

REPORT TO: Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 16 September 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Health and Community
SUBJECT: Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults – Scrutiny Review
WARD(S): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To introduce the draft report of the Scrutiny Review of Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults for consideration by the Board.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) the Board comment of the findings of the Scrutiny Review; and**
- (2) the Board endorse the Scrutiny Review, and its recommendations as set out in Paragraph 5.0 of the attached review.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Report (attached as Appendix 1) was commissioned by the Safer Halton and Healthy Halton, Policy and Performance Boards. A joint scrutiny working group with members from both PPB's was formed.
- 3.2 The Report was commissioned because referrals of alleged abuse of vulnerable adults in the category of "older people" received by Halton Borough Council have risen year on year, with Halton having the highest level of referrals in the North-West. The Boards wished to understand the reasons for this and consider if appropriate procedures were in place to safeguard vulnerable adults.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None. Existing policies are endorsed by the report.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The report makes a series of recommendations which, if endorsed, can be implemented within current procedures and resources.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **A Healthy Halton**

The safeguarding of vulnerable adults is fundamental to their health and well-being.

6.2 A Safer Halton

The report examines the effectiveness of Adult Protection policies; physical, emotional and economic to make Halton a safe place of residence for vulnerable adults.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The report makes recommendations to mitigate risks for vulnerable adults in Halton.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 None identified by the report.

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

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.