

REPORT TO: Health & Wellbeing Board

DATE: 13 January 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People and Economy

PORTFOLIO: Health & Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Halton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014-15

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the Health and Wellbeing Board with a copy of the 2014-15 Halton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report. This report provides a summary of the key actions and priorities the Safeguarding Adults Board has been working towards in the last year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Health and Wellbeing Board

1) note the contents of the report; and

2) approve the Halton Safeguarding Board Annual Report 2014-15.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 All Safeguarding Adults Boards are required to produce an Annual Report, which summarises all of the key achievements and priorities the Safeguarding Adults Board has been working towards over the last twelve months. The report sets out the national and local developments on safeguarding adults at risk.

3.2 Membership of the Halton's Safeguarding Adults Board includes senior representatives from all partner agencies, including Directors; Lead Clinicians and Lead Officers responsible for safeguarding adults in Halton. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that we work together as a community to support and safeguard all adults who are most at risk in society.

3.3 To achieve this, the Board continues to develop and establish strong partnerships to ensure that the most vulnerable in society are safeguarded and are free from fear; harm; neglect and abuse.

3.4 All partners are expected to share the following values which

underpin their work:

- Everybody within our society deserves, and is entitled to, good quality care and support to meet their needs
- Some people have difficulty expressing their needs and require careful consideration of their individual circumstances
- Everybody has a right to live in a safe and secure environment without fear of abuse, harassment or injury
- Everybody has a right to live as independently as they are able
- Everybody has a right to make choices and decisions about their lifestyle, which can involve risk-taking
- Everybody should have access to relevant services for addressing issues of abuse and neglect. This includes the civil and criminal justice system and victim support services

3.5 Halton's Safeguarding Adults Board contributes to the objectives of the Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Halton's Strategic Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy. During 2014/15, the Safeguarding Adults Board focused on four key priorities:

1. Promote awareness of abuse and the right to a safe and dignified life – particularly among the “vulnerable” and “at risk”, but also among staff, volunteers and the wider community
2. Increase the contribution from service users and carers, ensuring their views and experience inform the Board's work and service developments. Provide individualised services that keep people safe, but permit informed decisions about risk.
3. Ensure there is a strong multi-agency approach to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all adults at risk
4. Equip employees with the necessary tools and training to safeguard adults at risk and ensure their dignity is respected

3.6 The future priorities for Halton's Safeguarding Adults Board can be Summarised as follows:

- Empowerment
- Protection
- Proportionality
- Prevention
- Partnership
- Accountability

These priorities will be achieved by ensuring that there is a full range of policies, strategies and action plans in place, that provide a framework within which partner organisations can work together

effectively to respond to abuse and neglect. These documents will reflect emerging developments in national guidance and legislation, as well as national, regional and local learning and new approaches to safeguarding practice.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None identified.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None identified

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 Annual Report highlights the key actions undertaken and the priorities that the Safeguarding Adults Board have worked towards during the last twelve months.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

The Annual Report highlights the key actions undertaken and the priorities that the Safeguarding Adults Board have worked towards during the last twelve months.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None identified.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

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

None within the meaning of the Act.