between Oxford & Bucks and they can have supportive care & some chemotherapy regimes locally. The children are managed jointly by the Bucks POSCU (Paediatric Oncology Shared Care Unit) and Oxford teams.

The Paediatric team have fortnightly cancer multidisciplinary meetings, for which Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust receive a copy of the agenda, for information only.