

**REPORT TO:** Healthy Halton Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 11<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**REPORT FROM:** Strategic Director, Health and Community

**SUBJECT:** Commissioning Strategy for Extra Care

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek the Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Board's approval of the draft Extra Care Strategy (attached as Appendix A).

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Board approves the Extra Care Strategy.**

## 3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The purpose of the strategy is to provide Halton Borough Council with a plan for the commissioning of extra care services. The aim is to meet the changing and growing needs of Halton's older population through a strategy that will achieve good quality, cost effective extra care services, making maximum use of available capital and revenue sources to achieve its implementation. The primary focus of the strategy is on older people. However, account is taken of the predicted number of people with a learning disability whose needs could be met through this type of service.

### 3.2 CURRENT PROVISION

Halton currently has one extra care scheme, Dorset Gardens, in Palacefields, Runcorn. This scheme provides forty units of extra care.

### 3.3 COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVELS OF PROVISION ACROSS NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES

Authority	Extra Care Units	Population (65+)*	Population (all)	% of people 65+	% of all people
<b>Warrington</b>	475	29,700	193,600	1.60%	0.25%
<b>Blackpool</b>	59	27,400	145,000	0.22%	0.04%
<b>Blackburn</b>	220	18,000	142,200	1.22%	0.15%
<b>St Helens</b>	318	29,300	177,800	1.09%	0.18%
<b>Halton</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16,500</b>	<b>118,900</b>	<b>0.24%</b>	<b>0.03%</b>

The table highlights the significant under provision of this type of service in Halton and of particular note is the inequity of provision across the Halton and St Helens PCT footprint.

### **3.4 PROJECTED NEED**

The current core need for extra care is 166 units. This is projected to increase to 214 units by 2017. In addition, there is a current need for eleven units of extra care provision for older people with learning disabilities. It has also been established that there is an equal need for extra care housing schemes in Widnes and Runcorn.

### **3.5 PROPOSALS TO MEET THE NEED**

The strategy proposes that this need should be met through the development of four additional extra care housing schemes by 2013, each providing between 40-50 units. A number of existing sheltered housing sites have been identified as potential sites for new or remodelled extra care housing sites. However, the strategy also encourages Halton Borough Council, Halton and St Helens PCT and Registered Social Landlords to identify potential land for new developments.

### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Commissioning Strategy for Extra Care sets out how Halton proposes to meet the growing and changing needs of our aging population.
- 4.2 All new HBC policies relating to capital programmes, disposal of land and planning should take into account potential to support our corporate responsibility to meet the needs of an aging population through the development of extra care housing.

### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The evaluations of bids to the Homes and Communities Agency and to the DOH are heavily weighted on the capital cost per unit. In order to reduce the unit cost the majority of bids submitted in partnership with Housing Associations are supplemented by the acquirement of free land from the LA or PCT or capital funding from the LA or PCT.
- 5.2 In the absence of opportunities to offer free land sites to supplement the cost of future bids it is proposed that HBC explore opportunities to secure capital finance in partnership with the PCT.

### **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

- 6.1 The unmet needs highlighted in this strategy are likely to remain

unmet, unless future bids to the Homes and Communities Agency and the DOH are successful. The likely impact of this being increased demand and increased costs for Social Care and Health Care.

- 6.2 If future HBC extra care housing bids are to be successful, the unit cost will have to be reduced. This can only be achieved through the offer of free land or additional capital resources.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **7.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

None.

### **7.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None.

### **7.3 A Healthy Halton**

Extra Care Services provide a combination of health, care and support which will improve the health and well being of older people through:

- The prevention or minimisation of hospital admissions
- Enabling people to continue to live independently obviating the need to move to residential care
- Providing a medication monitoring services
- Adoption of falls prevention policy and practice
- Provision of support and care with shopping, cooking and catering facilities to enable residents to access health eating options
- Offering healthy living options including exercise, gardening, leisure activities
- Provision of flexible personal care to enable continuation of independent living
- Continued independence and activity as a means of maintaining mobility and daily functions (Extra-care residents improve more than people in traditional forms of care: they show an average mobility improvement of more than 35%; a 20% improvement in daily living functions; a 10% increase in sensory ability; and a 25% reduction in medication use.)
- Availability of a responsive on site team of carers to address care needs immediately preventing escalation.

### **7.4 A Safer Halton**

Extra care services support the Councils objective to achieve a safer Halton by:

- Reducing anxiety through the reassurance provided by having people on site and available should the need arise.
- Adopting Health and Safety policy and procedures and physical design of the buildings to minimise risks to occupants
- Making links with the wider community to provide connections with the wider community and to provide opportunities for people living in the scheme to contribute
- Reducing social isolation through involvement in social events, clubs and activities to maximise opportunities for socialising and companionship

## **7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

The Commissioning Strategy aims to improve the quality and choice of housing options available to meet the needs of Haltons aging population.

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

8.1 None