

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 7th June 2011
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities
SUBJECT: Draft Scrutiny Review of Dignity in Care Report
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To introduce the draft report of the Scrutiny Review of Dignity in Care for consideration by the Board.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- i) the Board comment on the findings of the Scrutiny Review; and**
- ii) the Board endorse the Scrutiny Review and its recommendations.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 This report (attached as Appendix 1) was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board. A scrutiny review working group was established with five Members from the Board, a Principal Policy Officer from the policy team, the Dignity in Care Co-ordinator and the Divisional Manager from the Independent Living Service.

The report was commissioned as Halton Borough Council is the only local authority in the country with a Dignity in Care Co-ordinator, as well as the only one that covers both the council and the wider remit of Health. The co-ordinator has been in post since July 2009, so this was felt an opportune time as part of an on-going evaluation to focus on Dignity in Care. There is also a national drive for local authorities to carry out scrutiny reviews of Dignity in Care.

The scrutiny review was conducted through a number of means between October 2010 and April 2011, as follows:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff from the Council and Health (detail of the presentations can be found in *Annex 2*);

- Provision of information;
- Service-user consultation;
- Field visit to a Productive Ward at Whiston Hospital

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Existing policies are endorsed by the report.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The report makes a series of recommendations under each separate area of evidence that was scrutinised and have been collated into an Action Plan at Annex 5 for ease of reference and monitoring.

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 report and recommendations support the Council's strategic priority of Improving Health. Taking on board the recommendations from the report will be positive steps to improving Dignity in Care to the residents of Halton.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Identified within the report.

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**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer