

REPORT TO: Safer Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 16 September 2014

REPORTING OFFICER: Simon Bell Public Health Commissioning Manager

PORTFOLIO: Public Health – Policy and Resources

SUBJECT: LAAA Quarterly Progress Report
QUARTER 2

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To provide the LAAA quarterly progress to the Safer Policy and Performance Board.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board is asked to receive this report and note its contents.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Halton has been named as one of only 20 Local Alcohol Action Areas (LAAA) as part of a project to tackle the harmful and expensive effects of excessive alcohol consumption. In a scheme established by the Home Office, Halton will be supported in a bid to reduce the damage caused by alcohol to people's health and to local neighbourhoods.

3.2 The Local Alcohol Action Area scheme will seek to bring together local action in three key areas – reducing the impact of alcohol on people's health, stimulating and supporting the night time economy and reducing the impact of alcohol on crime and anti-social behaviour. Each action area will receive support and expertise from the Home Office, the Department of Health and Public Health England and will be encouraged to learn from other areas and build upon the hard work of local people and organisations.

3.3 The purpose of the enclosed Quarterly return is to provide members and partners with an update on the progress of activity to develop the Local Alcohol Action Area in Halton. (Please see Appendix A – 2nd Quarter LAAA Return, and Appendix B – LAAA Action Plan).

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Local Alcohol Action Area (LAAA) status enables the Local Authority to learn from best practice across the Country and will inform and influence the development of the new Halton Alcohol Strategy (2014) which is currently in development.

The project is expected to directly contribute to a reduction in alcohol harm and child development, both of which are priorities within Halton's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no additional financial implications of the LAAA at this moment. Additional resources in the form of advice, guidance and support have been made available in terms of Home Office and Public Health England support.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Halton's health and wellbeing priorities for children (through a targeted reduction in the both the harm to health and also the impact of alcohol on crime and antisocial behaviour) will be met in part through participation in the Local Alcohol Action Area programme.

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

The programme aims to encourage healthy behaviours amongst Halton residents which will lead to better health and wellbeing outcomes and contribute towards employability.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The project is expected to have a direct positive impact on the health and wellbeing of residents by focusing on the harm to health that alcohol causes.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

The project is expected to have a direct positive impact on the health and wellbeing of residents by focusing on a reduction in crime and antisocial behaviour that can arise from the misuse of alcohol.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

The project is expected to have a direct positive impact on the night-time economy in Halton with a focus on the diversification away from alcohol based activity.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Participation in the LAAA programme enables the Local Authority to utilise best practice from around the Country. Each individual element (where relevant) will be risk assessed to understand the impact on local services, resources and people.

There are a number of opportunities open to Halton as a result of the high profile that participation in this programme will bring, as well as the chance to make positive improvements to the lives of local people.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Any equality and diversity issues particularly around cultural issues will be explored with the programme prior to commencement of any activity.

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

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
APPENDIX A – 2nd QTR LAAA Return APPENDIX B - LAAA Action Plan Update	Enclosed or via Halton Town Hall	Simon Bell Simon.bell@halton.gov.uk 0151 511 6736