

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 8th March 2016
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – People & Economy
PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing
SUBJECT: Scrutiny Topic 2016/17 : Carers
WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the Board with details of the Carers Scrutiny topic as outlined in the attached topic brief.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDED: That the Board

- i) Note contents of the report;
- ii) Approve the Topic Brief outlined at Appendix 1; and
- iii) Nominate Members of the Board to form part of the Scrutiny Topic Working Group.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The 2011 census found that there were over 15,000 carers in the Borough who were providing unpaid help and support to their partners and relatives etc.

3.2 With the introduction of the Care Act 2014, Carers are now recognised in law in the same way as those they care for; this means they have the right to an assessment of their needs. As a consequence, the Act has resulted in an unprecedented focus on Carers and their own health and for the first time sets out a set of national criteria to establish whether the Carer is eligible for support.

3.3 This topic will focus on the type and quality of Carers Services provided in Halton and the associated pathways in place to support Carers' ability to access those Services. It will examine these services and associated pathways, with a view to evaluating their effectiveness in meeting the needs of the local population.

3.4 Subject to agreement by Board to accept the topic brief; this report seeks nominations from members of the Board to form a member led scrutiny working group.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The recommendations from the resulting scrutiny review may result in a need to

review associated policies and procedures and will contribute to the development of a new Carer's Strategy for Halton.

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 remit of the Health Policy and Performance Board is directly linked to this priority.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None identified.

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**

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.