

Public Document Pack



Executive Board

Thursday, 13 June 2019 2.00 p.m.
The Boardroom, Municipal Building

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

PART 1

Item	Page No
1. MINUTES	1 - 2
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.	
3. CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO	
(A) SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUP – CARE HOMES – FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY	3 - 22
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*Please contact Angela Scott on 0151 511 8670 or
Angela.scott@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Committee is on Thursday, 18 July 2019*

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7. SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
PART II	
<p>In this case the Board has a discretion to exclude the press and public and, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is RECOMMENDED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.</p>	
8. CHILDREN, EDUCATION & SOCIAL CARE PORTFOLIO	
(A) HALTON CARE HOMES - TO CONSIDER OPTIONS TO MAINTAIN SERVICE DELIVERY FOR OLDER PEOPLE IN HALTON	90 - 92

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation

Item

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procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Tuesday, 14 May 2019 in Box 9 - Halton Stadium, Widnes

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chair), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, S. Hill, Jones, T. McInerney, Nelson, Wharton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Scott, G. Cook, D. Parr, I. Leivesley, M. Vasic, M. Reaney and E. Dawson

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB126 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2019 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

Action

EXB127 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to appoint Councillor Mike Wharton as the Deputy Leader of the Council for 2019/20 Municipal Year.

Chief Executive

EXB128 APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, APPEALS PANEL AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR AND THE APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEEES TO VARIOUS BOARDS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, regarding appointments to the Council's Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Scrutiny Co-ordinator and the re-appointment of a non-voting Co-optee to the Health Policy and Performance Board and the re-appointment of a non-voting Parish Council Co-optee to the Standards Committee. A list of Committee memberships was tabled at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to make

the following appointments:-

- 1) To the Council's Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Scrutiny Co-ordinator post for the 2019/20 Municipal Year;
- 2) Mr David Wilson be re-appointed as the Healthwatch Halton non-voting Co-optee on the Health Policy and Performance Board for the 2019/20 Municipal Year; and
- 3) Reverend David Felix be re-appointed as a non-voting Parish Council Co-optee on the Standards Committee for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

Meeting ended at 2.05 p.m.

REPORT TO:	Executive Board
DATE:	13 June 2019
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, People
PORTFOLIO:	Children, Education and Social Care
SUBJECT:	Scrutiny Topic Group – Care Homes – Future Sustainability
WARD(S)	Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the final scrutiny topic group report on Care Homes – Future Sustainability for approval.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the report be approved.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 This report (attached at Appendix) was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board. A scrutiny review working group was established with seven Councillors fully involved, chaired by Councillor Lowe and supported by Helen Moir, Divisional Manager for Independent Living Services and Emma Sutton-Thompson, Practice Manager for Policy, Performance and Customer Care. The scrutiny topic group began in June 2018 and ran until December 2018 with regular monthly meetings.

- 3.2 Methodology for the scrutiny group involved:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff (detail of the presentations can be found in *Annex 2* of the main report);
- Presentations from external sources;
- Provision of information; and
- Family/carers consultation.

- 3.3 The Scrutiny Topic Group identified seven recommendations as part of the review which is detailed throughout the main report, as well as at the end of the report in a table for ease of reference.

- 3.4 The Scrutiny Topic Report was presented to the Health Policy and Performance Board on 26th February 2019 and was approved to go forward to the Executive Board.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Existing policies are endorsed by the report.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 It was clear from this scrutiny review that in order to fully sustain the care home sector in the future, as well as implementing changes through the Care Home Development Project, further central Government funding is required. The anticipated Green Paper for Older People may include details including future funding, but this is not certain.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The Halton Care Home Model vision is of outstanding care for all individuals who live in our care homes. To enable us to achieve this vision we will need to:

- Provide excellent care every time to reinforce wellbeing and independence.
- Work with all partners to personalise services for the individual.
- We will have strong leadership across the system to ensure a quality driven and sustainable sector, grounded in our community and led by excellent staff.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The role of scrutiny within Adult Social Care is a key function to ensure transparency, accountability and consistency within all areas and making sure the residents of Halton have the best outcomes possible.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None identified.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None.



Scrutiny Review of Care Homes – Future Sustainability

DRAFT

Report
December 2018

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1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report, as outlined in the initial topic brief (at *Annex 1*) is to:

- Sustainability – gain an understanding of the Care Home sector in Halton, including how many homes, types of beds available, capacity, etc., for a clear picture of the sector;
- Consider the current pressures in Halton’s Care Home sector and focus on plans currently being considered in relation to future sustainability.
- Funding – consider the current fee rate model, and potential options being considered for future funding and commissioning models, including the impact of “top ups”;
- Consider Halton’s position in relation to quality in comparison to our close neighbours to understand the potential impact on our local market.
- Consider any additional/alternative approaches to address the future sustainability of the market.

2.0 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This report is structured with an introduction, a brief summary of the methodology followed by evidence, analysis with findings/conclusions and recommendations. The annexes include the topic brief, methodology detail and an action plan to capture the recommendations from the scrutiny review.

3.0 INTRODUCTION

3.1 Reason the scrutiny review was commissioned

In Halton there are 14 providers of care homes for older people, equating to a total of 654 beds, which includes 70% residential and 30% nursing. The demand on those beds is fairly high, and at any one time there is a vacancy rate of approximately 5%, compared to a national average of 10-15%.

Recently a number of concerns have been highlighted in relation to the future sustainability of this sector. The quality and financial challenge on the sector as a whole has resulted in some recent care home closures and the Local Authority has been able to support this by purchasing two care homes.

A new approach is being implemented to deliver on our vision to improve standards and sustainability in delivering outstanding care in Halton.

3.2 Policy and Performance Boards

This report was commissioned as a scrutiny working group for the Health Policy and Performance Board.

3.3 Membership of the Scrutiny Working Group

Membership of the Scrutiny Working Group included:

Members	Officers
Cllr Joan Lowe (Chair) Cllr Sandra Baker (Vice-Chair) Cllr Margaret Horabin Cllr June Roberts Cllr Chris Loftus Cllr Mark Dennett Cllr Pauline Sinnott	Helen Moir – Divisional Manager for Independent Living Services Emma Sutton-Thompson – Practice Manager for Policy, Performance and Customer Care

4.0 Methodology Summary

This scrutiny review was conducted through a number of means:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff (detail of the presentations can be found in *Annex 2*);
- Presentations from external sources;
- Provision of information; and
- Family/carers consultation.

5.0 Evidence (summary of evidence gathered) and Analysis with findings/conclusions

5.1 The topic group began with the formal opening of Millbrow Care Home on 28th June 2018. Some members of the topic group were able to attend and also had the opportunity to have a guided tour of the home. Millbrow had been purchased by Halton Borough Council from the previous owners with the aim of becoming a Teaching Care Home in the future.

The first formal meeting of the group took place on 25th July 2018. During this meeting Debbie Downer, Policy Officer, gave a presentation to the group on the Care Home Development Project. The Halton Care Home Model vision is of outstanding care for all individuals who live in Halton care homes. Debbie explained that to enable Halton to achieve this vision we will need to:

- Provide excellent care every time to reinforce wellbeing and independence;
- Work with all partners to personalise services for the individual; and
- We will have strong leadership across the system to ensure a quality driven and sustainable sector, grounded in our community and led by excellent staff.

As part of the Care Home Development Project there are seven workstreams consisting of:

- Teaching Care Home;
- Enhanced Primary Care Support and Multi-Disciplinary Team;
- Better Use of Technology;
- Wellbeing;
- High Quality Care;
- Joined up commissioning and collaboration between health and social care; and
- Workforce development - Skilled Competent Workforce.

Conclusion

The presentation was very detailed and comprehensive and gave the topic group a good understanding of the care home development project, the workstreams that were already progressing and areas to look into further.

Recommendations:

- (i) Overall accreditation from HBC “score on the wall” that care homes can display in the home linked to the Teaching Care Home Project.**
- (ii) Standardised paperwork for all care homes that we contract with.**

5.2 How do we oversee the quality of Care Homes in Halton

The topic group meeting on 25th September included representatives from Complex Care team, Independent Living Services and the Quality Assurance Team.

One of the main discussions focussed on family members/friends with relatives in care homes. In terms of the quality of care within care homes, there is no formal mechanism for them to share experiences or discuss their expectations.

The group discussed people with dementia in care homes, how quality of care is monitored and how safeguarding is monitored. Examples were given to the group in terms of staff understanding the person's behaviour as soon as they move into the home, so if there is any change in behaviour staff are mindful of this and have more knowledge as to whether something is not right and requires further investigation.

The group discussed activities for people with dementia in care homes and highlighted how important this is to increase the quality of life. Members particularly felt that music, appropriate TV/films/general media which is suitable for their age should be available if they want. Using a record player with vinyl records could bring back happy memories.

Conclusion

The focus group was extremely useful for the group to hear the views of staff members working closely with care homes in Halton and how the quality of care is monitored. This gave the group a good understanding of both the formal mechanisms for monitoring the quality of care through the Quality Assurance team as well as the informal mechanisms that staff undertake on a day-to-day basis.

When considering family members/carers, it was clear that there are no formal mechanisms in place for them to share experiences with other family members/carers and staff, and to discuss expectations.

Recommendation:

- (i) Consideration for residents with dementia on age appropriate viewing/listening on media that is available, for example music/TV/films/general media, as well as individual likes and wants.**
- (ii) *Develop an annual family member's event to give them a voice, share experiences and discuss their expectations.***

5.3 Best Practice in the North West

During the topic group meeting on 18th October, Paul Rowley, owner of Heathfield Residential Home in Grappenhall talked through his presentation. Heathfield is a small to medium residential home for ladies with 24 beds. It is family-owned; Paul and his wife have managed the home for 13 years. It is in a nice location in Grappenhall and is a Victorian building. Paul described a good day at the home into three main areas:

- Injecting positivity through the staff group – seeing the change in residents who come into the home isolated and unengaged to becoming involved and happy;
- Investing in the recruitment and retention of staff;
- Visitor's comments on how lovely the home looks and feels when you walk in.

Paul said that he focusses on having quality management systems in place, with various checks on a daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly basis in place. Paul explained that he has set up his own critical friend from a home-owner in another area. They informally visit each other's homes and give each other feedback.

Conclusion

After this meeting, the group were informed that Heathfield Residential Home did not have a CQC rating of outstanding for "Care", it was other domains. Members felt very strongly that this presentation, although good in its' own right, was not relevant to Halton due to various differences such as the types of people accessing the home in Grappenhall being more affluent and with less complex social care issues. The home owner was in a position to be able to "choose" his residents. The group concluded that this had not been the best choice of home to present to the group for Halton, and we should have looked further afield for a better comparator, with similar population/deprivation.

Recommendation:

- (i) ***Next Provider Forum meeting – ask if they would be interested in being a Critical Friend with another home within Halton. Could this be linked with CQC ratings when it gets to Amber. Part of the process of going in to support Amber rated homes.***

5.4 Local Care Quality Commission

During the November topic group meeting on 15th November, Fiona Bryan, Inspection Manager covering Cheshire East, Halton and Warrington gave two presentations to the group. The first presentation covered an update from CQC in terms of their new Chief Executive and future priorities, and how they want to work more collaboratively with the care sector. Fiona talked through CQC's priorities. With inadequate homes, they want to encourage improvement and expect providers to move forward. In terms of intelligence-driven approach, CQC have work to do within their own infrastructure. They have a new Chief Executive who wants improvements with digital information. CQC's budget will be reducing so they need to do more with less.

In relation to registration, and providers as legal entities, with some providers it is not clear/transparent. CQC want to work with providers so that information is clearer. With inspections and ratings, CQC need to be much quicker with publishing reports once inspections have been completed.

Fiona's second presentation was around Halton's Ratings Data Report for October 2018. This gave an overview of the current ratings for care homes in Halton, both residential and nursing.

Conclusion

The presentation from Fiona was really interesting for the group to hear the changes being made within CQC, and the priorities that they will be focussing on. Members were pleased to hear that CQC is aiming to work more collaboratively with care homes and support inadequate homes by meeting up with them and asking for detailed action plans.

Recommendations:

- (i) Keep abreast of National Guidance around sustainability, e.g. LGA green paper; and**
- (ii) We can do prevention in Adult Social Care and the work of the Health Improvement Team, but with an ageing population we require more funding from central government for the future sustainability of adult social care.**

5.5 Family Members' Consultation

As part of the scrutiny review the topic group consulted with approximately 20 family members from Millbrow Care Home. A meeting took place at Millbrow on 7th November 2018. The meeting discussed the future of Millbrow and plans around becoming a teaching

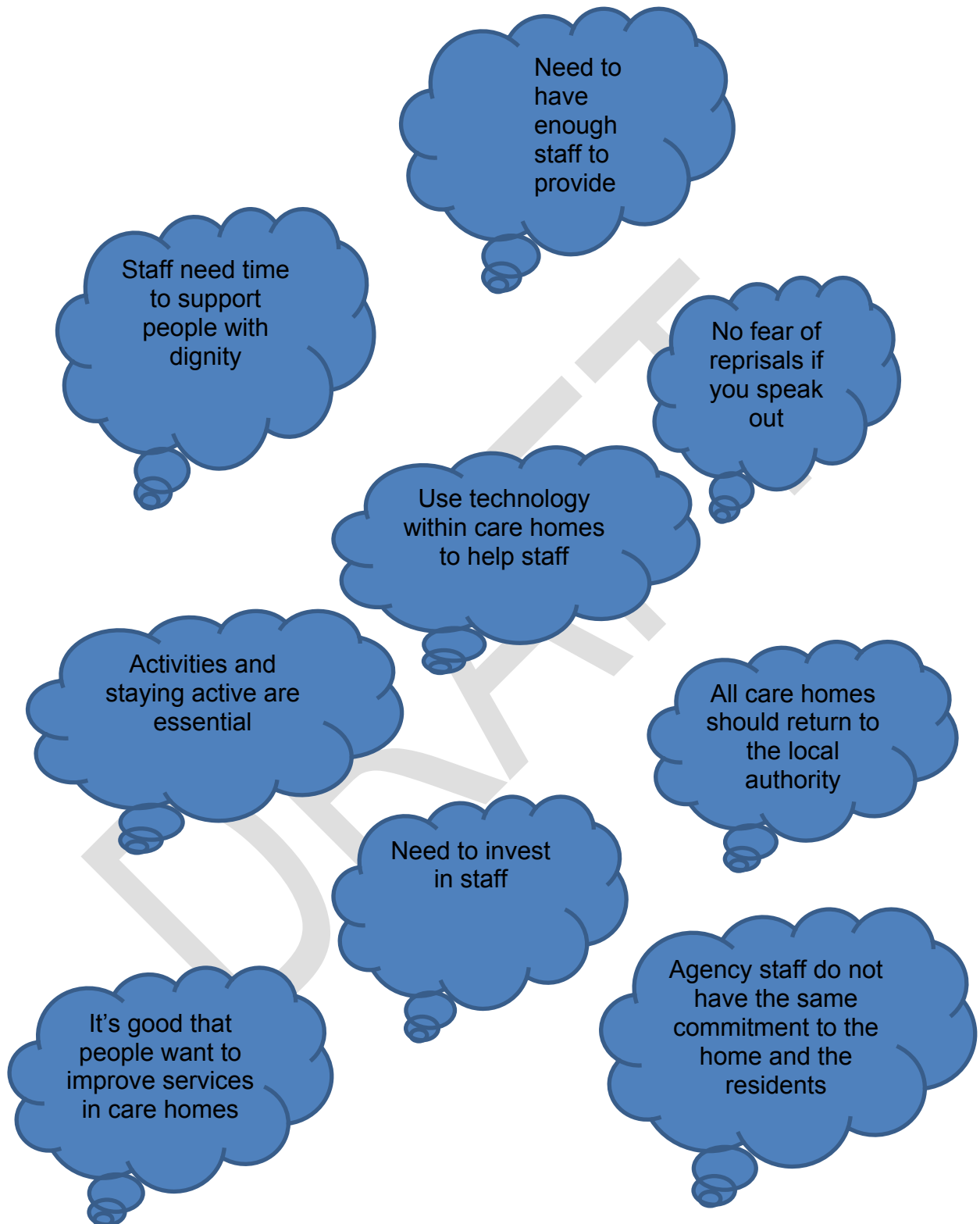
care home and what the family's views were since HBC took over the home. Their comments mainly focussed around staff – need to have enough staff to provide care. There are already six staff plus nurses, but families felt this should be more. Staff needed time to support people with dignity. There was no fear of reprisals, family members felt they could talk. They also discussed technology in care homes, including falls detectors to help staff so they can spend more time on other duties. Activities and keeping people active was highlighted as a key point. Millbrow has a great activities co-ordinator there, there is always something going on. One comment included that all care homes should return to the local authority – family members could feel the difference between when it was privately owned to when the LA owned it. Investing in staff is key. Good that the council want to improve services in care homes. Agency staff don't have the same commitment as permanent staff.

Conclusion

As discussed in 5.2 above, engaging with family members/carers and service-users is paramount to improving the quality of care in homes.

Recommendation:

- (i) *Develop an annual family member's event to give them a voice, share experiences and discuss their expectations.***



6.0 Overall Conclusion

This scrutiny review has been both a successful and a worthwhile exercise in terms of covering all the outputs and outcomes from the initial topic brief and gaining a thorough knowledge of Care Homes – Future Sustainability.

It is clear from the scrutiny review that there is already much work being covered by the Care Home Development Project in terms of the future sustainability of the care home sector and the group fully endorses the work of this project group.

The topic group recognises the current challenges that Halton are facing with the demand on the care home sector, which is also a national trend, and feel that further funding into this sector from central government is vital. The anticipation of the green paper on older people's services is paramount, although delays in its publication are expected yet again due to the Brexit negotiations.

The topic group wanted to give their thanks to the managers and staff working within the care homes in Halton that we have recently taken over the management of. The group is aware of the difficulties and challenges that staff face on a day-to-day basis, and wanted to thank them for their hard work and continued committed to raising the quality of care in Halton.

On reflection, the topic group would have preferred a visit or presentation from a CQC outstanding rated care home in a similar borough to Halton so that real comparisons could have been made.

The group have identified seven recommendations which are attached at Annex 5.

Topic Title:	Care Homes – Future Sustainability
Officer Lead:	Helen Moir, Divisional Manager, Independent Living Services
Planned start date:	June 2018
Target PPB Meeting:	March 2019

Topic Description and scope:

The Care Home sector nationally has highlighted a number of significant challenges, including capacity, quality and finances. This is replicated locally, and a number of work streams are in place to address these challenges. This topic focusses on the current approach in Halton, and will review future plans to address the local challenges.

Why this topic was chosen:

In Halton there are 15 providers of care homes, equating to a total of 674 beds, which includes 70% residential and 30% nursing. The demand on those beds is fairly high, and at any one time there is a vacancy rate of approximately 5%, compared to a national average of 10-15%.

Recently a number of concerns have been highlighted in relation to the future sustainability of this sector. The quality and financial challenge on the sector as a whole has resulted in some recent care home closures and the Local Authority has been able to support this by purchasing two care homes.

A new approach is being implemented to deliver on our vision to improve standards and sustainability in delivering outstanding care in Halton.

Key outputs and outcomes sought:

- Sustainability – gain an understanding of the Care Home sector in Halton, including how many homes, types of beds available, capacity, etc., for a clear picture of the sector;
- Consider the current pressures in Halton’s Care Home sector and focus on plans currently being considered in relation to future sustainability.
- Funding – consider the current fee rate model, and potential options being considered for future funding and commissioning models, including the impact of “top ups”;
- Consider Halton’s position in relation to quality in comparison to our close neighbours to understand the potential impact on our local market.
- Consider any additional/alternative approaches to address the future sustainability of the market.

Which of Halton’s 5 strategic priorities this topic addresses and the key objectives and improvement targets it will help to achieve:

A Healthy Halton

To improve the health and wellbeing of Halton people so they live longer, healthier and happier lives.

Nature of expected/desired PPB input:

Member led scrutiny review of the current approach to Market management of the care home sector in Halton.

Preferred mode of operation:

- Attend formal opening of Millbrow Care Home on 28th June that HBC have recently purchased;
- Focus group with internal adult social care staff – “how do we oversee the quality of care homes”;
- Meetings with/presentations from relevant officers within the Council/Health Services and partner agencies to examine current practices regarding future sustainability;
- Benchmark against Halton’s neighbouring Authorities and wider through the ADASS area to examine other commissioning models and how they compare to Halton’s approach;
- Invite representative from the Local Care Home Owners to provide their perspective on the current approach in Halton;
- Undertake some site visits to homes in Halton; and
- Invite Local Care Quality Commission (CQC) to talk through their role and views on Halton Care Homes.

Agreed and signed by:

PPB chair

Officer

Date

Date

METHODOLOGY DETAIL

Annex 2

a) Presentations

The following officers gave presentations as part of this scrutiny review:

Name of officer	Title of Presentation
Debbie Downer, Policy Officer	Care Home Development Project
Debbie O'Connor, Principal Manager Complex Care Team Runcorn Wendy Walmsley, Principal Manager Oak Meadow Benitta Kay, Quality Assurance Team Manager	Discussion forum "How do we oversee the quality of care homes in Halton"
Paul Rowley, Owner of Heathfield Residential Home, Grappenhall, Warrington	"What does an Outstanding Care Home look like?"
Jacquii Costigan, Registered Manager, Oak Meadow Lynne Moss, Practice Manager, Millbrow Care Home Wendy Walmsley, Principal Manager Oak Meadow	Discussion re: "Their perspective on the current approach in Halton"
Fiona Bryan, Inspection Manager, Care Quality Commission	CQC's role and their view of care homes in Halton.

ADASS North West Monthly CQC Data Update – October 2018



CQC%20Data.pdf

The Lives we want to Lead – Findings, implications and recommendations on the LGA green paper for adult social care and wellbeing – LGA consultation response.

DRAFT

**CARE HOMES – FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY SCRUTINY REVIEW
ACTION PLAN**

ANNEX 4

Action No.	Action	Responsible person	Timescale	Progress
1	Overall accreditation from HBC “score on the wall” that care homes can display in the home linked to the Teaching Care Home Project.	Helen Moir		
2	Standardised paperwork for all care homes that we contract with.	Care Home Development Project		
3	Consideration for residents with dementia on age appropriate viewing/listening on media that is available, for example music/TV/films/general media, as well as individual likes and wants.			
4	Develop an annual family member’s event to give them a voice, share experiences and discuss their expectations.	Helen Moir		
5	Next Provider Forum meeting – ask if they would be interested in being a Critical Friend with another home within Halton. Could this be linked with CQC ratings when it gets to Amber. Part of the process of going in to support Amber rated homes.	Benitta Kay		
6	Keep abreast of National Guidance around	Emma Sutton-		

	sustainability, e.g. LGA green paper	Thompson		
7	We can do prevention in Adult Social Care and the work of the Health Improvement Team, but with an ageing population we require more funding from central government for the future sustainability of adult social care.			

DRAFT

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Children, Education & Social Care

SUBJECT: Care Provider Contract Uplift 2019/20

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform the Board of the outcome of consultation discussions with domiciliary and care home providers, and the proposed annual uplift for domiciliary and care home providers within Halton for 2019/20.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the Board note the contents of the report;**
- 2) the Board considers the recommendations and risks; and**
- 3) Approval be given to offer the recommended uplift to care providers, for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Care Act 2014 requires local authorities to ensure that the market as a whole remains viable and sustainable. When commissioning services, local authorities must have regard to the cost effectiveness and value for money that the services offer for public funds. However they must not undertake any actions which may threaten the sustainability of the market, and must ensure that remuneration for staff must be at least sufficient to comply with national minimum wage legislation, and that there is a 'fair price' paid for care.

3.2 One of the main challenges for the care sector has been the introduction of a new mandatory National Living Wage (NLW) for workers aged 25 and above from 1st April 2016. It was set at £7.20 an hour in 2016/17, £7.50 in 2017/18, £7.83 in 2018/19 and £8.21 from the 1st of April 2019. The target of £9.00 by 2020/21 has been reduced slightly to £8.75 according to the Office For Budget Responsibility, reflecting revisions to their earnings growth forecast.

3.3 Following the previous Executive Board report in April 2019, Halton

Borough Council have now consulted with all care home, supported living and domiciliary care providers who will be working in the Borough in 2019/20 in respect of the proposed fee increases.

3.4 All Care providers received written notification of the proposed fee increases, and were requested to respond by the 10th May 2019.

3.5 Responses were received from 5 providers, on the whole feedback was positive in response to the proposals; however a couple of key issues were raised, which Executive Board need to consider:

- Supported Living providers: sleep-in rates insufficient to cover on costs to enable them to pay the £6.00 per hour.
- One supported living provider has responded that the uplift is insufficient for them to continue to provide care in the Borough.
- A number of providers raised issues with the year 2 uplift- from the responses it appears there was a lack of clarity that year 2 uplifts excludes the normal inflationary uplift.
- 1 residential care provider has responded that the recommended uplift is not sufficient for them to continue to provide care in the Borough.

3.6 Any proposed increase in fees will need to take into account the risks in the current market, and the financial implications for the Council. The Adult Social Care budget 2019/20 for care providers was set on the assumption of an inflationary increase of 3.2%. The recommended increase to care fees is above the minimum inflationary uplift.

3.7 Based on the feedback from the care providers in the Borough it is recommended that Executive Board consider:

- An amendment to the proposed Sleep-In rates from £6.00 to £8.00 per hour.

The legislation has changed in relation to sleep in rates, and it is no longer a requirement to pay an hourly rate, it is also proposed that we work with those providers who offer sleep-ins to review the current model of support.

- Proposed fee increases for all other care provision should remain as previously reported to Executive Board in April.

3.8 Recommended Fee Uplifts

Direct Payments

	Current Hourly Rate	3.2% uplift	Recommended uplift
DP Basic PA Rate	9.98	10.30	No uplift
DP Complex CHC PA Rate	11.71	12.08	No uplift
DP Agency Rate	13.46	13.89	In line with Domiciliary Care

DP Sleep rate (per sleep)	70.00	72.24	In line with supported living
Respite (per week)	417.14	430.49	In line with Residential care rates

	Current Hourly Rate	3.2% uplift	Recommended uplift
DP Basic PA Rate	9.98	10.30	No uplift
DP Complex CHC PA Rate	11.71	12.08	No uplift
DP Agency Rate	13.46	13.89	In line with Domiciliary Care
DP Sleep rate (per sleep)	70.00	72.24	In line with supported living
Respite (per week)	417.14	430.49	In line with Residential care rates

Care Providers

Care provision	Recommended uplift year 1	Recommended uplift year 2
Domiciliary care	£14.50	£15.90
Supported living	£14.50	£14.68
Sleep in rates	£8 per hour	£8 per hour
Care homes	£430-529	£440-564
Learning Disability Care and Mental Health Homes	3.2%	3.2%
Financial Impact	£531k	£1,274k

**Year 2 prices exclude the inflationary uplift, which will be considered at budget setting time within the MTF.*

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 A new National Paper on the sustainability of the funding of Adult Social Care is due to be published soon; this may have implications on future funding models.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The increase in fee rates have been calculated based on the key risk areas, rather than an overall set increase, as detailed below.

Care provision	Recommended uplift year 1	Recommended uplift year 2
Domiciliary care	£14.50	£15.90
Supported living	£14.50	£14.68
Sleep in rates	£8 per hour	£8 per hour
Care homes	£430-529	£440-564

Learning Disability Care and Mental Health Homes	3.2%	3.2%
Financial Impact	£531k	£1,274k

**Year 2 prices exclude the inflationary uplift, which will be considered at budget setting time within the MTFP.*

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None Identified.

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The Adult Social Care budget supports the delivery of services which contribute towards this priority.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None Identified

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The financial pressures within this sector are well recognised both nationally and locally.

Consultation with providers has been completed over the past couple of months. The providers do recognise the financial constraints of the Local Authority, and feedback on the proposals are fairly positive.

However, there are three remaining key areas of risk:

- Sleep-In rates, the reduction in rates are being challenged by the unions and staff; this is in relation to a reduction from paying National Living Wage hourly rate. We have increased our offer slightly to ensure staff are paid £6.00 per hour, in addition we have increased the hourly rates for all hours- with the expectation that staff receive a small increase in overall salary.
- One residential care provider has responded that an additional £100 per person per week is required to prevent closure.
- One Supported Living provider has responded that the fee increase is insufficient (this provider historically was paid more per hour than the other two providers).

7.2 In mitigation, Contingency plans are being developed in response to

these key areas of risk. Adult Social Care are also working with providers to identify alternative approaches to support them with financial pressures e.g. training, procurement and alternative approaches to the delivery of care, including technology.

- 7.3 The increase in fee rates will result in paying social care staff, slightly above the National Minimum wage, or alternative staff incentives as discussed with the providers; we will also ensure that additional quality standards are implemented to improve the care and well-being of our residents.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

- 8.1 Agencies working under contract to the Council are expected to comply with the Council's policies relating to Ethnicity and Cultural Diversity as well as promoting social inclusion of some of the most disadvantaged people in the Borough.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None.

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Director of Public Health

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: The procurement of a new Integrated Sexual Health Service for Halton and Warrington

WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 In accordance with Standing Orders, the Executive Board is asked to note the outcome of a key decision to procure an Integrated Sexual Health Service in partnership with Warrington Borough Council and to enter into a contract with the provider who has been assessed as being the most economically advantageous and effective organisation to deliver for Halton and Warrington. The contract will commence in October 2019 and will be awarded for a period of 5 years with the option of two additional one year contracts.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Executive Board notes the outcome of the recent procurement exercise and supports the previously agreed awarding of a joint contract for the provision of an Integrated Sexual Health Service for Halton and Warrington.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In April 2018 the Executive Board approved a joint commissioning arrangement with Warrington Borough Council to discharge their commissioning responsibilities in relation to sexual health set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and increase access to local services, ensure consistency of delivery and to realise efficiencies from the management of the service (EB Minutes 140/2018).

3.2 Warrington Borough Council has led on the procurement process with full participation from Halton's commissioners.

3.3 It is a mandatory requirement of the Public Health grant that Local Authorities commission sexual health services. The Integrated Sexual Health Service aims to improve sexual health by:

- Promoting good sexual health through primary prevention activities including behaviour change and those which aim to reduce the stigma associated with STIs, HIV and unwanted pregnancy;
- Providing rapid and easy access to open access STI testing, treatment and management services through a variety of mechanisms which may include online services;
- Providing rapid and easy access to open access reproductive health services including full range of contraceptive services; referral to NHS funded abortion services; support in planning pregnancy; through a variety of mechanisms which may include online services;
- Reducing late diagnosis of HIV and undiagnosed HIV and improving the sexual health of those living with HIV;
- Providing a quality service with appropriately trained staff; clinical governance and service user safety arrangements;
- Being responsive to local need (a) provide rapid response to outbreak management; and (b) through continuous improvement and response to the ongoing analysis of local population need;
- Operating as system leader in the local sexual health economy providing clinical leadership, development of and involvement in local networks and development of clear referral pathways between all directly connected and indirect service providers.

3.4 The Public Health Team have sought the provision of a high quality service that is both effective in improving universal outcomes through the use of evidence based interventions delivered by skilled practitioners, and also safeguards local people at risk of harm. The expectation is that the service will combine a balance of advice/guidance and promotional/prevention activity as well as direct evidenced based interventions for those that require clinical support. Such an approach will enhance the availability of local services that are joined up, supportive and affordable. The service will be delivered in a 'hub and spoke' system that will encourage locality based teams to be resourced to meet the identified needs of the population of the area they serve. The service will also commit to streamlining and improving access to public health/ health improvement services and will also seek to be co-located with partner organisations where appropriate.

3.5 A further joint procurement exercise was conducted with three prospective providers being interviewed. This process concluded on 30th April 2019, with one provider identified as the most economically advantageous and scoring the highest in terms of quality. Halton and Warrington Executives can now consider the proposed provider for approval.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Approval from the Operational Director (Legal and Democratic Services) has been gained as per Standing Orders and the Executive Board is

asked to support the decision to award the contract. Representatives from Halton have played a full role in all stages of the procurement. The contracts will be joint performance managed by both Boroughs and service standards will be monitored by commissioners and the contracts team.

- 4.2 The method of procurement has complied with the Council's procurement policy and Procurement Standing Orders and has utilised the Chest e-procurement portal. The process has complied with the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations (2015) and has followed the Light-Touch Rules Regime for Health (Regulations 74 to 77).

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The contract for the new service will be awarded on the basis of quality and price, thus ensuring value for money. Consideration of the applications to deliver this service have resulted in the identification of efficiency savings which represent a reduction on current expenditure. Tender submissions have been evaluated using MEAT (Most Economic Advantageous Tender) principles.
- 5.2 Financial provision for the Service is contained within the Public Health Grant. A contract will be awarded for five years with two one year optional extensions. TUPE regulations will apply for affected staff, and measures will be put in place to review contract values on an annual basis in line with available resources. The estimated budget for the delivery of the integrated Sexual Health Services in Halton will therefore be a total of £5,000,000 for the initial five year contract, with a further £2,000,000 if the extensions are used.
- 5.3 The combined pre-procurement budget for the individual elements of the service was £12,310,000 for the five year contract period (Including both Halton and Warrington' contributions).

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Government's aim is to enable local services to meet local needs, and robust sexual health services are a critical component in supporting the reduction of "risk taking" behaviours and supporting positive health outcomes. The service will support the effective and efficient delivery of both national and local strategies and action plans to meet the needs of local young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Universal and specialist public health services are important in promoting the health and wellbeing of people and reducing inequalities through targeted intervention for vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals. The service contributes to the delivery of the objectives of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Reducing the incidence of crime, improving Community Safety and reducing the fear of crime have an impact on health outcomes particularly on mental health. There are close links between the service and on areas such as safeguarding, mental health, substance misuse and domestic violence.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

Risk has been a particular consideration in the tender evaluation process. Robust service monitoring should provide early warning of any performance issues. The proposals are not so significant as to require a full risk assessment.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

All contractors will be required to demonstrate that they embrace and comply with the Equality Act, and services will be monitored to ensure this is the case.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Executive Board
DATE:	13 June 2019
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Transportation
SUBJECT:	Transport Infrastructure Update
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members on the improvements made in recent years to the Borough's transport infrastructure and to seek the Board's approval to the next set of key transport projects within Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) Members approve the list of schemes in Appendix 1 to this report to be developed into deliverable schemes (including feasibility works, business case preparation, funding bids, and when appropriate, entry into the Council's Capital Programme);**
- 2) the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transportation, to take the necessary actions to ensure value for money through the appropriate procurement processes; and**
- 3) the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transportation, to take any other actions necessary to enable timely delivery of this infrastructure.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Good transport links bring significant benefits to people, businesses, the environment, and the overall economy of the Borough. For example, good transport can: help people access jobs; help shape greener and healthier places; attract new firms and investment; and unlock new development sites for business and housing.
- 3.2 Halton has natural advantages in its geographical location and excellent transport links. The Council continues to invest in a comprehensive

programme of infrastructure projects with the objective of providing safe, efficient, and effective transport systems to facilitate sustainable growth.

- 3.3 These schemes also meet the wider policy objectives of reducing congestion, reducing road casualties, efficient freight movement, providing access to opportunities, improving health and well-being, air quality improvement, and tackling climate change.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Halton's adopted Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) sets out the statutory context for investment in infrastructure to 2025/6. In association with the 22 'Primary Transport Strategies' contained in LTP3 there are a number of major schemes and improvement projects covering road, rail, bus, cycling and walking.

- 4.2 This section reviews the delivery of infrastructure against the ambitions set out in LTP3.

- 4.3 The major schemes (identified in Chapter 10 of LTP3) are either complete or in their final phases:

- Mersey Gateway
- Silver Jubilee Bridge (SJB) Major Maintenance – 10 year programme
- Halton Curve (connects Chester / Warrington rail line with Liverpool Branch of West Coast Mainline)

- 4.4 Chapter 11 of LTP3 sets out further schemes across all modes of transport. Many of these schemes have been delivered.

Cycling & Walking

- 4.5 Halton has approximately 74km of public rights of way (including 71km of footpath and 3km of bridleways). Appendix 2 of this report sets out the most recent schemes undertaken to extend and link this network (set out under 'sustainable transport schemes').

Rail

- 4.6 Major investment has delivered the Halton Curve re-opening in May 2019. In addition, all stations in Halton have benefited from access upgrades over the LTP3 period. Runcorn Mainline is receiving major investment through the Runcorn Station Quarter project, which will provide direct access from the Expressway into the Station, and a new public transport interchange. Runcorn East has doubled its car parking facilities. Widnes Station has had parking improvements, and further access improvements are planned at both Hough Green and Widnes Stations.

- 4.7 New stations remain an ambition, including the re-opening of Ditton station, and others at Barrows Green, Upton Rocks, and Beechwood. New sidings have been installed at 3MG in Widnes to serve the multi-modal freight facility and Alstom.

Bus

- 4.8 Investment in the bus network over the last five years has seen the Halton Transport and Arriva Bus fleets operating at Euro V and VI standards. There has also been a borough-wide scheme to improve the waiting facilities and access at bus stops.
- 4.9 Investment from the Liverpool City Region has allowed the No17 bus service which operates between Widnes and St Helens to become a Quality Bus Partnership Corridor. This partnership between both operators has provided for an improved frequency of 20 minutes and also a reciprocal ticketing agreement is in place whereby both operators accept the other's multi-journey tickets. Therefore, providing a much improved and convenient service for the user. The Liverpool City region is currently undertaking the roll out of the Walrus smartcard, Halton will in the future be included in this programme.
- 4.10 Bus priority has also been improved at a number of traffic signalled junctions along the Liverpool Road and Hale Road corridor and at the junction of Lunts Heath Road and Wilmere Lane.

Roads

- 4.11 The Council is responsible for 560km of road (50km of principal roads, 79km of non-principal classified roads, and 432km of unclassified road). In addition there are 226km of footpath, 17km of busway, 179 highway bridges and 59 retaining walls. All have to be maintained.
- 4.12 LTP3 identified a number of improvement schemes, of which the following are complete or underway:
- A557 approach to M56 J12 (Runcorn)
 - 3MG Access Road providing access into Alstom (Widnes)
 - Johnson's Lane Improvement (Widnes)
 - Runcorn Station Access Road (Runcorn)
 - Sandymoor Distributor Road (Runcorn)
 - Gyrotory improvements (Widnes)
 - A558 junction capacity at Sandymoor & Daresbury (Runcorn)
 - Wilmere Lane / Lunts Heath Road junction (Widnes)
- 4.13 The following schemes remain in the future programme (Appendix 1):
- A558 widening to provide additional capacity for growth at East Runcorn, including Sci-Tech Daresbury, and housing at Sandymoor and Delph Lane.

- M56 J11A. The feasibility of this proposed junction remains under review by Highways England.
- Liverpool John Lennon Airport Access Road. The construction of a link road from the A562 is supported in the Local Plan to provide highway capacity to allow airport expansion.
-

Traffic Management & Safety

- 4.14 Pressure to improve traffic flow, reduce energy use and improve environmental benefits has driven investment in Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). Traffic signals have been upgraded to LEDs and extra low voltage (ELV) systems. 88% of traffic signal heads are now LED, (86% of sites). Upgrades are still required at 20 sites (117 heads) and this work is scheduled over the next two years as traditional lamps (incandescent, halogen etc) will no longer be available.
- 4.15 Over recent years there has been a programme to convert the lamps in the street lights to LEDs. To date, approximately 12,000 of Halton's 20,000 street lights have been converted or changed to LED. As a result, the energy reduction for the last 2 years is in excess of 1.5 Million kWh (equivalent to £200,000 at current prices). Typical overall energy savings of the schemes that have been installed to date, resulted in an energy reduction of around 70%.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Following adoption of LTP3, there have been a number of changes to the way transport strategy and funding is administered. In 2015 the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCR CA) was created. New priorities exist in the form of Transport for the North, Northern Powerhouse Rail and High Speed 2. The Combined Authority is addressing this through its emerging Mayoral Transport Plan.
- 5.2 Department for Transport funding is now directed to the LCR CA and redistributed to the local councils. New funding sources have become available to the CA (e.g. the Strategic Investment Fund, Transforming Cities Fund, and Sustainable Urban Design Fund). This means that funding that was previously dedicated to Halton now forms part of a City Region investment strategy. It is therefore imperative that Halton's future transport interventions are closely scrutinised on the basis of benefits and deliverability in the context of the City Region, rather than solely at a Borough level. This evolution in funding will provide access to higher levels of funding than previously possible for high priority schemes. However, it is imperative that schemes are developed to an advanced stage of design and appraisal to ensure funding success.
- 5.3 As part of the devolution deal, the LCR CA should at some stage become responsible for the maintenance of the key route network (KRN)

in the Liverpool City Region. However, this transfer of responsibility is yet to occur and so remains with each District.

- 5.4 It is necessary to keep the Borough's highway network models up to date to allow for accurate traffic analysis to be undertaken and understand the impact of new developments and proposed infrastructure options on the operation of the network. Work to update both the Mersey Gateway traffic model, and the local element of the CA model, are currently under review to ensure they can be used as evidence to support future scheme bids.
- 5.5 At the present time there are four major projects on site in the Borough:
- Silver Jubilee Bridge maintenance (Contractor: Balvac). This is the final element of the 10 year programme to include arch painting, cable replacement, and deck reconfiguration (see 4.3).
 - Runcorn Station Quarter & Delinking (Contractor: Balfour Beatty). New Expressway roundabout and station access, together with removal of overhead road viaducts and 'Trumpet Loop'.
 - Widnes Loops to West Bank Link (Contractor: Balfour Beatty). Provides a direct link from the Mersey Gateway into West Bank and 3MG.
 - Sustainable transport corridor upgrades to extend and link the existing off-road network for walking and cycling. This is a package of schemes funded by the LCR Combined Authority (Appendix 2).

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 6.1 Access to funding for large projects will remain a challenge. The cost of programme development to individual local authorities is increasing due to the competitive nature of funding opportunities and the level of subscription (i.e. the number of bids submitted from across the LCR). It is clear that Halton requires a 'pipeline' of schemes, with feasibility, appraisal, and business cases in place, to allow access to funding and swift delivery. Appendix 1 identifies this scheme pipeline.
- 6.2 Scheme development requires a range of unique skills in the form of engineering design, cost assessment and quantity surveying, land acquisition knowledge, contract management, niche appraisals (Webtag), funding and bid formulation. In-house staff no longer have all the required skills and consultants are relied upon to provide bespoke input. This has implications for time and cost in programme development.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 7.1 Transport networks should be ubiquitous and open for everyone. Each scheme is appraised separately to ensure it provides equality of access for all users.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
LTP3 https://www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/councildemocracy/TransportPolicy.aspx	Municipal Building	Alasdair Cross

APPENDIX 1 - FUTURE TRANSPORT PIPELINE SCHEMES

NAME OF SCHEME	BENEFITS	DESCRIPTION	SCHEME VALUE
Runcorn Station Quarter	Improved public realm; improved public transport interchange; catalyst for area regeneration	<p>This scheme provides the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new piazza space to replace the station forecourt, comprising a safe, and welcoming open space to greet travellers. Combining quality materials and circulation spaces, with seating areas in a green planted setting. The proposed design will be flexible enough to provide small ancillary developments such as a coffee bar/meeting hub, and legible access guiding visitors towards Runcorn town centre and the Brindley. • Bus interchange facilities rationalising the 3 current bus stop locations into one central location close to Waterloo Bridge. Facilities to include shelters, seating and real-time information (in both the station and shelters) in a style consistent with the piazza space. • Improved walking and cycling connectivity between the station and town centre and surrounding residential areas, and also linking into the newly refurbished Silver Jubilee Bridge. • Improved cross canal bridge connecting the Station Quarter to the Brindley Theatre and Town Centre. 	£5m
Wilmere Lane Slips Highways England	Address current congestion issues	Part of a Highways England scheme to relieve congestion at the M62 J7	Highways England
Hough Green and Widnes Stations	Safe and compliant access to the stations. Encourages use.	The east bound platform at Hough Green station is only accessible via a steep flight of steps. For disabled users alighting here, the only way off the platform is across the lines. Widnes station is accessed on the east bound platform by a bridge and a non-compliant ramp, the ramp is currently too steep for use by wheelchair users and does not have any rest areas	£1-3m each station

Replacement Rail Bridge Ditton / Halebank	Improved access	This point is often congested, and with predicted growth across all sectors, this pinch point may constrain the potential of this key area. The provision of a new bridge over the railway will alleviate this problem, supporting inclusive growth through improved access to job opportunities, as well as helping to sustain existing residential communities. Complements the Halton Curve and potential reopening of Ditton Station to improve connectivity in the 3MG / Ditton / wider 'Speke Approaches' growth corridor. This scheme maximises the opportunity for the Ditton/Halebank area.	£5-10m
3MG Employment links	Encourages sustainable transport & access TO employment and housing areas	Cycling and walking improvements Halton Curve and potential for reopening Ditton Station improves the sustainability and connectivity of the 3MG Ditton Corridor and wider 'Speke Approaches' growth corridor - supporting more balanced growth by improving access to job opportunities as well as helping to sustain and grow residential communities.	£1-2m
Daresbury A558 Dualling	Reducing congestion; improving access to Enterprise Zone & development sites in the East Runcorn.	The A558 Daresbury Expressway is dual carriageway from the junction with the A553 Mersey Gateway to the roundabout junction with Blackheath Lane and Pitts Heath Lane in northeast Runcorn. Between this roundabout and Sci-Tech Daresbury EZ (Innovation Way), a distance of 1 mile/1.5km the A558 it becomes single carriageway. The road then reverts to dual carriageway at Sci-Tech Daresbury at Innovation Way. This scheme seeks to upgrade the current single carriageway section to dual carriageway.	£20-30m
M56 J11A	Improved traffic flows; reducing traffic impacts on Preston Brook/ Daresbury area; supports East Runcorn development	Highways England scheme to add an additional junction at Preston Brook.	Highways England
Whitehouse Enabling Infrastructure	Create opportunities in East Runcorn Area; reducing traffic impacts e.g.	Feasibility work to understand future options to service the land adjacent to Whitehouse Industrial Estate and route HGV traffic away from Preston Brook Village.	£250k (feasibility)

	HGV routes		
LJLA Eastern Access Corridor	Improving access to LJLA, supporting the LCR growth agenda.	Promoted by LCR CA. £300k allocated from the Pre-SIF to examine feasibility.	£20-30m
Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – LCWIP Runcorn Busway Sustainable Travel Corridor	Car free routes; health promotion; improved connectivity	<p>First phase of work already in delivery (the section through Astmoor linking to Manor Park and onward towards Daresbury.</p> <p>The Runcorn Busway Cycling and Walking scheme aims to strengthen the existing bus corridor and upgrade it to a sustainable transport corridor which supports cycling and walking. This will be done in the form of a physical separation from bus traffic to ensure safety of its users. The link has long been identified as convenient and direct for cyclists. The aim is to provide segregated cycle walking provision on the entirety of the bus network and strengthen its appeal and usage. The scheme aims to create sustainable travel links into employment areas across Runcorn.</p>	2nd Phase £3 to 5m
Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – LCWIP Runcorn Employment Links	Car free routes; health promotion; improved connectivity	<p>The first phase of work already in delivery - Runcorn Canal tow path, walking and cycling improvements</p> <p>The scheme addresses challenges for cyclists to access areas of employment across Runcorn into Daresbury. The challenge is to have as much of the route traffic free as possible and for the large part this is achievable.</p>	2nd Phase £1 -2m

APPENDIX 2 – Current Schemes

MAJOR SCHEMES

Note* **≡ complete**

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
Rail	Halton Curve	19 May 19 Complete	LCR LGF 1 & 3	£14.5m
<p>A Local Growth Deal and Liverpool City Region Combined Authority-funded scheme to re-open the 1.5 miles of track to regular passenger services between Liverpool, Cheshire and North Wales.</p> <p>Services will operate between Liverpool Lime Street and Chester via Liverpool South Parkway, Runcorn, Frodsham and Helsby from Monday to Friday, with approximately one service an hour.</p> <p>There will be a Wrexham to Liverpool service running from Monday to Saturday, with two trains a day running from Wrexham to Liverpool and one in the other direction.</p>				

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
Silver Jubilee Bridge Project	Major Maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arch Painting • Cable replacement • Deck reconfiguration 	To August 19	LCR LGF 1 & 3 DfT MGCB	£4.985m £4.880m £600k
<p>Painting of arch now into its final two phases (7&8). Programmed to be complete in the summer, with painting to Phase 7 painting underway, and encapsulation for the working areas on Phase 8 in progress.</p> <p>Hutchinson Sidings steelwork painting is now complete.</p> <p>3500 tonnes of scaffold currently on the bridge deck to provide access to arch for painting. This needs to be removed before deck can be reconfigured for 2 lanes for vehicle traffic & separate dedicated cycle lanes.</p> <p>Works from May to complete over the summer comprise reconfiguration of the SJB carriageway, hanger cable replacement and works to Runcorn Approach Viaduct to build a new parapet wall.</p> <p>Demolition on Runcorn Approach Viaduct West is due to start in July, and to enable this Balvac will relocate to the Widnes side of SJB in June.</p>				

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
Runcorn Station Quarter	Trumpet Loop de-linking and Deconstruction	To May 20	Regeneration	£13m

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
Widnes Loops	Permanent junction into West Bank from Mersey Gateway Bridge. Installation of signalled controlled junction	To May 20	Regeneration	£5m
<p>Statutory undertakers work underway. The temporary link road from Widnes Loops into West Bank closed on 13 May 19 to commence excavation works.</p>				

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL SCHEMES

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
Sustainable Travel (ST)	Runcorn East Station Car Park	May 19 Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£605k
Extension & surfacing has been completed with double the original number of parking spaces now available				
ST	Gyratory, Widnes	May 19 Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£549k
Addition lanes to give junction extra capacity to relieve congestion. Scheme now complete				
ST	Astmoor Business Links - cycle and walking improvements	August 19	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£1.133m
ST	Runcorn Canal Tow Path, walking and cycling improvements Phase 1	August 19	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£484k
Provides a link along the Bridgewater Canal, from Runcorn mainline station, via the Old Town to Daresbury Enterprise Zone.				
ST	Delph Lane	Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£300k
A56 links to Daresbury including Pegasus crossing				
ST	3MG / Jaguar Land Rover Links	Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£300k
Complete. Ditton Road into Halebank connecting to existing cycle network.				
ST	Station to Health Offices -	Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package)	£200k
Lining and signing scheme to provide clear direction up Holloway and Highlands Road, Park Road to Heath Offices. Lining on Picow Farm Road to Ineos site.				
ST	Cycle Promotion	Complete	STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package) (STEP Revenue)	£90k
Victoria Park – bike and boots project – provided route planning, cycle training, and basic equipment. Aimed at breaking down transport barriers to work				
ST	SJB towards Prescott (via Sandy lane / Victoria Park / Frederick St / Ashley Way)	2021	SUD (Sustainable Urban Design) Efw S106 Mersey Gateway	£650k £200k £150k £300
Walking and cycling improvements. 3 year programme starting 2019 and the grant funding agreement has now been received for signing.				
ST	LJL Airport Safety Area	June 19	Planning Section 106	£106k
Liverpool John Lennon Airport Runway End Safety Area. Closure of Dungeon Road and opening of Baileys Lane. Construction of a new Bridle Way. Construction in progress.				
ST	Warrington Road to Watkinson Way Footpath Link	July 19	Halton Housing Trust	£130k

Warrington Road to Watkinson Way (Widnes). Provides a link from the new housing development on the old P&O site to the Gyratory.				
ST	PROW Bridge/Structure/Boardwalk renewals	2019-2022	Various	£200k+
Renewal of Small bridges and boardwalk structures on public rights of way network using state of the art composite materials to ensure longer life and less future intervention				

OTHER SCHEMES

Category	Scheme	Construction	Fund	Value
OTHER	Salt Barn	To Sept 19	Risk & Emergency Fund	£135k
Provision of new Salt Barn at Picow Farm Road Depot.				
OTHER	Electric Vehicles	Complete	DfT	£75k
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OLEV ECPT/Station £10k OLEV EV Grant £65k 2 Electric vehicles for HBC services. Charging points in Picow Farm & Lower House Lane depots				
OTHER	Buses	Complete	DfT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better Bus £360k (14 – 18) – junction improvements at Wilmere Lane Clean Bus Fund £337,000 – retrofits to Halton Transport Fleet with particulate traps 				
FLOOD RISK	Bridgeway Lockgate Windmill Hill	Late 2019	Environment Agency	£188k
Surface water flood alleviation scheme, including kerb alterations, walls, flood doors and changes to paths and open space layouts to direct surface water flooding away from properties at risk.				
FLOOD RISK	Runcorn Road Moore	Late 2019	Environment Agency	£28k
Surface water flood alleviation scheme, to improve watercourse to protect properties at risk.				
FLOOD RISK	Wharford Farm Lake	Mid 2019	Environment Agency	£10k
Monitoring equipment to log flood alleviation structure impounding events				

Planned Maintenance: Carriageway Resurfacing Programme 19/20: (HMB & Revenue)

Fairfield Road - remaining southern half – reconstruction - Complete

Daresbury Expressway - Central Expressway - Pitts Heath Lane roundabout – surface dressing -Complete

Northwich Road, Runcorn – surface dressing - Complete

Weston point slip road to Rocksavage – surface dressing - Complete

Prescot Road - railway bridge to Heath Road

Hale Road - haunch repair

Runcorn Road - Moore, Runcorn

Liverpool Road - haunch repair – Heath Rd

Additional LCR KRN Carriageway Funded Schemes:

Liverpool Road, from Chesnut Lodge to Heath Road. Full carriageway reconstruction and programmed during school summer holidays. Meeting scheduled for next week to discuss phasing of the works to minimise impact on businesses and residents.

J12 Under M56 – resurfacing – complete

Planned Maintenance: Footway Reconstruction Programme

(Flag to Flexi programme where vehicles overrun e.g. outside shops / post war estates)
(HMB & Revenue)

Birkdale road,
Ryder Road
Hough Green Road
Hale road
Blackburn Avenue to Lovell Terrace
Fieldway
Bishops Way

Works programmed for the future at Coroners Lane, Ditchfield Road, Upton Lane and Russell Road.

Section 278

Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 allows a developer to carry out works to the public highway. This is generally where planning permission has been granted for a development that requires improvements to, or changes to, public highways. This works require agreement and monitoring by the Highways Authority.

Daresbury Redrow A558
Daresbury Redrow A56
Manor Farm Road
Picow Farm Road
Derby Road

Section 38

Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980 allows a developer to offer new roads within a development site for adoption by the Highway Authority. This requires a legal agreement and monitoring by the Highway Authority. Current sites include:

- Sandymoor Bloor
- Riverside College
- Picow Farm Road
- Derby Road
- Warrington Road
- Daresbury Science Park
- Castlefields

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Victoria Park Greenhouse Project -Waiver of Standing Orders report

WARDS: Appleton

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval from Members to a waiver of procurement standing orders to allow for a direct award to Hartley Botanical for the provision of the greenhouse structure on the above project.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Members approve a waiver of procurement standing order 1.5.2 Open Tendering Procedure, under Procurement Standing Orders 1.14.4 (iv&v) Non-emergency procedures- (exceeding a value threshold of £100,000) to allow a direct award to Hartley Botanical in the amount of £159,348 for the provision of the greenhouse structure on the above project.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The existing Victorian style greenhouse in Victoria Park is circa 45 years old and in a very poor state of repair and is in need of significant investment. The facility is a central part of the visitor offer in the Park as such it is proposed that the existing green house is replaced and the facility upgraded to bring it up to modern day standards. This will both enable the Council to reduce running costs, and enhance the visitor offer in the Park.

3.2 Following on from a feasibility study, led by Open Spaces and Property Services, a soft market testing exercise was carried out to establish a manufacturer of a new greenhouse who provided best value in terms of both cost and quality. Costs were assessed on a sq/m basis and the units assessed for quality and appearance against the preferred 'Victorian style' finish which is in keeping with the park. Following that exercise it was determined that 'Hartley Botanical', who provided the existing greenhouse, offered the best value and were deemed the preferred provider.

- 3.3 It was decided that the most appropriate delivery method was through Link, the Council's term contractor, who would carry out the main building work element of the project, foundations, groundworks, brickwork etc. Hartley Botanical acting as a sub-contractor to Link providing the actual greenhouse element.
- 3.4 The original quoted price for the project from Link was £373,215, which including fees brings the total cost of the project to £399,340, which is in excess of the current available budget of £305,000. A value engineering exercise has been undertaken and the build cost has been reduced to £309,390. A further saving of £24,934 can be achieved however if we break the work down into 2 packages, having Link do the enabling works, and once complete, getting Hartley Botanical to install the greenhouse under a separate contract, thus removing Links overheads & profits and contract management costs associated with Hartley Botanical's element of the work. This would bring the build cost down to £284,456, which including fees brings the total cost of the project down to £304,367, within the available budget
- 3.5 In order to follow this course of action a waiver of standing orders is required so that a direct award can be made to Hartley Botanical for £159,348 which will allow us to save £24,934.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy implication associated with the above course of action.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The waiver of standing orders will allow the Council to save an additional £24,934 from the quoted cost of the works and enable the project to be financially viable and proceed.
- 5.2 The project budget of £305,000 is being funded from a variety of sources as follows:- Area Forum, Ineos Environmental fund, Sec 106 Monies, Property Works budget £65,000, Property budgets.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

- 6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton**
None anticipated
- 6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**
None anticipated

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None anticipated

6.4 A Safer Halton

None anticipated

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The greenhouse is a very prominent feature in Victoria Park, particularly due to its location near the main entrance. Its renewal in a 'Victorian style' will help both enhance the visual appeal, and visitor experience when visiting the park.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 If we are aren't able to bring the cost of the work within the available budget the project will not be able to proceed as desired.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 The new greenhouse will be fully accessible as such there are no equality and diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.

None

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Finance

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: 2018/19 Financial Outturn

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To report the final revenue and capital spending position for 2018/19.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

- 1) **The report be noted; and**
- 2) **The information within the report is taken into account when reviewing the 2019/20 budget monitoring position, medium term forecast and saving proposals for future years.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Revenue Spending

- 3.1 The final accounts for 2018/19 are nearing completion and the revenue spending position for each Department, subject to external audit, is shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Overall the final outturn position shows overspend of £2.407m against a revised budget of £109.227m. The adverse position has been highlighted throughout the year and at the end of December 2018 it was forecast that the final overspend outturn would be in the region of £4.184m. Therefore, the actual outturn position represents an improvement from the previous forecast position, as a result of the close monitoring undertaken by Members and Officers and the actions taken to curb spending except where absolutely essential. Further details are provided within the report, regarding the movement between the forecast and actual outturn positions.
- 3.3 Total employee expenditure for the year was approximately £71.721m (£67.749m-2017/18), which was £0.838m below the allocated budget. The variance is primarily due to the number of posts which have been held vacant over the past year, some of which have been deleted from

the structure in the new financial year as a means of achieving budget savings.

- 3.4 Included within the employee budget is a staff turnover saving target of 3%, which reflects the saving made between a member of staff leaving a post and the post being filled. The target for the year has been achieved in most Departments, with the exception of Community & Environment, Economy, Enterprise & Property, Policy, People, Performance & Efficiency and Education, Inclusion and Provision.
- 3.5 A number of underspends against the 2018/19 budget have been approved as one-off budget savings for 2019/20. These have been carried forward into 2019/20 when preparing the year-end accounts and as part of the review of reserve balances.
- 3.6 Details of expenditure and income relating to Mersey Gateway project are included within Appendix 1. The Mersey Gateway project is required to be accounted for separately from the Council's accounts. It therefore has no impact (positive or negative) upon the Council's budget or upon the Council's 2018/19 outturn position, as the project is in effect ringfenced and fully funded from toll charges and Government grant.
- 3.7 Within the overall net overspend for the year, the key budget variances are as follows;

- (i) **Children and Families Department (£4,106,000 overspend):-**
As highlighted throughout the year, a significant overspend against budget was expected for the Department. As at 31 December 2018 the overspend position was £3.230m with the final outturn position expected to be in the region of £4.350m. Concentrated efforts in controlling spend and looking at greater efficient use of resources throughout the Department has helped limit the final overspend position to £4.106m.

The 2018/19 budget included an additional £3.0m of budget provision for the Children & Families Department to help to mitigate the expected overspend position and service demand pressures. In addition for the 2019/20 budget use of the Social Care Support Grant of £1.092 has been allocated in full to the Children and Families Department.

Expenditure relating to out of borough residential placements was £6.991m (17/18 - £6.609m), this being £2.625m over the available budget. The number of individual children and young people in residential placements at the start of 2018/19 was 48, this number had increased to 49 by the end of March 2019. In the last few months staff have been recruited to a new Placements Team who will work more closely with providers & reduce the cost of packages. This is a very difficult area to predict future spend as

the demand can change very quickly, but even with an increase in budget of £289,000 and reduced costs it is anticipated this will still be a budget pressure in 2019/20.

Out of Borough Fostering expenditure is £1.387m (17/18 - £1.243m) over budget. The overspend had reduced by 5.3% from that forecast at the end of quarter 3. The number of individual children in an independent fostering agency placement has reduced from 66 at the start of 2018/19 to 61 at the end of March 2019, but reached a high of 75 during the year. In house foster carers are utilised wherever possible and there has been a net increase of 3 households during the current financial year. Halton have joined a collaborative fostering service with Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and Warrington and every effort is being made to recruit new foster carers, but this is a lengthy process and as a result it will take time for the council to build up a new bank of carers. Incentives to help recruit and retain foster carers have also been implemented in 2019/20, for example, discretionary council tax relief. These measures should have a positive impact on recruitment and retention and help reduce the reliance on independent fostering placements being sought at a much higher cost.

Expenditure relating to Special Guardianship Orders is £0.540m (17/18 - £0.404m) over budget. Expenditure has increased from £1.496m in 2017/18 to £1.659m in 2018/19, an increase of 10.9%. Special Guardianship Orders are set up through the family court and not the Council, which makes it difficult to estimate how many more of these orders will be agreed in the next financial year.

The Early Years net divisional expenditure was £0.171m over budget at year-end, an increase of £0.039m from 2017/18. Income was below target by £0.357m and is the main area of concern. This level of underachievement is expected to continue in 2019/20. Even with increases in occupancy levels and parental fees, income has not increased sufficiently to the level at which the day care centres can become self-sustaining.

Looking ahead to 2019/20 the department is expected to continue to experience pressure on allocated budgets despite above inflation growth being provided to help with service demand. Savings of £1.114m have been agreed against the department and it is essential these are achieved to ensure net costs are controlled, these will continue to be monitored and reported on closely.

- (ii) **Adult Social Care Department (£168,000 underspend):-**
Overall the Department (excluding the Complex Care Pool Budget) underspent by £0.168m against an available budget of

£18.259m. This is in-line with the forecast of £0.152m provided at the end of Q3.

The main reason for the department underspend was due to salary costs being £0.230m under the available budget. This as a result of vacancies within Day Services and Care Management Divisions.

Net spend on the Complex Care Pool Budget (hosted with Halton CCG) was £0.029m above budget, the overspend position has been carried forward to 2019/20 and it is envisaged this will be met from in-year efficiencies. The position is a great improvement on the outturn forecast of £0.444m as at 31 December 2018.

Pressures within the pool budget consist of residential care, domiciliary care, direct payments and staffing costs relating to Millbrow and Madeline McKenna Nursing Homes.

Cost pressures have been managed by utilising underspends from the Better Care Fund, Additional Better Care Fund, Winter Pressures Grant and additional contribution from Halton CCG.

- (iii) **Community & Environment Department (£1,402,000 overspend):-** The overspend position for the Community & Environment Department is less than that forecast at 31 December 2018.

The main budget pressure for the Department was in connection with income. Budgeted income targets for the year totalled £14.843m, actual collected levels were £13.595m, a shortfall of £1.248m or 8.4%.

Income from fees and charges underachieved against budget by £0.677m. The large part of this was as a result of reduced fee income for leisure centres, mainly due to difficulties in the recruitment of swimming and fitness instructors, although this was partly offset by a corresponding reduction in operating costs. Shortfalls in income was also evidenced against executive box hire at the stadium, pitch booking fees and the absence of a major concert event at the stadium during the year.

Government grant income was £0.126m below budget due to a reduction in Free School Meals grant. The number of children eligible for grant has dropped in the last few years and this has been exacerbated by schools converting to academies and thereby leaving the service.

It should be noted the shortfall in income for the year isn't as large as forecast as at the end of quarter 3 and certain service areas exceeded their income targets, such as crematorium fees and Brindley lettings and promotions income.

Employee spend was £0.158m over the available budget of £14.021m, primarily due to increased costs of both casual and agency staff.

For 2019/20 a substantial staffing restructure has been implemented, which will achieve significant reductions in staffing costs going forward. In addition, where possible various income targets have been reduced to assist with bringing the Department's budget back into balance.

- (iv) **Education, Inclusion and Provision Department (£117,000 overspend):-** At 31 December 2018 it was forecast the Department would be overspent against budget by £0.433m, the outturn position therefore represents a significant improvement.

The main budget pressure area for the department relates to school transport where spend was £0.438m over the available budget of £0.946m. In comparison the overspend position for 2017/18 was £0.314. Service demand has increased due to an increase in the number of pupils with special educational needs, something which is not unique to Halton but being experienced across the country.

The Council undertook a procurement exercise during the year with school transport providers, which it is envisaged this will help control and reduce future costs. In addition, consideration is being given to other ways in which transport arrangements can be managed going forward, in order to maintain service provision whilst reducing costs.

The Department's income for the year was above budget, which helped mitigate some of the overspend on school transport. Schools SLA income was significantly higher than forecast, with £0.578m generated against a budget target of £0.366m. This was due to increased demand for services such as Educational Psychology and Education Welfare, reflective of the increasing number of pupils with Special Educational Needs. In addition Government grant received was also in excess of budget by £0.130m against a budget of £4.161m.

- (v) **Planning & Transportation (£709,000 underspend):-** A departmental underspend had been forecast for the majority of the year, although the final underspend position is slightly higher than expected.

Reasons for the underspend can be linked to a number of areas where actual costs were below the allocated budget. This includes employee costs being £0.346m below budget due to a number of vacancies across the Building Control team and Highways division. Highways maintenance spend was £0.237m (9.6%) below budget, as a result of capitalising costs where possible and fleet transport was £0.216m (16.4%) below budget, this being as a direct result of the continuation of the fleet transport replacement programme where vehicles are replaced at optimum times for newer and more efficient models, leading to a reduction in consumable costs.

The total energy cost for street lighting was £1.373m (17/18 - £1.603m) and continuation of street lighting upgrades to more efficient LED bulbs has reduced the amount of energy used and reduced maintenance costs. However, following the recent renewal of the energy contract there has been an increase in market costs, which indicates it is less likely there will be further reductions in costs next year.

- (vi) **Corporate & Democracy (£2,276,000 underspend):-** There is a significant underspend against the Corporate & Democracy budget which can be attributed to three main areas.

At the end of the financial year there was unused contingency budget of £1.1m which has helped contribute towards offsetting overspends elsewhere across the Council.

Investment income was higher than forecast, as a result of improved rates of return and cash balances available for investment being larger than expected. The 2019/20 budget has been updated to reflect the increased investment returns being generated.

A number of one-off Government grants were received during the year, including those relating to business rate reliefs as a result of changes to Government policy and increases to the business rates base. In addition, the business rates pool arrangement with Warrington and St Helens councils has generated additional income of £0.132m for Halton. The increase to the business rate base has been reflected in setting the 2019/20 budget.

Reserves and Balances

- 3.8 The Council's Reserves and Balances have been reviewed in accordance with the Reserves and Balances Strategy and are considered reasonable given the scale of the financial challenges facing the Council.

- 3.9 Total revenue spending for the year was £2.4m above budget. As a result this would have had the impact of reducing the Council's General Reserve to £2.6m. At this level it is considered the General Reserve would be insufficient given the level of increasing service pressures, uncertainty regarding future funding cuts and the risk of fluctuations in the level of business rates retained on an annual basis. Therefore, a number of earmarked reserves have been reviewed and reductions made where possible, to enable funds to be moved into the General Reserve taking the balance back to a more prudent £5m.

School Balances

- 3.10 School balances as at 31 March 2019 total £4.6m (compared to £3.8m last year-end). There is also £0.3m of unspent Schools related funding held centrally which will carry forward into 2019/20.
- 3.11 The breakdown of spending for 2018/19 against Individual School Budgets (ISB) is given in the table below.

Individual School Budgets (ISB) 2018/19					
	Nursery Schools £'000	Primary Schools £'000	Secondary Schools £'000	Special Schools £'000	Total £'000
Balance b/f from 2017/18	42	3,364	108	317	3,831
ISB for 2018/19	1,077	41,477	11,179	5,650	59,383
Total Budget	1,119	44,841	11,287	5,967	63,214
Actual Expenditure	998	40,924	10,968	5,707	58,597
Balance c/f to 2019/20	121	3,917	319	260	4,617

Capital Spending

- 3.12 Capital spending at 31st March 2019 totalled £21.890m, which is 64.6% of the total Capital Programme of £33.882m (which assumes a 20% slippage between years). This was primarily due to slippages on the major bridge and highways schemes.

4.0 POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are none.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

- 5.1 There are no direct implications, however, the revenue budget and capital programme support the delivery and achievement of all the Council's priorities.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 There are a number of financial risks within the budget. However, the Council has maintained a budget risk register throughout the year and has internal controls and processes in place to ensure that spending remains in line with budget as far as possible.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 There are none.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX 1

2018/19 REVENUE EXPENDITURE

Summary

Department/Directorate	Annual Budget £'000	Actual Expenditure £'000	Variance (overspend) £'000
Adult Social Care	18,259	18,091	168
Children & Families	23,425	27,531	(4,106)
Complex Care Pool	25,314	25,343	(29)
Education, Inclusion & Provision	9,622	9,739	(117)
Public Health & Public Protection	832	764	68
People Directorate	77,452	81,468	(4,016)
Community & Environment	26,234	27,636	(1,402)
Economy, Enterprise & Property	3,354	3,329	25
Finance	4,040	3,967	73
ICT & Support Services	204	317	(113)
Legal & Democratic	617	582	35
Planning & Transportation	15,183	14,474	709
Policy, People, Performance & Efficiency	0	-6	6
Enterprise, Community & Resources Directorate	49,632	50,299	(667)
Corporate & Democracy	-17,857	-20,133	2,276
Mersey Gateway	0	0	0
Total Revenue Expenditure	109,227	111,634	(2,407)

PEOPLE DIRECTORATE

Adult Social Care Department

	Annual Budget	Actual Spend	Variance (Overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	14,565	14,335	230
Other Premises	355	372	(17)
Supplies & Services	1,596	1,603	(7)
Aids & Adaptations	113	90	23
Transport	201	204	(3)
Food Provision	206	204	2
Contracts & SLAs	528	537	(9)
Emergency Duty Team	98	111	(13)
Other Agency	635	635	0
Payments To Providers	1,443	1,465	(22)
Total Expenditure	19,740	19,556	184
<u>Income</u>			
Sales & Rents Income	-271	-254	(17)
Fees & Charges	-676	-693	17
Reimbursements & Grant Income	-919	-889	(30)
Transfer From Reserves	-568	-568	0
Capitalised Salaries	-111	-111	0
Government Grant Income	-1,161	-1,166	5
Total Income	-3,706	-3,681	(25)
Net Operational Expenditure	16,034	15,875	159
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	610	610	0
Asset Charges	317	317	0
Central Support Services	3,027	3,027	0
Internal Recharge Income	-2,400	-2,400	0
Transport Recharges	671	662	9
Net Total Recharges	2,225	2,216	9
Net Department Expenditure	18,259	18,091	168

Children & Families Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	9,479	9,171	308
Premises	277	218	59
Supplies and Services	1,150	1,082	68
Transport	115	151	(36)
Direct Payments/Individual Budgets	697	702	(5)
Commissioned Services	247	212	35
Out of Borough Residential Placements	4,366	6,991	(2,625)
Out of Borough Adoption	82	120	(38)
Out of Borough Fostering	1,453	2,840	(1,387)
In House Adoption	215	237	(22)
Special Guardianship	1,119	1,659	(540)
In House Foster Carer Payments	2,058	1,614	444
Care Leavers	190	329	(139)
Family Support	60	96	(36)
Emergency Duty team	100	102	(2)
Contracted Services	4	5	(1)
Early Years	60	231	(171)
Transfer to Reserves	112	112	0
Total Expenditure	21,784	25,872	(4,088)
<u>Income</u>			
Fees and Charges	-36	-33	(3)
Sales Income	-56	-57	1
Rents	-87	-92	5
Dedicated Schools Grant	-97	-97	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-688	-671	(17)
Government Grants	-164	-164	0
Transfer from Reserves	-117	-117	0
Total Income	-1,245	-1,231	(14)
Net Operational Expenditure	20,539	24,641	(4,102)
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	248	248	0
Transport Support	29	33	(4)
Central Support Service Costs	2,609	2,609	0
Net Total Recharges	2,886	2,890	(4)
Net Department Expenditure	23,425	27,531	(4,106)

Complex Care Pool Budget

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Intermediate Care Services	6,354	6,278	76
End of Life	200	143	57
Sub-Acute	1,769	1,728	41
Urgent Care Centres	615	615	0
Joint Equipment Service	613	646	(33)
CCG Contracts & SLA's	774	774	0
Intermediate Care Beds	599	599	0
BCF schemes	1,729	1,729	0
Carer's Centre	359	359	0
Madeline McKenna	541	571	(30)
Millbrow	1,958	2,196	(238)
Adult Health & Social Care			
Residential & Nursing Care	21,196	21,005	191
Domiciliary & Supported Living	12,970	12,457	514
Direct Payments	9,296	9,618	(323)
Daycare	395	456	(61)
Carer's Breaks	440	293	147
Total Expenditure	59,808	59,467	341
<u>Income</u>			
Residential & Nursing Income	-6,144	-5,914	(230)
Community Care Income	-1,414	-1,436	22
Direct Payments Income	-569	-555	(14)
Winter Pressures	-639	-639	0
BCF	-9,844	-9,844	0
CCG Contribution to Pool	-14,311	-14,311	0
ILF	-677	-677	0
Madeline McKenna Income	-279	-241	(38)
Millbrow Income	-392	-401	9
Falls Income	-60	-60	0
Income from other CCG's	-113	-119	6
Section17 Income	-52	-52	0
Transfer from reserve	0	142	(142)
Total Income	-34,494	-34,107	(387)
Net Operational Expenditure	25,314	25,360	(46)
Liability as per Joint Working Agreement (HCCG share – 37%)		-17	17
Adjusted Net Expenditure	25,314	25,343	(29)

Education, Inclusion & Provision Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	5,748	5,751	(3)
Premises	32	107	(75)
Supplies & Services	2,241	2,148	93
Transport	5	1	4
Schools Transport	946	1,384	(438)
Commissioned Services	2,520	2,461	59
Agency Related Expenditure	1,572	1,512	60
Independent School Fees	3,049	3,049	0
Inter Authority Special Needs	400	400	0
Pupil Premium Grant	30	30	0
Nursery Education Payments	6,065	6,065	0
Capital Finance	2,276	2,276	0
Total Expenditure	24,884	25,184	(300)
<u>Income</u>			
Fees & Charges	-346	-410	64
Government Grants	-4,161	-4,291	130
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-1,179	-1,215	36
Schools SLA Income	-366	-578	212
Transfer to/from Reserves	-974	-974	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	-13,708	-13,708	0
Inter Authority Income	-578	-323	(255)
Total Income	-21,312	-21,499	187
Net Operational Expenditure	3,572	3,685	(113)
<u>Recharges</u>			
Central Support Services Costs	1,597	1,599	(2)
HBC Support Costs Income	-79	-79	0
Premises Support Costs	156	156	0
Transport Support Costs	279	281	(2)
Asset Charges	4,097	4,097	0
Net Total Recharges	6,050	6,054	(4)
Net Department Expenditure	9,622	9,739	(117)

Public Health & Public Protection Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	3,481	3,413	68
Other Premises	5	5	0
Supplies & Services	296	243	53
Contracts & SLA's	6,975	6,975	0
Transport	6	9	(3)
Other Agency	18	18	0
Transfer to Reserves	97	97	0
Total Expenditure	10,878	10,760	118
<u>Income</u>			
Other Fees & Charges	-142	-122	(20)
Reimbursements & Grant Income	-321	-289	(32)
Government Grant	-10,188	-10,188	0
Transfer from Reserves	-226	-226	0
Total Income	-10,877	-10,825	(52)
Net Operational Expenditure	1	-65	66
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	179	179	0
Central Support Services	718	718	0
Transport Recharges	32	30	2
Internal Recharge Income	-98	-98	0
Net Total Recharges	831	829	2
Net Department Expenditure	832	764	68

Community & Environment Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	14,021	14,179	(158)
Other Premises	2,095	2,205	(110)
Supplies & Services	1,115	1,051	64
Book Fund	158	129	29
Hired & Contracted Services	1,174	1,157	17
Food Provisions	506	504	2
School Meals Food	1,980	2,105	(125)
Transport	51	134	(83)
Other Agency Costs	327	342	(15)
Waste Disposal Contracts	5,900	5,874	26
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	67	19	48
Grant to Norton Priory	172	174	(2)
Rolling Projects	20	20	0
Capital Financing	407	429	(22)
Total Expenditure	27,993	28,322	(329)
<u>Income</u>			
Sales Income	(1,829)	(1,325)	(504)
School Meals Sales	(2,368)	(2,315)	(53)
Fees & Charges Income	(6,137)	(5,460)	(677)
Rents Income	(231)	(221)	(10)
Government Grant Income	(1,198)	(1,072)	(126)
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	(681)	(671)	(10)
Schools SLA Income	(1,347)	(1,357)	10
Internal Fees Income	(171)	(220)	49
School Meals Other Income	(254)	(240)	(14)
Catering Fees	(114)	(102)	(12)
Capital Salaries	(172)	(173)	1
Rolling Projects Income	0	(45)	45
Transfers From Reserves	(341)	(394)	53
Total Income	(14,843)	(13,595)	(1,248)
Net Operational Expenditure	13,150	14,727	(1,577)
<u>Recharges</u>			
Asset Charges	5,213	5,213	0
Central Support Services	3,665	3,665	0
HBC Support Costs Income	(421)	(421)	0
Transport Recharges	3,069	2,894	175
Premises Support	1,558	1,558	0
Net Total Recharges	13,084	12,909	175
Net Department Expenditure	26,234	27,636	(1,402)

Economy, Enterprise & Property Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	4,870	4,882	(12)
Repairs & Maintenance	2,123	2,123	0
Premises	69	70	(1)
Energy & Water Costs	667	643	24
NNDR	543	541	2
Rents	377	378	(1)
Economic Regeneration Activities	20	18	2
Supplies & Services	2,132	2,112	20
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	56	56	0
Transfer to Reserves	402	402	0
Total Expenditure	11,259	11,225	34
<u>Income</u>			
Fees & Charges	-316	-318	2
Rent – Markets	-773	-763	(10)
Rent – Investment Properties	-53	-53	0
Rent – Commercial Properties	-1,166	-1,171	5
Government Grant Income	-2,449	-2,449	0
Recharges to Capital	-82	-101	19
Schools SLA Income	-502	-468	(34)
Transfer from Reserves	-1,064	-1,064	0
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	-302	-309	7
Total Income	-6,707	-6,696	(11)
Net Operational Expenditure	4,552	4,529	23
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support Costs	1,965	1,965	0
Transport Support Costs	25	23	2
Central Support Service Costs	2,122	2,122	0
Accommodation Income	-2,396	-2,396	0
Repairs & Maintenance Income	-2,402	-2,402	0
Central Support Service Income	-2,042	-2,042	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	1,530	1,530	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,198	-1,200	2
Net Department Expenditure	3,354	3,329	25

Finance Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	5,446	5,150	296
Supplies & Services	419	226	193
Insurance	1,078	1,153	(75)
Rent Allowances	35,548	35,548	0
Non HRA Rent Rebates	65	70	(5)
Discretionary Social Fund	154	117	37
Discretionary Housing Payments	529	529	0
Concessionary Travel	2,175	2,171	4
LCR Levy	2,241	2,241	0
Total Expenditure	47,655	47,205	450
<u>Income</u>			
Clerical Error Recovery	-461	-461	0
Rent Allowances	-35,087	-34,654	(433)
Fees & Charges	-197	-224	27
Non HRA Rent Rebate	-65	-69	4
Dedicated Schools Grant	-96	-96	0
Discretionary Housing Payment Grant	-529	-536	7
Housing Benefit Admin Grant	-474	-474	0
Universal Credits	-130	-131	1
Council Tax Admin Grant	-211	-211	0
Council Tax Liability Order	-485	-512	27
Business Rates Admin Grant	-166	-156	(10)
Schools SLAs	-858	-840	(18)
LCR Reimbursement	-2,241	-2,241	0
Reimbursements & Other Grants	-279	-297	18
Transfer from Reserves	-51	-51	0
Total Income	-41,330	-40,953	(377)
Net Operational Expenditure	6,325	6,252	73
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	8	8	0
Central Recharges	2,356	2,356	0
Central Recharge Income	-4,649	-4,649	0
Net Total Recharges	-2,285	-2,285	0
Net Department Expenditure	4,040	3,967	73

ICT and Support Services Department

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	6,766	7,010	(244)
Supplies & Services	711	675	36
Capital Financing	1,547	1,547	0
Computer Repairs & Software	934	636	298
Communication Costs	385	417	(32)
Transfer to Reserves	15	0	15
Premises Costs-HDL/Contact Centre	57	77	(20)
Total Expenditure	10,415	10,362	53
<u>Income</u>			
Fees & Charges	-840	-665	(175)
Schools SLA	-522	-534	12
Reimbursements & Other Grants Income	-15	- 15	0
Total Income	-1,377	-1,214	(163)
Net Operational Expenditure	9,038	9,148	(110)
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	605	605	0
Transport	8	11	(3)
Central Support Recharges	1,063	1,063	0
Support Services Income	-10,510	-10,510	0
Net Total Recharges	-8,834	-8,831	(3)
Net Department Expenditure	204	317	(113)

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	1,746	1,705	41
Supplies & Services	290	248	42
Civic Catering & Functions	56	30	26
Legal Expenses	223	410	(187)
Total Expenditure	2,315	2,393	(76)
<u>Income</u>			
Land Charges	-78	-88	10
School SLAs	-79	-79	0
Licence Income	-245	-273	28
Fees & Charges Income	-55	-84	29
Reimbursements & Other Grant Income	0	-46	46
Total Income	-457	-570	113
Net Operational Expenditure	1,858	1,823	36
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support Costs	155	155	0
Central Support Service Costs	346	346	0
Support Recharges Income	-1,742	-1,742	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,241	-1,241	0
Net Department Expenditure	617	582	35

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	4,558	4,212	346
Other Premises	168	125	43
Contracted Services	243	322	(79)
Supplies & Services	163	276	(113)
Street Lighting	1,731	1,373	358
Highways Maintenance	2,465	2,228	237
Fleet Transport	1,318	1,102	216
Lease Car Contracts	1	5	(4)
Bus Support	649	740	(91)
Grants to Vol. Organisations	61	61	0
LCR Levy	882	882	0
NRA Levy	64	64	0
Contribution to Reserves	526	526	0
Total Expenditure	12,829	11,916	913
<u>Income</u>			
Sales	-351	-278	(73)
Planning Fees	-526	-448	(78)
Building Control Fees	-209	-206	(3)
Other Fees & Charges	-646	-895	249
Rent	-9	0	(9)
Grants & Reimbursements	-370	-413	43
Government Grant Income	-135	-135	0
Efficiency Savings	-100	-66	(34)
Schools SLAs	-43	-45	2
Capital Salaries	-317	-203	(114)
LCR Levy Reimbursement	-882	-882	0
Total Income	-3,588	-3,571	(17)
Net Operational Expenditure	9,241	8,345	896
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Recharges	642	642	0
Transport Recharges	771	784	(13)
Asset Charges	8,558	8,558	0
Central Recharges	1,733	1,733	0
Transport Recharge Income	-4,896	-4,722	(174)
Central Recharge Income	-866	-866	0
Net Total Recharges	5,942	6,129	(187)
Net Department Expenditure	15,183	14,474	709

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	1,879	1,913	(34)
Employees Training	133	115	18
Supplies & Services	187	198	(11)
Apprenticeship Levy	300	272	28
Total Expenditure	2,499	2,498	1
<u>Income</u>			
Fees & Charges	-93	-135	42
Reimbursement & Other Grants	-21	-33	12
Schools SLAs	-426	-377	(49)
Transfer from Reserves	-146	-146	0
Total Income	-686	-691	5
Net Operational Expenditure	1,813	1,807	6
<u>Recharges</u>			
Premises Support	12	12	0
Central Support Recharges	-1,042	-1,042	0
Support recharges Income	-783	-783	0
Net Total Recharges	-1,813	-1813	0
Net Department Expenditure	0	-6	6

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Employees	281	253	28
Contracted Services	35	13	22
Members Allowances	801	845	(44)
Interest Payable	3,046	2,824	222
Bank Charges	81	146	(65)
Audit Fees	124	103	21
Contingency	1,100	0	1,100
Capital Financing	3,160	3,245	(85)
Contribution to Reserves	2,971	3,343	(372)
Debt Management Expenses	34	17	17
Precepts & Levies	701	675	26
Total Expenditure	12,334	11,464	870
<u>Income</u>			
Interest Receivable – Treasury	-794	-1,540	746
Interest Receivable – Other	-152	-138	(14)
Fees & Charges	-53	-36	(17)
Grants & Reimbursements	-85	-216	131
Government Grant Income	-6,041	-6,582	541
Transfer from Reserves	-2,369	-2,388	19
Total Income	-9,494	-10,900	1,406
Net Operational Expenditure	2,840	564	2,276
<u>Recharges</u>			
Asset Charges	-21,936	-21,936	0
Premises Recharges	6	6	0
Central Recharges	1,296	1,296	0
Support Services Income	-63	-63	0
Net Total Recharges	-20,697	-20,697	0
Net Department Expenditure	-17,857	-20,133	2,276

	Annual Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Other Premises	149	146	3
Hired & Contracted	0	3	(3)
Agency Costs	45,152	47,349	(2,197)
Insurance	1,502	492	1,010
Supplies & Services	0	3	(3)
MGCB Ltd	2,625	1,578	1,047
MGET	646	512	134
Bus Support	0	413	(413)
External Interest	5,173	5,173	0
Finance Charges	149	148	1
Bad debt provision	0	7,478	(7,478)
Total Expenditure	55,396	63,295	(7,899)
<u>Income</u>			
Toll Income	-27,753	-60,271	32,518
Grants & Reimbursements	-27,043	-2,562	(24,481)
Transfer from reserves	-646	-512	(134)
Total Income	-55,442	-63,345	7,903
Net Operational Expenditure	(46)	(50)	4
<u>Recharges</u>			
Central Support Recharges	46	50	(4)
Net Total Recharges	46	50	(4)
Net Department Expenditure	0	0	0

APPENDIX 2

2018/19 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Directorate/Department	2018/19 Capital Allocation £'000	Actual Expenditure £'000	2018/19 Allocation Remaining £'000
<u>Enterprise Community & Resources Directorate</u>			
Community and Environment			
Stadium Minor Works	50	42	8
Stadium Pitch	300	279	21
Children's Playground Equipment	57	67	(10)
Landfill Tax Credits Scheme	340	0	340
Crow Wood Park	478	218	260
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery	500	135	365
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery – Enabling Works	33	21	12
Phoenix Park	104	98	6
Runcorn Hill Park	5	-22	27
Sandymoor Playing Fields	1,032	839	193
Town Park	280	6	274
Bowling Greens	0	2	(2)
Brindley Café Extension	80	0	80
Victoria Park Glasshouses	170	0	170
Open Spaces Projects	511	468	43
Widnes & Runcorn Cemeteries – Garage & Storage	190	11	179
Litter Bins	20	20	0
ICT & Support Services			
ICT Rolling Programme	700	544	156
Economy, Enterprise & Property			
3MG	399	399	0
Former Crossville Depot	440	109	331
Advertising Screen at The Hive	100	0	100
Stadium – Karalius Suite	260	246	14
SciTech Daresbury	382	286	96
Murdishaw Development	38	0	38
Broseley House	1,190	729	461
Equality Act Improvement Works	150	146	4
Venture Fields	41	0	41
Widnes Market Refurbishment	1,191	1,080	111
Directorate/Department	2018/19	Actual	2018/19

	Capital Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Linnets Club House	287	88	199
Solar Farm – Golf Course	100	68	32
The Croft	30	0	30
Decontamination of Land	50	51	(1)
Mersey Gateway			
Land Acquisitions	539	832	(293)
Development Costs	436	436	0
Other			
Risk Management	80	0	80
Fleet Replacements	1,013	557	456
Planning & Transportation			
Bridge & Highway Maintenance	3,639	1,055	2,584
Integrated Transport & Network Management	460	317	143
Street Lighting – Structural Maintenance & Upgrades	782	228	554
STEPS Programme	2,643	682	1,961
Earle Road Gyratory	1,150	913	237
Silver Jubilee Bridge Major Maintenance & Reconfiguration	16,861	6,845	10,016
Ditton Loops	1,000	675	325
Travelodge / Watkinson Way footpath	130	2	128
SUD Green Cycle	0	3	(3)
Total Enterprise Community & Resources	38,241	18,475	19,766
People Directorate			
Adult Social Care			
Vine Street Development	10	11	(1)
Orchard House	180	170	10
Purchase of 2 Adapted Properties	230	0	230
Bredon Reconfiguration	0	8	(8)
Complex Pool			
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	609	549	60
Stair lifts (Adaptations Initiative)	300	278	22
RSL Adaptations (Joint Funding)	250	200	50
Directorate/Department	2018/19	Actual	2018/19

	Capital Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Oak Meadow Refurbishment	347	242	105
Millbrow Residential Home	150	181	(31)
Madeline McKenna Residential Home	136	5	131
Schools Related			
Asset Management Data	5	3	2
Capital Repairs	808	786	22
Asbestos Management	19	11	8
Schools Access Initiative	77	60	17
Basic Need Projects	0	0	0
Lunts Heath	11	10	1
Fairfield Primary School	79	57	22
Weston Point Primary	4	4	0
Kitchen Gas Safety	71	62	9
Small Capital Works	119	86	33
The Bridge School vocational centre	397	376	21
Simms Cross	130	129	1
Ashley School	80	79	1
SEND allocation	30	53	(23)
Healthy Pupil Capital Fund	70	53	17
The Grange	0	2	(2)
Total People Directorate	4,112	3,415	697
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME	42,353	21,890	20,463
Slippage (20%)	-8,471		
TOTAL	33,882	21,890	11,992

REPORT TO:	Executive Board
DATE:	13 June 2019
REPORTING OFFICER:	Operational Director – Finance
PORTFOLIO:	Resources
SUBJECT:	2019/20 to 2021/22 Capital Programme
WARD(S):	Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Council approved the Capital Programme for 2019/20 on 6 March 2019. Since then further reports detailing planned capital expenditure for 2019/20 and future years have been reported. In addition, new capital grant allocations have been received and slippage to capital projects for 2018/19 has been rolled forward to 2019/20. The purpose of this report is to bring all the separate elements together and report on the Council's total planned Capital Programme expenditure and associated funding over the next three years.
- 1.2 To outline the proposed use of the ICT capital allocation of £0.9m. Proposed programme of activities, included at Appendix A, support the maintenance and development of the Council's technology infrastructure.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

- 1) Council be recommended to approve the updated Capital Programme for 2019-22, including forecast spend and funding, as set out in Table 1 and Table 2;**
- 2) the Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources in liaison with the portfolio holder Transportation, finalise the detailed implementation programme of Highways and Transportation schemes to be delivered in 2019/20; and**
- 3) the proposed use of the ICT rolling Capital Programme for 2019/20 as set out in Appendix A be approved.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The 2019/20 Capital Strategy Statement was approved by Council on 06 March 2019. It provides a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of local public services along with an

overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability. It summarised the expected capital spend over the medium term and the sources of funding available.

- 3.2 At the time of writing the Capital Strategy Statement estimates of capital allocations at that time were known to be subject to variations. This report updates the latest position, which includes confirmed and indicative capital grant allocations for 2019/20 and future years.
- 3.3 The Capital Programme is subject to regular review and monitoring reports are presented on a quarterly basis. Information is presented to show the actual spend incurred to date and how this compares to the allocation for the year. A forecast is provided to indicate if the Capital Programme will be utilised in full during the year or if there is any expected slippage to capital schemes.

Planned Capital Programme Expenditure

- 3.4 Table 1 below presents the planned Capital Programme for 2019/20 onwards based on current information for approved schemes, funding available and slippage of scheme expenditure from 2018/19. The Capital Programme is subject to continuous change as new resources and projects are identified, and will be updated throughout the year as revisions are approved by Council.

Table 1 - Planned Capital Programme Expenditure 2019/20-2021/22

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	Total £'000
People Directorate				
Asset Management Data (CAD's)	5	0	0	5
Schools Capital Repairs	883	0	0	883
Asbestos Management	43	0	0	43
Schools Access Initiative	17	0	0	17
Basic Need Projects	495	437	0	932
Fairfield Primary School	34	0	0	34
Kitchen Gas Safety	68	0	0	68
Small Capital Works – Schools	126	0	0	126
The Bridge School Vocational Centre	27	0	0	27
SEND capital allocation	618	253	0	871
Healthy Pupils Capital Fund	17	0	0	17
Grants – Disabled Facilities	619	0	0	619
Stair Lifts	322	0	0	322
Joint Funding RSL Adaptations	300	0	0	300
Redesign Oakmeadow	105	0	0	105
Purchase of 2 adapted properties	300	0	0	300
Orchard House	327	0	0	327
ALD Bungalows	199	0	0	199
Belvedere reconfiguration	1,437	0	0	1,437
St Lukes	1,300	0	0	1,300
St Patricks	1,100	0	0	1,100
Directorate Total	8,342	690	0	9,032
Enterprise, Community & Resources Directorate				
ICT Rolling Programme	900	700	700	2,300
OLM Software upgrade	363	0	0	363
LTP – Bridge Maintenance	1,412	0	0	1,412
LTP – Highways Maintenance	3,084	0	0	3,084
LTP – Integrated Transport	603	0	0	603
Pothole & Flood resistance	1,258	0	0	1,258
STEP Projects – Various	2,013	0	0	2,013
Street Lighting	1,755	2,000	200	3,955
Widnes Loops/West Bank Link Rd	4,553	0	0	4,553
KRN - Earle Road Gyratory	238	0	0	238
Footpath Travel Lodge / Watkinson Way	128	0	0	128
SUD Green Cycle / Walk Corridors	800	0	0	800
Risk Management	377	120	120	617
Fleet Renewals	1,471	1,760	3,043	6,274
Early Land Acquisition – Mersey Gateway	3,500	0	0	3,500

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	Total £'000
Silver Jubilee Bridge Major Maintenance Scheme	4,398	0	0	4,398
Silver Jubilee Bridge Deck Reconfiguration	600	0	0	600
Runcorn - Delinking	8,997	0	0	8,997
Stadium Minor Works	39	30	30	99
Stadium Pitch	20	0	0	20
Stadium changes to Karalius Suite	14	0	0	14
Open Spaces	143	0	0	143
Children's Playground Equipment	120	65	65	250
Crow Wood Play Area	265	0	0	265
Peelhouse Lane Cemetery	877	90	0	967
Landfill Tax Credit Schemes	340	340	340	1,020
Upton Improvements	13	0	0	13
Pheonix Park	14	0	0	14
Victoria Park Glass House	243	0	0	243
Sandymoor Playing Fields	693	0	0	693
Widnes & Runcorn Cemeteries Garage & Storage	199	0	0	199
Runcorn Town Park	553	280	280	1,113
Bowling Greens	78	0	0	78
Litter Bins	20	20	20	60
Community Shop	50	0	0	50
Libraries IT equipment	95	0	0	95
3MG	126	0	0	126
Widnes Waterfront (including Bayer)	1,000	0	0	1,000
SciTech Daresbury – EZ Grant	96	0	0	96
Venture Fields	41	0	0	41
Linnets Clubhouse	198	0	0	198
Murdishaw redevelopment	38	0	0	38
Former Crossville Depot	331	0	0	331
Advertising Screen at the Hive	100	0	0	100
Equality Acts Improvement Works	300	300	300	900
Widnes Market Refurbishment	140	0	0	140
Broseley House	461	0	0	461
Solar Farm	1,209	0	0	1,209
Directorate Total	44,066	5,705	5,098	54,869
Total Capital Programme	52,408	6,395	5,098	63,901

3.5 The Council receives two principal sources of formula based capital funding from Government to improve local transport conditions, namely Integrated Transport Block (ITB) used to fund small transport improvements and Highways Maintenance Block (HM) used to maintain

the highway, associated structures and covering works such as resurfacing, bridge maintenance and street lighting.

- 3.6 The way in which the ITB and HM allocations are granted changed in 2015/16 as a result of the formation of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA). ITB and HM allocations are paid direct to LCRCA, as the co-ordinating body for the funding.
- 3.7 A detailed implementation programme of local capital projects which will be undertaken using ITB allocations has not yet been finalised for 2019/20. This is a result in a delay of finalising funding allocations. A detailed programme will be set over the coming months and the full allocation will be spent or fully committed by the end of the financial year.
- 3.8 In May 2015, the Council received confirmation of funding for 4 Sustainable Transport Improvement Schemes (STEP) as part of the approved LCR Combined Authority STEP programme. The schemes will be delivered using Growth Deal funding over the period 2015-2021 with a match contribution from ITB and Section 106 budgets. The allocations shown above have not yet been formally approved by the LCR.

Funding the Programme

- 3.9 Table 2 below summarises how the Capital Programme will be funded.

Table 2 Capital Programme Funding 2019/20 to 2021/22

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	Total £'000
Specific & General Grants	18,018	690	0	18,708
External Contributions	2,434	586	586	3,606
Borrowing	25,277	3,160	2,643	31,080
Revenue Contributions	967	0	0	967
Capital Receipts	5,912	1,959	1,869	9,740
Total Funding	52,408	6,395	5,098	63,901

- 3.10 The Council will continue to seek and secure further additional external resources to reduce on-going revenue implications and enhance the Capital Programme. For example, through Section 106 agreements.
- 3.11 Revenue contributions have been set aside to fund capital repairs for schools.
- 3.12 Borrowings undertaken to support the Capital Programme are undertaken in line with the Prudential Code and Council's Treasury Management Strategy. This ensures that external borrowings are affordable and within prudent and sustainable levels. Borrowings to fund the Capital Programme over the three years will be repayable in

future years from either Government grant, forecast capital receipts or funded from future revenue streams.

- 3.13 Prudential borrowing remains an option to fund future capital schemes, but the financing costs as a result of the borrowing will need to be found from savings within the revenue budget.

Capital Receipts

- 3.14 Available capital receipts are used to fund the Capital Programme. Sales from the disposal of surplus land and buildings may only be used to fund capital expenditure. These funds cannot be used to fund revenue expenditure, with the exception of up to 4% of the proceeds of the sale of capital assets being allowable to fund the revenue cost of disposing of an asset.
- 3.15 Estimates of capital receipts over the medium term are based on forecast land and building sales. Although there is some optimism in the property market, the cautious approach the Council has adopted over the past number of years needs to be continued and as such there are no funds available for new capital starts unless external funding is generated to finance the cost.
- 3.16 Table 3 below shows the expected balance of capital receipts over the next three years. The Council attempts to maintain a minimum value of £3m of retained receipts towards funding the Capital Programme.

Table 3 Capital Receipts

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000
Balance B/F	7,741	2,779	6,003
In-Year Anticipated Receipts	950	5,183	4,288
Receipts Utilised	-5,912	-1,959	-1,869
Balance C/F	2,779	6,003	8,422

The in-year anticipated receipts includes anticipated receipts for the disposal of all the remaining land at HBC Fields and Johnsons Lane Widnes and Canalside Runcorn. If any of these disposals do not materialise this will reduce the balance of capital receipts available to use on capital projects.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial implications are as set out within the report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

6.3 A Healthy Halton

6.4 A Safer Halton

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no direct implications, however, the Capital Programme support the delivery and achievement of all the Council's priorities

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 There is a risk that slippage to the Capital Programme, could result in increases to the cost of delivering schemes. Additional revenue costs could be incurred if the schemes are not delivered in time.

7.2 Many grants which fund capital expenditure come with conditions to how funding can be used and outcome targets for when the asset is brought into use. Deviation against these conditions may result in requests for clawback to the funding from approving bodies.

7.3 The Capital Programme is heavily funded from prudential borrowing; of total capital expenditure, £31m or 48% will come from future and existing borrowings. Risks exist in schemes funded from prudential borrowing. It is important to recognise on undertaking borrowing that a clear plan exists which identifies how the principal and interest will be re-paid on the borrowing end date.

7.4 There is a cashflow risk to capital schemes funded from future capital receipts, the cost to the Council of the short to medium term cashflow impact needs to be recognised at the start of each scheme.

7.5 Regular monitoring and reporting of spending against the Capital Programme will seek to mitigate the above risks.

7.6 Forecast balance of capital receipts is expected to be below the Council minimum value of £3m in 2019-20. Use of future capital receipts should be monitored against this target to ensure annual standing items within the Capital Programme remain affordable.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 There are no equality and diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Appendix A – ICT Rolling Programme 2019/20

1.0 Supporting Information:

- 1.1 The investment in server based storage and the upgrade of the current SharePoint farms to the latest version SP-2019 allowing the development of the existing requirement and the development of additional functionality in line with the Halton Digital plan allowing the evolution of desktop services in line with Microsoft Cloud computing requirement and the continued development of the Halton Cloud.
- 1.2 These complex changes will allow the authorities Microsoft Desktop's and its considerable array of 3rd party and in-house applications to interact with the changes to desktop provision from Microsoft in terms of the Office product suite, the delivery of Virtual and Cloud based desktop's and the continued consolidation of services into the Halton Cloud including the centralisation of all data assets and applications.
- 1.3 Consolidation of services will form a key objective over the coming years in order to comply with not only the authorities continued consolidated financial position but the increases in 3rd party application charges and the considerable financial implications levied upon the authority by the Microsoft licensing strategies.
- 1.4 The reliance the authority has upon these systems cannot be underestimated - the support services department will work closely with the financial team to manage this implication and the impact it will have upon revenue and programmes.

2.0 Financial Spend Profile

- 2.1 The 2019/20 allocation for the IT Capital Programme totals £0.9m. Proposed below is how the allocation will be utilised. Note the sum of the four headings are estimates at this stage but it is expected this will reduce either following tender and competitive procedures or by moving some projects back into the following year.

2.2 Application and Server Storage replacement £450,000

This is based upon the replacement of UCS Server and SAN storage equipment now over 7 years old and now out of mainstream supplier support. This equipment is based across both of the HBC data centre locations and forms the base of the authorities DR and BCM planning process.

2.3 Network Equipment £200,000

Based upon the replacement of ageing equipment inclusive of the main Firewall services that protect the authorities security systems and compliance requirements.

2.4 Desktop Hardware £200,000

The continued replacement of the authorities desktop hardware such as Laptop's Brix devices, Screens etc.

2.5 BAU Maintenance £100,000

With such an extensive infrastructure a fund has to be in place to repair and replace existing network and data centre hardware systems as and when they become past the point of repair.

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief

PORTFOLIO: Resources

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider an application for discretionary non-domestic rate relief, under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the application for 90% discretionary rate relief from Power In Partnership Ltd in relation to its premises at 5 Alcock Street, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 1NA and Unit 1a, Halton Lodge Local Centre, Whitchurch Way, Halton Lodge, Runcorn, WA7 5YP, be approved from 1st April 2019 until 31 March 2022.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Under the amended provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Council is able to grant up to 100% discretionary rate relief to any business ratepayer. This relief had previously only been available to organisations that were a registered charity, a community amateur sports club or a not-for-profit organisation.

3.2 The Council currently meets the full cost of all mandatory and discretionary relief granted, as part of the Liverpool City Region 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot Scheme.

3.3 For not-for-profit organisations where discretionary rate relief has been granted in the past, the Council has in the main granted a maximum of 90% discretionary rate relief. The organisations themselves then have to meet the remaining 10% of their business rates liability.

3.4 In instances where discretionary business rate relief is granted, the Council currently awards the relief for a three year period.

3.5 An application for discretionary rate relief has been received as outlined below, from Power in Partnership Ltd. The organisation is not

a registered charity and is not considered a charity by HMRC for tax purposes, so 80% mandatory relief is not applicable.

Power in Partnership Ltd

5 Alcock Street, Runcorn, WA7 1NA and Unit 1a, Whitchurch Way, Halton Lodge, Runcorn, WA7 5YP

- 3.6 Power in Partnership Ltd is a not-for-profit organisation and the application for discretionary rate relief relates to their two premises at 5 Alcock Street, Runcorn and Unit 1a, Whitchurch Way, Halton Lodge, Runcorn.
- 3.7 Power in Partnership Ltd is described as a not-for-profit “community college” who work with young people in the community and whose aims and purposes are providing foundation learning and skills to disengaged and disadvantaged young people. All funds generated by the organisation are reinvested back into the organisation to support the delivery of its aims and objectives.
- 3.8 The organisation has provided a statement of its key objectives which are as follows;
- (i) To increase, promote and deliver projects to achieve further skills and life chances.
 - (ii) To provide opportunities to achieve economic, personal health and wellbeing.
 - (iii) To work with first level steps to new skills for those with barriers to learning and employment, including those with special needs and the vulnerable.
 - (iv) To provide or assist in the provision, in the interests of social welfare, of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation for men and women.
 - (v) To provide, improve and manage houses and premises providing drop in services, Residential accommodation, training and information and advice for men and women of all ages upon terms appropriate to their means.
- 3.9 The organisation has advised that they currently have around 140 young people currently involved in their programmes. They provide data to the Council’s 14-19 team so they can collate young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) statistics. Young people are referred to Power in Partnership from a variety of sources including; Young Offender Teams, the Council’s 14-19 team, vulnerable NEET group referrals, college referrals, housing referrals, care homes, and self-referrals.
- 3.10 The organisation also has premises at 7 Queens Avenue, Widnes in respect of which the Board awarded discretionary rate relief in December 2018. The organisation’s premises at 5 Alcock Street,

Runcorn and Unit 1a, Whitchurch Way, Halton Lodge, Runcorn were previously subject to small business rate relief, however, this no longer applies under regulations. Hence the application for discretionary rate relief.

3.11 If 90% discretionary rate relief were awarded to the organisation from 1 April 2019, the annual cost to the Council for would be as follows;

- 5 Alcock Street £1,282
- Unit 1a Whitchurch Way £1,922

3.12 It is therefore proposed that the application for 90% discretionary rate relief in respect of both premises is approved from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Board is required by the regulations to consider each application on its own merit. Any recommendations provided are given for guidance only, are consistent with Council policy and, wherever possible, previous decisions.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Appendix presents the potential annual costs to the Council of granting rate relief and the cost in the current financial year.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Power in Partnership Ltd supports young people in Halton.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Power in Partnership Ltd provides learning and skills to NEET young people in Halton.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 There are no key risks associated with the proposed action.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 The applicant offer their services to all sections of the community, without any prejudice.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1	Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
	Application form	Kingsway House, Caldwell Road, Widnes	Adel Tomkins Senior Rating Officer

APPENDIX

Ratepayer	Address	Mandatory Rate Relief Awarded	Annual Cost of Mandatory Rate Relief to HBC £	Disc. Rate Relief	Annual Cost of Disc. Rate Relief to HBC 01/04/19-31/03/20 £	Actual Rates Liability 01/04/19-31/03/20 £	Actual Cost of Mandatory Relief to HBC from 01/04/19-31/03/20 £	Actual Cost of Disc. Rate Relief to HBC from 01/04/19-31/03/20 £
Power in Partnership Ltd	5 Alcock Street, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 1NA	0%	0.00	90%	1281.51	1,423.90	0.00	1281.51
Power in Partnership Ltd	Unit 1a, Halton Lodge Local Centre, Whitchurch Way, Halton Lodge, Runcorn, WA7 5YP	0%	0.00	90%	1922.27	2,135.85	0.00	1922.27

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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