Public Health is Everyone's Business in the Thames Valley

The HEETV Partnership Council explored ways to work together to prevent ill health, improve wellbeing and prolong life at a conference in Oxford, 'Public Health - Everyone's Business?' in June.

The event was attended by representatives from a wide range of local partners including NHS organisations, Social Care, Local Government and Higher Education Institutions.

Postgraduate Dean Dr Michael Bannon said: 'Health Education in the Thames Valley believes that public health is, and should be everyone's business, which is why we wanted to bring partners together to explore public health as a community-wide concern as part of the NHS Five Year Forward View.'

Delegates considered the importance of public health and prevention, the workforce, local examples of good practice and the Making Every Contact Count (MECC) concept to empower healthier lifestyle choices.

Douglas Findlay, Patient Leader at the Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust said: 'Public health completes the circle of health care, so it was good to join a broad cross section of partners to learn more and share ideas.'

Delegates have made pledges which include actions to strengthen partnership work and focus on staff wellbeing.