



Cllr. Shaun Osborne
Chairman

**ANNUAL REPORT
SAFER HALTON POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD
APRIL 2010 – MARCH 2011**

“Safety and people’s perception of being safe in all its form remain a major issue in Halton. The Board has, and will continue to focus its energy on making Halton residents feel safe. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Board members who have worked hard to this end.

The Board has had a very challenging programme of monitoring, scrutiny, and policy development, because ‘Safer Halton’ is a truly cross-cutting agenda. I believe it is making a considerable contribution to improving the way the Council and its partners work together to improve the quality of life in Halton.

I would like to thank everybody who has contributed to the work of the Board in 2010/11 and to Members who have given up their time to serve on Topic Groups. I want to offer particular thanks to Cllr P Wallace and to Mr B Hodson from the Police Authority for their help and support during the last 12 months.

Councillor Shaun Osborne
Chairman, Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board

MEMBERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES

During 2010/11 the Board comprised ten Councillors – Councillors Osborne, Wallace, Bradshaw, Edge, J Gerrard, M Lloyd Jones, Morley, M Ratcliffe, Shepherd and Thompson.

The Board is responsible for scrutinising performance and formulating policy in relation to Community Safety, Community Resilience, Emergency Planning , Contingency Planning, Safer Halton Partnership

Topic Groups for 10/11:-

- Alcohol Abuse
- Alleygating
- Registered Social Landlords

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The full Board met 5 times during the year.

The main initiatives of the Board’s work for 2010/11 are as follows: -

Community Safety

The Board continued its scrutiny and policy development role in this crucial area, and established an Alleygating Topic Group which resulted in the adoption of agreed principles and procedures to be used for all alleygating schemes. The Board also established an RSL Topic Group which was also tasked with identifying how we can better address anti-social behaviour problems relating to private tenancies.

The Board contributed to the development of a fully integrated, recovery orientated substance misuse treatment for Halton which will integrate both drug and alcohol services for adults in Halton. The Board also contributed to the development of a Hate Crime Strategy for Halton and a Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy and was informed of proposed new legislative changes including the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners. Having considered a report on funding for community safety in Halton, which has largely been dependent on external time limited funding which will end March 2012, the Board fully supported the work of the Community Safety Team and agreed that every effort would be made to maintain the level of service currently being provided in the Borough.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

The Board scrutinised the Annual Report of Halton's Safeguarding Adults Board and briefed Members on the key issues and progression of the agenda for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults. It considered the key issues arising from the Service Inspection of Adult Social Care that was carried out by the Care Quality Commission and the subsequent Action Plan that was developed to address these.

Registration Service

The Board considered and endorsed the findings of the Halton Registration Inspection Service which were very positive about the service. The Board endorsed action to look at digitising records to improve storage capacity, an issue which had risen from this Inspection

Trading Standards Service

The PPB monitored the performance and activities of the Joint Trading Standards Service between Warrington Borough Council and Halton Borough Council. The Board endorsed the current activity which was making a difference in Halton, in particular the Consumer Alert Network (ICAN) which provides targeted relevant information to residents on issues including doorstep crime, rogue traders and postal and email scams.

WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2011/12

The PPB proposed the following topics areas for 2011/2012: -

- Alcohol Abuse (ongoing)
- Licensing
- Registered Social Landlords (ongoing)
- Domestic Abuse
- Adult Abuse

Members of the Public are welcome at the meetings of the Board. If you would like to know where and when meetings are to be held or if you would like any more information about the Board or its work please contact Paul McWade (0151 471 7437) or e-mail at paul.mcwade@halton.gov.uk

