1. **SUMMARY**

1.1 This report updates Members on the work of the Public Health Funding Scrutiny Panel, established to review the Public Health Funding allocation, to identify whether the Public Health service could be delivered within budget and meet the needs of our residents and to support the Council in any request to the Department of Health to review the allocation.

2. **BACKGROUND**

2.1 In April 2012, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee commissioned a time limited Scrutiny Panel to:

- Identify how was Waltham Forest’s allocation predicated;

- Identify whether statutory Public Health functions could be delivered within the estimated budget and whether the Council could meet the needs identified within the Joint Strategic needs assessment (JSNA) and deliver public health initiatives

- Support the Council in requesting the Department of Health review the allocation

2.2 The Panel met on four occasions, including meetings with lead officers within the Council and key partners.

2.3 The Panel Members agreed to present an interim report with a view to resuming the panel when further information and decisions have been provided by the Department of Health, now expected October 2012.

2.4 In order that the panel work and findings could support the Council’s request to the Department of Health for a review of funding the report has been shared with appropriate Portfolio Holders and lead officers reviewing Public Health Funding.
3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee are recommended to note the contents of the report, to agree that consideration be given to resuming the panel once further information is received from the Department of Health and to agree that at this stage referral to Cabinet be withheld.

4. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Public Health Funding Panel Report