

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 20th June 2017

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: General Practice Alignment to Older People's Care Homes

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To share with the Board the outcome of the public consultation on the proposal to align General Practice to Older People's Care Homes in Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) The Board reviews the enclosed consultation document (Appendix 1) and supports the alignment of GP Practice to Older People's Care Homes in Halton.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Dr David Lyon, NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Clinical Chair and Leigh Thompson, Director of Commissioning for NHS Halton CCG attended the Health Policy and Performance Board (PPB) on 7th February 2017 to present the NHS Halton CCG's proposal to align GP Practice with Older People's Care Homes in Halton, supported by Halton Borough Council. The Board agreed at that time that the proposal amounted to substantial variation and supported the approach to consultation which was presented. The Board requested presentation of the outcome of consultation at the June 2017 Health PPB.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The commissioning of quality, safe and effective general medical services is critical to ensuring improved care and outcomes for residents and supports NHS Halton CCGs Sustainability and Recovery Plan.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 An Enhanced Service Specification to support a new model of delivery, over and above that within the Standard NHS Contract is

being developed. This Specification draws upon similar schemes nationally which have proven to show a reduction in emergency admissions and an improvement in health outcomes.

GP Practices will be remunerated for this enhanced level of provision at a rate yet to be agreed but benchmarked against other schemes nationally. This funding will be provided by NHS Halton CCG and reviewed in line with Service efficacy at defined intervals.

- 5.2 Previously anticipated funding from NHS England in association with Enhanced Health in Care Homes has not at this point been divested but it is expected that this funding, should it arrive, would support schemes that complement the alignment model of delivery.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

Not applicable.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

The alignment of General Practice to Older People's Care Homes in Halton will help to support and maintain healthy and resilient workforces both within General Practice and within Care Homes.

The Board may wish to note that there is a separate programme of work underway led by Halton Borough Council's Assistant Director of Adults Social Care which seeks to address further, training and retention of staff within care homes.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

An alignment model is expected to support improved care and outcomes for residents as well as the alleviation in pressures for both workforces.

6.4 A Safer Halton

A closer working rapport between Older People's Care Homes and General Practice will strengthen relationships; reduce medication/prescribing issues and support early identification of issues that may require support or action from another agency, thus improving care.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 7.1 It is anticipated that the previously noted risks around potential non-engagement of stakeholders have been mitigated through a comprehensive consultation period which will culminate in a final message to stakeholders being relayed in the coming weeks.

The national funding described in the previous report and under 5.2 above, has not been received and 100% of funding for the Enhanced Service Specification will be from Primary Care budget and the additional schemes hoped to bolster this project are on hold at this point in time. This does not affect service delivery.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out. This was reviewed and accepted by NHS Halton CCG Equality Lead. This will be reviewed again in line with consultation closure and updated as required.

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

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.