Waterloo Wellington **LHIN**

BRIEFING *Note*

Meeting Date: May 29, 2014

Action: Information

Topic: Item 11.0 - A Community Hub – *Connectivity* In Cambridge

Purpose:

To provide the WWLHIN Board of Directors with an overview of the Community Hub Project, called Connectivity, being led by Langs Community Health Centre (Langs) and the Waterloo Regional Police Services (WRPS).

Background Information:

In January 2013, the WRPS, the region's Crime Prevention Council and the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) jointly hosted a one-day workshop on the Community Mobilization Initiative currently underway in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan – known as "the hub" model. This approach uses a two-tiered, integrated multi-agency team to build safer (and healthier) communities, reduce crime and improve the mobilization of resources to address the needs of families and individuals who are considered "at elevated risk".

Funding was provided by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services to establish a hub model in Cambridge and North Dumfries, which is being called *Connectivity*. The goal of the project is to mobilize health and social services in partnership with the WRPS in order to address risk factors, develop protective factors and reduce the incident of crime. *Connectivity* builds on and enhances collaborative relationships in Cambridge by developing and implementing early intervention strategies that help improve coordination of services to increase the safety and health of the residents. The *Connectivity* table is designed to deal with individuals and families at "an elevated risk". Through this program, individuals and families are identified and supported through a multi-disciplinary intervention within 24 to 48 hours after identification.

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Connectivity blends nicely with Health Links because the individuals served through these programs are often the same people. For example, individuals identified at the *Connectivity* table may need longer-term interventions in addition to the immediate help they receive. They could then be referred to the Health Links table. Health Links could be the opportunity to bring together those same providers as well as perhaps others involved in their care to develop a longer term care plan to help keep them stable and to live successfully in the community. And with everyone working together towards the same goals and understanding of the needs of the individual, better health and better futures will be achieved.