



**Safer Policy and Performance Board**

**Tuesday, 18 September 2012 at 6.30 p.m.  
Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Walsh'.

**Chief Executive**

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Councillor Shaun Osborne (Chairman)</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chairman)</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Susan Edge</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor John Gerrard</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Robert Gilligan</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Valerie Hill</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Darren Lea</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Martha Lloyd Jones</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Margaret Ratcliffe</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
<b>Councillor Paul Nolan</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Councillor Pauline Sinnott</b>	<b>Labour</b>
<b>Mr B Hodson</b>	<b>Co-Optee</b>

*Please contact Lynn Derbyshire on 0151 511 7975 or e-mail  
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*The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 13 November 2012*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH  
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Part I**

<b>Item No.</b>		<b>Page No.</b>
<b>1. MINUTES</b>		
<b>2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)</b>		
	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.	
<b>3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>		<b>1 - 3</b>
<b>4. SSP MINUTES</b>		<b>4 - 11</b>
<b>5. PRESENTATION - PUBLIC RESOLUTION PANELS</b>		<b>12 - 14</b>
<b>6. PERFORMANCE MONITORING</b>		
<b>(A) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS - QUARTER 1 OF 2012/13</b>		<b>15 - 33</b>
<b>7. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES</b>		
<b>(A) RISK &amp; EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE</b>		<b>34 - 37</b>
<b>(B) FOOD SAFETY AND THE NATIONAL FOOD HYGIENE RATING SCHEME</b>		<b>38 - 46</b>
<b>(C) POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC) UPDATE</b>		<b>47 - 68</b>
<b>(D) SAFEGUARDING ADULTS</b>		<b>69 - 72</b>

***In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.***

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 18 September 2012

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Corporate and Resources

**SUBJECT:** Public Question Time

**WARD(s):** Borough-wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).

1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

**2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
  - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
  - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
  - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
  - Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

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

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

#### **7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

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

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

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board  
**DATE:** 18 September 2012  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Chief Executive  
**PORTFOLIO:** Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Specialist Strategic Partnership minutes  
**WARD(s):** Boroughwide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The Minutes from the last Safer Halton Partnership meeting, which are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership, are attached for consideration.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION:** That the minutes be noted.

### **3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 None.

### **4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

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

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

None.

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

None.

#### **5.3 A Healthy Halton**

None.

#### **5.4 A Safer Halton**

None.

#### **5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 None.

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

7.1 None.

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

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

**SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP**

*At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 15 May 2012 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn*

Present	Cllr Osborne	HBC
	Cllr D. Cargill	Police Authority
	S. Eastwood	DAAT, Communities
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	C. Frazer	Riverside Housing
	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	P. McWade	Commissioning & Complex Care
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	N. Sharpe	Halton Housing Trust
	R. Strachan	Cheshire Police
	D Gordon	Community Safety
	C. Walsh	Halton & ST Helens PCT
	J Davidson	Cheshire Probation
	H. Coen	Performance & Improvement
	A. Waller	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	J Bucknall	Children's Provision & Organisation
	L Smallthwaite	Warrington & Halton Trading Standards

*Action*

**SHP32 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Richard Strachan welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.

**SHP33 APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from David Parr, Lorraine Crane, Dwayne Johnson and Gareth Jones.

**SHP34 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

SHP 26 – Following a query regarding candidates for the post of PCC – these would be announced to the Partnership as soon as they were known.

**SHP35 FINANCE REPORT - END OF YEAR SUMMARY**

The Partnership received a report which provided a summary of the year end accounts of the Safer Halton

Partnership (SHP).

The Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF); (£448,000) and LPSA2 funding (£532,000) was allocated to the SHP by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board (HSPB) for 2011/12.

It was agreed at the SHP meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012 that £375,000 of this funding would be re-profiled. It was noted that due to cutbacks in expenditure in 2011/12, it was possible to increase this amount to £451,746.19. The projects allocated the funding for 2012-13 were listed in the report and had been allocated in accordance with the outcomes from the Community Safety Review.

It was noted that the £3,250 Vikings project was not part of the Community Safety Review and would be spent as agreed by the SHP on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

It was reported that as the Review was now complete this would be presented to the Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board. On behalf of the Partnership, the Chair conveyed his thanks to the staff who contributed to the Community Safety Review.

RESOLVED: That the SHP:

1. Note the financial summary report for year end 2011/12; and
2. Note the amendments to the amounts of funding to be re-profiled, from that agreed by the SHP at their meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

#### SHP36 ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2012

Collette Walsh presented the key features and local implications of the new National Alcohol Strategy published March 2012.

Appended to the report was the *Proposed Strategic Aims for Halton 2012-2015*.

The strategy was described as '*a radical change in the approach which sought to turn the tide against irresponsible drinking*'. There was a recognition that the change would not happen overnight; however it was agreed that action was required now as alcohol related harm costs society £21 billion annually.

The summary report went onto explain the causes of irresponsible drinking, the required outcomes and how the strategy aimed to tackle irresponsible drinking. It was noted that the strategy included input from all stakeholder groups. Collette also advised the Partnership that HBC Management Team had requested more focus on children and young people so more consultation in this area was needed.

The Partnership discussed the strategy and raised issues around minimum pricing, binge drinking, changes to housing benefits payments and data sharing. The following points were also made:

- 1) Communicating the strategy to the public would be challenging so it was important that it was delivered effectively so that the people being targeted received the right message;
- 2) Reporting priorities for the Alcohol Tasking Group would be reviewed in their next meeting, using the Strategy for reference;
- 3) It was agreed that information sharing was crucial to the success of the Partnership in general, and that this should continue as much as possible;
- 4) It was suggested that a member from Collette's team be co-opted to join the licencing committee as input of this type would add value to the Committee;

RESOLVED: That

1. The Safer Halton Partnership (SHP) approves in principle the recommended actions for 2012-15 (Appendix A) as the basis of a comprehensive three year Alcohol Strategy for Halton;
2. Further prioritisation would be applied to the recommended actions to determine priority work streams for 2012-13; and
3. The work stream priorities for 2012-13 relate to preventing alcohol harm for children and young people and ensuring that young people have the information and support that they need to make healthy, informed, responsible choices.

SHP37 TASK GROUP UPDATES -

The group received the following updates:

- a) Alcohol Enforcement – This category would be renamed for the next agenda. The Licensing team had visited 377 licensed premises, made 32 alcohol related arrests in public places and issued 64 Section 27's. *Bank Chambers* was now fully reopened with revised licensing conditions although they had recently applied for a variation to this. Three venues were warned regarding the service of drunks, information was requested on the intervention carried out on the drunken people. The *Tricorn* had reopened at the end of March and to date there were no incidents reported.

There was no dedicated officer for under age alcohol sales now within the Trading Standards Team. Warrington were obliged to carry out 60 test purchases a year and the information obtained from this would be shared with Halton.

Community Safety staff was meeting tomorrow with the Widnes Vikings to discuss a joined up strategy for alcohol enforcement.

- b) Quarterly Alcohol Update – *Halton Residents Alcohol Hospital Admissions Date (April to December 2011-12)* was presented. The Alcohol Nursing Scheme being set up in Whiston Hospital was being concentrated on at the moment.

- c) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) – Last quarter numbers rose by 3% due to youth ASB. Since the publishing of the agenda it had been established that this was due to 7 youths in the Riverside area that had been setting fires. Since they had been caught the figures had stabilised.

Councillor Osborne requested Community Safety officers to contact the respective Ward Councillors if ASB hotspots were identified so that they could offer assistance in the community.

- d) Crime Action Group – It was agreed that this category would become obsolete from the next meeting as it duplicated information presented in other areas.

Crime figures in general were down; domestic violence training had been provided for Registered Social Landlords (RSL's); respect weeks were planned later in

the year and *Mischief Night* will no longer be referred to as *Mischief Night*.

- e) Domestic Abuse – Away training days for staff had taken place on MARAC processes. A two week marketing and communication campaign to mark St Valentine's Day was a success. It was confirmed that funding for the DV Coordinator position was available for the next 12-18 months.
- f) Drugs – Treatment & Prevention – The handover to CRI had taken place and had gone very well, in 3 months they had cleared the alcohol waiting lists. A comprehensive learning package for front line staff was being rolled out over the next year. An emerging issue to note was the powerful role the internet was beginning to play with regards to the supply of licit and illicit drugs, these included human enhancement drugs and counterfeit medicines such as *Viagra*.
- g) Navigate Offender Management (Q3) – The NACRO worker's contract had terminated at the end of March but the YOT had placed one member of staff with them two days a week. A red/amber/green reporting system had been put in place. Overall there were good success rates at the moment including a 77% drop in repeat offending. It was noted that anyone could refer a candidate to offender management and a briefing session for Councillor Osborne would be arranged by Community Safety.
- h) Hate Crimes – This was the first report comprising of data collected since the review of the management of hate crimes/incidents and as a consequence the figures showed an increase in the number of hate crimes documented.
- i) Partnership Tasking & Coordination – Problem profiles highlighted were in Bechers and Upton Green in Widnes, Halton Brook, The Uplands, the Knoll and Halton Lodge in Runcorn. Key dates would be identified to promote Operation Staysafe in Schools.

#### SHP38 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION -

The following documents were provided to the Partnership for information:

- a) Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) Year End Progress Report – information on the progress in

achieving targets contained within the 2011-2016 SCS for Halton. It was noted that this information would be valuable for the new PCC coming in.

- b) Blue Lamp Reports – Runcorn & Widnes
- c) Safer Halton Policy Bulletin – March
- d) Safer Halton Policy Bulletin – April
- e) Big Lottery Funding for Windmill Hill – information on the funding and work currently being undertaken to progress this initiative.

**SHP39 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Schedule of dates for the year 2012-13 would be as follows:

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Time/Venue of Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 25 September 2012</b>	2.00 pm, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall
<b>Tuesday 20 November 2012</b>	2.00 pm, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall
<b>Monday 18 February 2013</b>	10.00 am, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall
<b>Wednesday 15 May 2013</b>	2.00 pm, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall

*Meeting ended at 3.48 p.m.*

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy and Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	18 September 2012
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Operational Director – Communities
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Neighbourhood resolution Panels
<b>WARDS:</b>	Grange Ward

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Policy and Performance Board on the introduction of a Neighbourhood Resolution Panel in the Grange ward of Halton.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- (1) The Board receive a presentation on the progress of the Neighbourhood Resolution Panel pilot.
- (2) The policy and performance board raises any issues regarding the introduction of neighbourhood resolution panels.

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Halton is to be one of the 15 English areas to pilot a Neighbourhood Resolution Panel, designed to resolve anti-social behaviour and low-level crime affecting local communities. (For example neighbour disputes, noise & nuisance parking)

The successful bid produced by the Community Safety Team and Halton Housing Trust was submitted at the end of October 2011.

The pilot is located in the Grange Ward and will run until 2014 and will be evaluated by the Ministry of Justice.

The panel will deliver agreed restorative justice outcomes and can include perpetrators agreeing to carry out tasks that make amends to the victim or wider community. They are designed to give victims and the community much more of a say in the punishments that are given out.

Panels are made up of volunteers trained in restorative justice, who will facilitate meetings between victim and offenders. (5 volunteer facilitators have successfully completed the training)

- 3.2 The Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice Nick Herbert said: "Too often offenders are dealt with behind the scenes, with little regard for the effect of crimes on victims and communities. We want to reconnect the justice system to the local communities they serve."

Some areas have already been using restorative justice, concentrating on youth offending. The Neighbourhood Resolution Panels will extend this approach, which can be applied to any low level crime and is open to adults and youths

Neighbourhood Resolution Panels aim to agree meaningful action on the part of the perpetrator that meets the needs of the victim, and any wider community involved.

These pilots are not intended to deal with cases that involve more serious offences which will be prosecuted or dealt with through formal out of court disposals such as a caution, which would be given by the police.

**Benefits:**

- Divert offenders/perpetrators from the Criminal Justice System
- Speed (4-6 week turn around)
- More victim involvement
- Improve perceptions of complaint handling
- Improve/decrease re-offending rates
- Free up time for more pressing work for housing and police officers

These reforms build on the lessons learned from the response to last summer's disturbances and are intended to modernise criminal justice services, speed up court cases, improve transparency so the public can understand how the system works, and engage local communities in the judicial process.

The pilot is open to accept referrals from the partner agencies.

**4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None

**5.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

5.1 None associated with this report

**6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

**6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

None

**6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

None

**6.3 A Healthy Halton**

Addressing anti-social behaviour and crime is the key function of the Community Safety Team and without this work it is likely that both will increase having a significant impact on resident's health.

**6.4 A Safer Halton**

This new set of measures will help to improve the way local partners and the community deal with anti-social behaviour and neighbour nuisance in Halton. If the national pilot is successful then this may lead to an increase in the number of panels across the borough.

**6.5 Urban Renewal**

None

**7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

None

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

8.1 None under the meaning of the Act

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 18th September 2012

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Policy & Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Resources

**SUBJECT:** Performance Management Reports for Quarter 1 of 2012/13

**WARDS:** Boroughwide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

**1.1** To consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of performance management for the first quarter to June 2012.

**1.2** The report details progress against service objectives/ milestones and performance targets, and describes factors affecting the service for the below service areas within the remit of the Safer Policy & Performance Board:

- Communities Directorate – Community Safety, Drug & Alcohol Action Teams, Domestic Violence and Environmental Health
- Area Partner indicators from the Police, Fire and Probation Services are stated where available.

Structured by key priorities as stated in section 3.2 below.

**2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board**

- 1) Receive the first quarter performance management reports;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Policy and Performance Board.**

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**3.1** Departmental objectives provide a clear statement on what the services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. Such information is central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

**3.2** In line with the revised Council's Performance Framework for 2012/13 (approved by Executive Board in 2012/13), the Policy and Performance Board has been provided with a Safer Priority Based report; which

identifies the key issues arising from the performance in Quarter 1. This has been structured using the below priorities and key areas of focus, as stated in the Directorate Plan for 2012-15:

- Community Safety;
- Safeguarding & Dignity (including Consumer Protection and Substance Misuse); and
- Domestic Violence.

3.3 The full Departmental quarterly reports are available on the Members' Information Bulletin to allow Members access to the reports as soon as they have become available within six weeks of the quarter end. This also provides Members with an opportunity to give advance notice of any questions, points or requests for further information that will be raised to ensure the appropriate Officers are available at the PPB meeting. The Departmental quarterly monitoring reports are also available via the following link

<http://srvmosswfe1:40000/sites/Teams/PerformanceandImprovement/Pages/QuarterlyMonitoringReports.aspx>

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no other implications associated with this report.

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

6.1 Departmental service objectives and performance measures, both local and national are linked to the delivery of the Council's priorities. The introduction of a Priority Based Report and the identification of business critical objectives/ milestones and performance indicators will further support organisational improvement.

6.2 Although some objectives link specifically to one priority area, the nature of the cross - cutting activities being reported, means that to a greater or lesser extent a contribution is made to one or more of the Council priorities.

#### **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Not applicable.

#### **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Not applicable.

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

9.1 There are no background papers relevant to the meaning of the Act.

## Safer Policy & Performance Board Priority Based Report

**Reporting Period:** Quarter 1 – Period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012

### 1.0 Introduction

This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service area objectives and milestones and performance targets during the first quarter of 2012/13; for service areas within the remit of the Safer Policy and Performance Board.

The report has been structured by the following key priorities for Safer PPB, as identified in the Directorate and Corporate Plans:

- Community Safety
- Safeguarding and Dignity (including Consumer Protection and Substance Misuse)
- Domestic Violence

The way in which the Red, Amber and Green, (RAG), symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained at the end of this report.

### 2.0 Key Developments

There have been a number of developments within the Directorate during the first quarter which include:-

#### **The Establishment of an Integrated Safeguarding Unit**

Halton Borough Council are currently undertaking a 12 month pilot in conjunction with the local Clinical Commissioning Group to establish an integrated adults safeguarding hub within Halton Borough Council. The aim of the new model of delivery will be to provide a hub and spoke model which is an efficient, flexible and responsive service to the local population. The Unit will lead on adults safeguarding and dignity work across the Health and Social care economy. It will be headed up by a Principal Manager supported by two social workers, two Nurses, a Safeguarding/Dignity Officer, a Board Certified Behavioural Analyst and a GP. This will enable the unit to effectively operate particularly with its interface with the Community Nursing Teams, Acute Hospitals, and Care Management Teams.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) powers and tools.**

In Feb 2011 the Home Secretary published, *“More effective Responses to Anti-Social Behaviour”* – a transformation in the way ASB is dealt with. The Home Secretary announced new tools to combat problems of ASB. Also, the research shows the ASBO is not an effective deterrent as the persistent minority continue to breach.

Specifically, the proposals include:

- Repeal the ASBO and other court orders for anti-social individuals, and replace them with two new tools that bring together restrictions on future behaviour and support to address underlying problems
  - A Criminal Behaviour Order that can be attached to a criminal conviction, and a
  - Crime Prevention Injunction that can quickly stop anti-social behaviour before it escalates;
- Ensure there are powerful incentives on perpetrators to stop behaving antisocially
  - For example, by making breach of the new orders grounds for eviction from social housing;
- Bring together many of the existing tools for dealing with place-specific anti-social behaviour, from persistent litter or noisy neighbours, to street drinking and crack houses, into a
  - Community Protection Order;
- Bring together existing (Section 27) police dispersal powers into a single police power to direct people away from an area for anti-social behaviour;
- Make the informal and out-of-court tools for dealing with anti-social behaviour more rehabilitative and restorative; and
- Introduce a Community Trigger that gives victims and communities the right to require agencies to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour.

The above Home Office (Home Secretary) paper was produced on the back of the critical findings highlighted in the HMIC report called “Stop the Rot”. The HMIC review highlighted the failings of police forces to respond to ASB following David Askew’s tragic death. Currently, the coalition’s strategy and new tools are currently being piloted across a number of police forces. Cheshire Constabulary are awaiting the results of the pilots and further detailed government guidance.

### 3.0 Emerging Issues

A number of emerging issues have been identified during the first quarter that will impact upon the work of the Directorate including:-

#### **Police & Crime Commissioners**

Preparations continue for the Police & Crime Commissioner elections in November, for which the Chief Executive will be the Police Area Returning Officer. Work is currently underway preparing a briefing note for the new Police and Crime commissioner, which will set out the existing approach to community safety in Halton, including the partnership landscape, activities underway and successful outcomes achieved. The Police and Crime Commissioner, once elected, will have the responsibility for delivery of community safety and crime reduction across Cheshire, with the new un-ring fenced Community Safety Fund and any other community safety resource channelled through them from 2013/14.

## Safeguarding

### **Interim Report – Winterbourne View**

The Department of Health Review of Winterbourne View: Interim Report was published in late June. The Chief Executive of the NHS Commissioning Board Authority and Director-General of Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships have jointly written to all PCT's and Local Authorities to highlight the actions set out in the report and the need for Health and Social Care to work jointly at both national and local level to commission services to improve outcomes and enable people with learning disabilities to lead fulfilling and safe lives in the community. The final report is anticipated in Autumn 2012. Locally the Learning Disability Partnership Board Healthcare for All group will oversee progress. The Membership includes health and social care professionals, family carers and self-advocates.

### **DEFRA**

There is currently a consultation being carried out by DEFRA (Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) about tackling irresponsible dog ownership, poor welfare and dangerous breeds of dogs. This issue has received a lot of public interest and the outcome may lead to changes in legislation which may have issues for Environmental Health and other enforcement officers within HBC.

## **4.0 Risk Control Measures**

Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and performance monitoring arrangements. During the development of the 2012/13 Business Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all key service objectives with high risks included in the Directorate Risk Register.

As a result, monitoring of all relevant 'high' risks will be undertaken and progress reported against the application of the risk treatment measures in Quarters 2 and 4.

## **5.0 Progress against high priority equality actions**

There have been no high priority equality actions identified in the quarter.

## 6.0 Performance Overview

The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key priorities that have been identified for Safer PPB, as stated in the Directorate and Corporate Plans.

### 1 COMMUNITY SAFETY (P McW)

#### Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
CCC1	Review Community Safety Team in line with reductions in funding arrangements <b>Mar 2013</b> (AOF9 & 11)	

#### Supporting Commentary

The review has been completed and approved by the Council's Executive Board on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2012. This means that the service is now well positioned to deliver the Councils' objectives and fit for purpose ahead of the appointment of the Police Crime Commissioner in the Autumn 2012.

#### Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q1	Current Progress	Direction of travel
CCC 24 SCS / HH1a & SH10	Reduce Alcohol related hospital Admissions (Previously NI 39) (per 100,000 population)	2651.7	3027	Proxy 666.0		
CCC 25 (SCS / SH1)	Reduce the Actual Number of ASB incidents recorded by Cheshire Police broken down in youth and adult incidents (Previously NI 17)	7434	8463	1824		
CCC 26 SCS / SH2	Arson incidents (Previously NI 33 - Total deliberate fires per 10,000 population)	558	484	110		
CCC 33 SCS / SH11	Reduce the re-offending rates of repeat offenders (RO's in the Navigate IOM Scheme – NEW) (Formerly NI 30) PPO – Priority offenders RO – Repeat offenders	PPO: 77.13% reduction RO: 36.73% reduction Shift in offence type	To maintain & reduce offending rates for PPO:40% reduction and RO's:4% reduction	N/A	N/A	N/A

CCC 34 SCS / SH13	Reduce the use of custody (Ministry of Justice proposal) (New measure)	11	Target to be set once baseline established	3		N/A
CCC 35 SCS / SH14	Reduce the proportion of individuals within the navigate cohort whose offending is substance misuse related. (New measure)	New measure	Target to be set once baseline established	N/A	N/A	N/A
CCC 36 SCS / SH16	Reduce Serious acquisitive crime rate (per 1000 population) (Previously NI 16) from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Burglary</li> <li>• Theft of motor vehicle</li> <li>• Theft from motor vehicle</li> <li>• Robbery (personal and business)</li> </ul>	1548 (rate 13.10 per 1,000)	1652	268		
CCC 37 SCS / SH17	New Revised Measure: Assault with injury crime rate (per 1000 population) (Previously NI 20)	804 (rate per 6.80 per 1,000)	1074	161		

### Supporting Commentary

**CCC24** – Q1 2012/13 is a proxy based on May 12 data. Q1 2012/13 will be updated in the next report. Key developments in the quarter include

(1) Work continues to ensure that the new core Treatment Provider is successfully integrated within the Substance Misuse Treatment System in Halton.

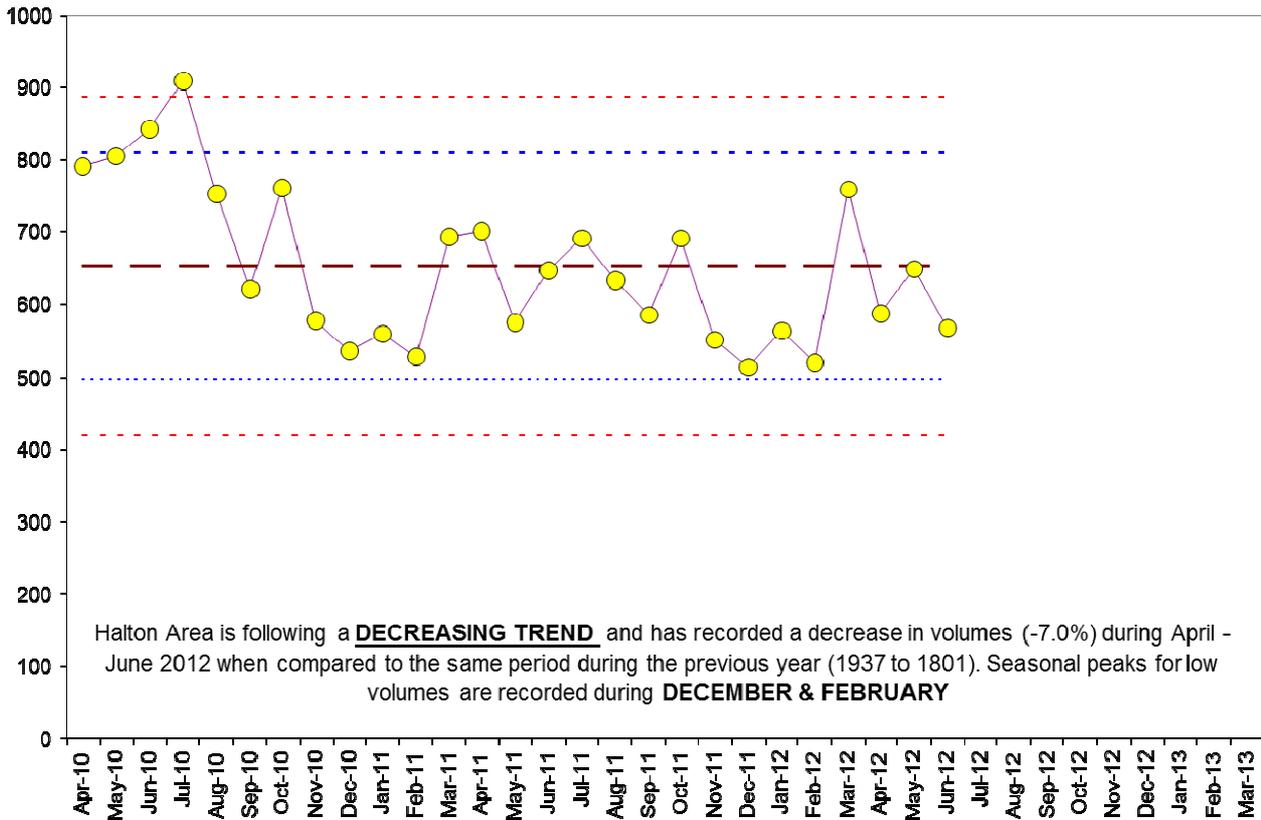
(2) A Performance Framework is being refined for the Alcohol Liaison Nursing Service at Whiston Hospital. - anticipated service start up date 1 September 2012. This initiative in particular is expected to have a significant impact on reducing the rate of increase in alcohol admissions.

(3) A Review of the Alcohol Harm Reduction DES is underway for GP Practices with a view to assessing effectiveness and value for money and looking at ways in which frontline professionals can be supported to identify alcohol misuse and offer brief advice/ onward referral where appropriate.

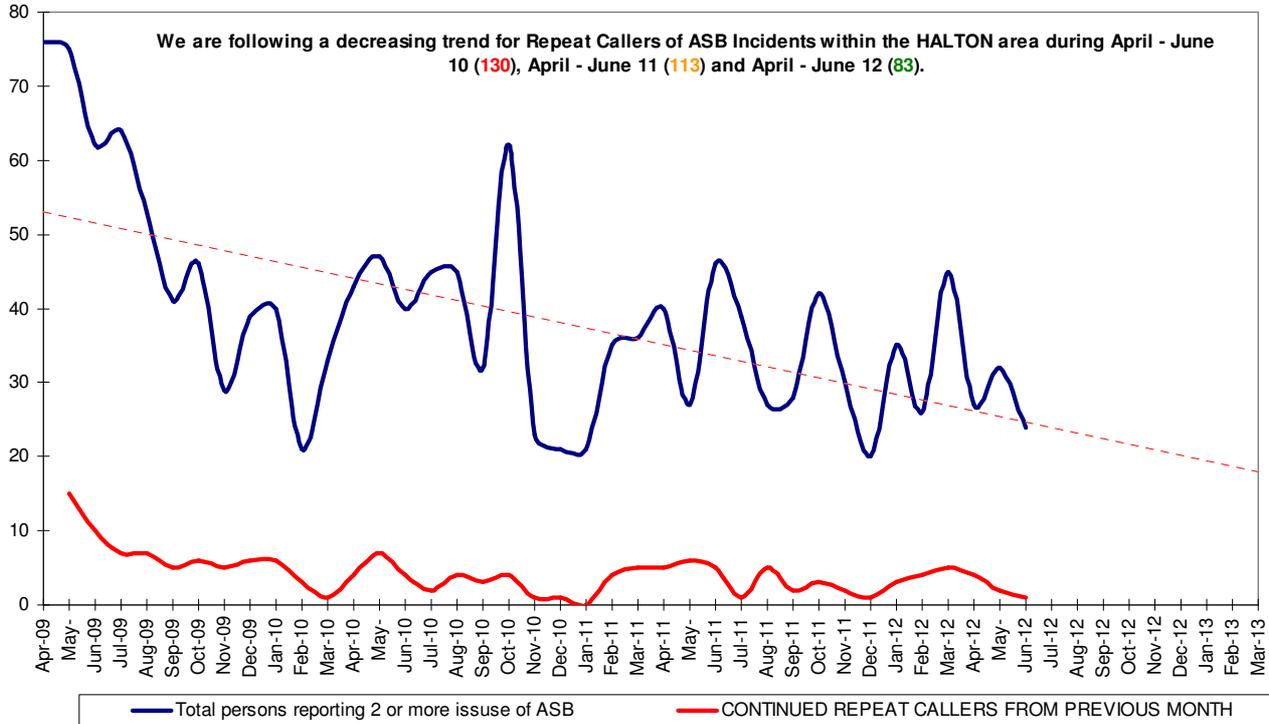
**CCC25** – This is a total reduction of ASB number of 101 incidents with Runcorn reducing by 159 incidents and Widnes increasing by 58 more incidents. Both Broadheath and Riverside have increased each month in the quarter, with increases occurring more on a Saturday evening from 20.00hrs – 23.00hrs in Broadheath and a Tuesday and Sunday between 16.00hrs and 21.00hrs in Riverside. Included in the total is Youth ASB (595 incidents) with Runcorn seeing a reduction of 117 incidents compared to an increase in Widnes of 20 incidents. However, the total percentage of youth related ASB incidents as an overall total compared to last year has reduced from 36% to 33% this year. A number of multi-agency responses supporting victims and witnesses has continued this quarter with 58 individuals receiving on-going support. Trends over time are monitored monthly by Cheshire Constabulary (see below graphs), showing decreases in Anti-social

behaviour reported in Halton, with a similar reduction noted in the number of repeat incidents.

**ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR INCIDENTS REPORTED WITHIN HALTON AREA**



**Total number of persons reporting 2 or more calls for ASB issues within Halton BCU**



**CCC26** – Although deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour continues to be a problem within Halton, targeted Fire Service work and initiatives in conjunction with partners continue to ensure these incidents decline steadily. Numbers of arson incidents are stated. Details of rates per 10,000 populations are awaited from the fire service.

**CCC33** – Performance information in respect of re-offending rates of repeat offenders (RO's in the Navigate Integrated Offender Management Scheme) is produced by Police HQ staff. Quarter1 performance has not yet been reported.

**CCC34** – This new measure will monitor custody sentences in terms of actual number and also as a rate per 1,000 aged 10-17 year local population (yearly).

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) works closely with persistent offenders as part of the multi-agency navigate (IOM) scheme to target resources to help reduce their reoffending.

The YOT have introduced a compliance procedure which is reducing the incidences of breach leading to court appearances and potential custodial outcomes.

We are working with accommodation provider staff in terms of ensuring young people have appropriate accommodation in the community. All YOT staff are trained in court procedures and we enjoy a very good working relationship with our local courts.

**CCC35** – New measure to monitor the navigate cohort whose offending is substance misuse related. This service due to commence in February 2012 and data to support the measurement of this outcome is in the process of being identified.

**CCC36** – Serious Acquisitive Crime 268 incidents which represent 143 fewer victims compared to Qtr 1 2011/12. This is broken down as follows:

- Household burglary 97 crimes, (38 fewer victims, reduction of -28.1%)
- Theft of motor vehicle 42 crimes, (38 fewer victims, reduction of -47.5%)
- Theft from vehicle 118 crimes, (65 fewer victims, reduction of -35.5%)
- Robbery (personal & business) 11 crimes, (2 fewer victims, reduction of -15.4%)

Shown in more detail in the below table:

	April - June 11	April - June 12	CHANGE	
<b>TOTAL CRIME</b>	<b>2297</b>	<b>2058</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	<b>239 fewer victims</b>
<b>SERIOUS ACQUISITIVE</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>-34.8%</b>	<b>143 fewer victims</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD BURGLARY</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-28.1%</b>	<b>38 fewer victims</b>
<b>VEHICLE CRIME</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>-39.2%</b>	<b>103 fewer victims</b>
<b>THEFT OF VEHICLE</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>-47.5%</b>	<b>38 fewer victims</b>
<b>THEFT FROM VEHICLE</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>-35.5%</b>	<b>65 fewer victims</b>
<b>ROBBERY</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-15.4%</b>	<b>2 fewer victims</b>
<b>PERSONAL ROBBERY</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-40.0%</b>	<b>4 fewer victims</b>
<b>BUSINESS ROBBERY</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>2 more victims</b>
<b>SERIOUS VIOLENCE</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-33.3%</b>	<b>6 fewer victims</b>
<b>ASSAULT LESS SERIOUS</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>-17.4%</b>	<b>34 fewer victims</b>
<b>VIOLENCE WITH INJURY</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>-17.8%</b>	<b>38 fewer victims</b>

**CCC37** – During Q1 April to June 2012 the Halton Area recorded 161 crimes of Assault with Less Serious Injury equating to 75 incidents in Runcorn and 88 incidents in Widnes. Performance has improved compared to the same period 2011/12 (194).

## 2 SAFEGUARDING AND DIGNITY (SWB, PMcW)

### Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q1	Current Progress	Direction of travel
<b>PA 5</b>	Percentage of VAA Assessments completed within 28 days (Previously PA 8)	90.80%	82%	84.28%		
<b>PA 6</b>	Percentage of VAA initial assessments commencing within 48 hours of referral (Previously PA 9)	84.80%	64%	52.55%		
<b>PA 8</b>	Percentage of existing Halton BC Adult Social Care staff that have received Adult Safeguarding Training, including e-learning, in the last 3-years. (Previously PA 11)	46%	48%	41%		NA
<b>PA 9</b>	Percentage of Halton BC Adult Social Care staff that have received Adult Safeguarding Training, including e-learning (Previously PA 12)	127	130	29		NA
<b>PA 10</b>	Number of external Adult Social Care Staff that have received Adult Safeguarding Training, including e-learning (Previously PA 13)	581	250	81		N/A
PA 22	The Proportion of People who use services who feel safe – Adult Social Care Survey (ASCOF 4A) (Previously PA 35)	66.2%*	54%	Reported annually (2011/12 outturn)*	N/A	
PA 23	The Proportion of People who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure – Adult Social Care Survey (ASCOF 4B Previously PA 36)	79.1%*	79.1%	Reported annually (2011/12 outturn)*	N/A	
<b>PA 25</b>	a) % of scheduled Local Air Pollution Control audits carried out	81%	93%	15%		Not available
	b) % of Local Air Pollution Control Audits being broadly compliant. (Previously PA 18)	85%	78%	88%		Not available
<b>PA 27</b>	a) % of high risk Health & Safety inspections undertaken	100%	100%	Reported annually		
	b) Number of unrated premises (and premises not currently high risk) subject to targeted interventions and risk rated under new statutory risk rating system (Previously PA 20)	268	200	Reported annually		

<b>PA 28</b>	Placeholder: Overarching Trading Standards Measure (TBC)	New measure	New measure	Refer to comment	N/A	N/A
CCC 29 SCS / SH7a & HH 12	Increase the % successful completions (Drugs) as a proportion of all in treatment 18+ (New measure)	13%	14.9% (Above NW Average)	11.5%		
CCC 30 SCS / SH7b & HH12	Increase the % successful completions (Alcohol) as a proportion of all in treatment 18+ (New measure)	New measure	Target to be set once baseline established in 2012/13	N/A	N/A	N/A
CCC 31 SCS / SH8a	Reduce the number of individuals re-presenting within 6 months of discharge (Drugs) (New measure)	11%	Target to be set once baseline established	N/A	N/A	N/A
CCC 32 SCS / SH8b	Reduce the number of individuals re-presenting within 6 months of discharge (Alcohol) (New measure)	New measure	Target to be set once baseline established	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Supporting Commentary

**PA 5** –Target exceeded for the proportion of VAA assessments completed within 28 days..

**PA 6** - It has been identified that some initial assessments have not yet been closed down on the system. This is being addressed and as a result, the figure is expected to improve next quarter.

**PA 8** - This information is obtained by matching the Communities Directorate staffing list to training records to determine percentage receiving training. There is no comparison to the same period 2011/12 as information was being split into divisions for further verification.

**PA 9** - Obtained 2012-13 training registers to date and produced e-learning report, identified HBC staff that have attended courses or completed the e-learning. There is no comparison to the same period last year as information was being split into divisions for further verification.

**PA10** - Obtained 2012-13 training registers to date and produced e-learning report, identified external staff that have attended courses or completed the e-learning. There is no comparison to the same period last year as information was being split into divisions for further verification.

**PA 22** - Performance increased from 2010/11 51.3% to 2011/12, 66.2% of those who responded to the Adult Social Care survey in 2011/12 reported 'I feel as safe as I want'.

**PA 23** - 79.1% of those who responded to the Adult Social Care survey for the first time in 2011/12 reported that support services helped them to feel safe. This indicator reflects directly whether the support services that Halton Borough Council provides has an impact on an individual's safety. This is in comparison to PA21 which is a general measure of whether an individual feels safe – which could be as a result of a multitude of factors. A higher figure is better.

**PA 25** –15% - Inspections low due to staff leave. This will be adjusted by Q2. 88% of Air Pollution Control Audits are compliant and have already exceeded the target during Q1. Data was not available for comparative purposes in Qtr 1 of 2011/12.

**PA26** - This is an annual measure and progress is reported at end of the year. However, from inspections undertaken to date, we are on target to ensure food establishments in the area are broadly compliant with food hygiene law.

**PA27** - This is an annual measure and progress is reported at the end of the year. However, from inspections undertaken to date, we are on track to achieve the target by year end.

**PA28** - Measure under discussion with the Department.

**CCC29** – As of May 2012 Halton recorded 11.5% successful completions as a proportion of all those in treatment (63/548). In order to meet the target of 14.9% (NW average) based on numbers in treatment (548) a total of 80 successful completions would be needed – an increase of 17 over the current figure.

**CCC30, CCC31 and CCC32** – Details not yet available from new provider - CRI Crime Reduction Initiatives.

### 3 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (PMcW)

#### Key Objectives / Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q1 Progress
CCC1	Conduct a review of Domestic Violence Services to ensure services continue to meet the needs of Halton residents <b>Mar 2013</b> (AOF11)	
CCC1	Introduce specialist support provision for victims of a serious sexual offence <b>Mar 2013</b> (AOF11)	

#### Supporting Commentary

##### Review of Domestic Violence Services

A Domestic Abuse Project Group has been set up to consider how supported accommodation will be provided to Halton residents fleeing domestic abuse in the future. This pilot will consider alternative accommodation options alongside the traditional refuge provision model. Due to this pilot the tender currently held by Women's Aid to provide the Halton Domestic Abuse Service consisting of Refuge Provision, Sanctuary Measures,

Floating Support and Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) service will continue to be funded until 2014. As part of the remit of this group an appraisal of all aspects of domestic abuse service provision is to be included as we look to develop and shape a future service that meets the need of our local client base.

### Sexual Assault Referral Centre

Many more reported cases are now being taken on by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). From now until the end of 2012, there are five separate trial dates set for ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advocates) clients in Halton – including two young people - with several more awaiting CPS decision. This is a vast improvement for an area where historically, very few clients saw their cases reach Crown Court. The NHS - specifically Mental Health services - and the Police continue to provide frequent referrals. Professional relationships with the Police have been excellent, with good communication and joined up support for Clients.

### Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q1	Current Progress	Direction of travel
CCC 28 SCS / SH6	Reduce repeat incidents of domestic abuse within the MARAC Cohort (Formerly NI 32)	27.6%	27%	31%		

### Supporting Commentary

**CCC28** – Almost all cases appearing at MARAC relate to a series of domestic incidents; therefore even when a case appears at MARAC for the first time it is arguably a ‘Repeat’. An increase in the number of ‘Repeats’ appearing at MARAC could be indicative of victims / public becoming more aware that domestic abuse is not acceptable, that it is a not a private matter and that agencies are willing and able to assist victims more effectively now than ever before. Performance has decreased in comparison to Q1 2011/12 which considered 42 cases at MARAC, 10 of which related to repeat incidents - which equates to 28%.

## 7.0 Financial Statements

### Commissioning and Complex Care

#### Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2012

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend) £'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	7,345	1,746	1,736	10
Other Premises	319	142	151	(9)
Supplies & Services	2,195	166	169	(3)
Contracts & SLA's	477	44	22	22
Transport	170	43	41	2
Emergency Duty Team	103	0	0	0
<b><u>Community Care:</u></b>				
Residential & Nursing Care	895	159	125	34
Domiciliary Care	310	48	55	(7)
Direct Payments	133	38	28	10
Block Contracts	178	34	30	4
Day Care	15	6	7	(1)
Carers Breaks	203	1	1	0
Food Provision	25	6	4	2
Other Agency Costs	1,448	46	39	7
Payments To Providers	4,053	1,162	1,166	(4)
Grants To Voluntary Organisations	259	107	102	5
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>18,128</b>	<b>3,748</b>	<b>3,676</b>	<b>72</b>
<u>Income</u>				
Residential & Nursing Fees	-69	-10	-12	2
Direct Payment Charges	-3	-1	-5	4
Community Care Income	-4	-1	-1	0
Sales & Rents Income	-184	-110	-117	7
Fees & Charges	-444	-52	-48	(4)
PCT Reimbursements : Care	-257	-8	-8	0
PCT Reimbursements :Service	-2140	-591	-594	3
Reimbursements	-250	-50	-48	(2)
Government Grant Income	-255	-34	-39	5
Transfer From Reserves	-700	-568	-568	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-4,306</b>	<b>-1,425</b>	<b>-1,440</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>13,822</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>2,236</b>	<b>87</b>
<b><u>Recharges</u></b>				
Premises Support	458	115	115	0
Transport	441	12	12	0
Central Support Services	2,403	557	557	0
Asset Charges	461	2	2	0
Internal Recharge Income	-88	0	0	0
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>3,675</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Departmental Total</b>	<b>17,497</b>	<b>3,009</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>87</b>

**Comments on the above figures:**

Net operational expenditure is £87,000 below budget profile at the end of the first quarter of the financial year.

Employee costs are projected to be £40,000 below budget at the year-end. This results from savings made on vacant posts. The staff turnover savings target incorporated in the budget for this Department is £394,000, the £40,000 represents the value by which this target is projected to be over-achieved.

The Community Care element of Mental Health Services, for this financial year is forecast to be £185,000 below budget based on current data held for all known care packages. This figure is subject to fluctuation, dependent on the number and value of new packages approved, and the termination or variation of existing packages. At the end of quarter 1 the net position is £46,000 below budget profile.

Expenditure on Contracts and Service Level Agreements is projected to be £54,000 below budget at the year-end. This relates to savings in respect of payments to bed & breakfast providers for homelessness support. There has historically been significant variations in demand for this service, although current expenditure patterns are stable, and the projected underspend seems realistic.

Income is currently marginally above the target to date. Community Centres income is particularly vulnerable to economic pressures, consisting of a large volume of discretionary public spend relating to social activities. However, action has been taken to maximise income from room lettings, and it is currently anticipated that the target will be achieved. The figures in the table above include a projected over-achievement of Community Care income of £25,000 for the full year, which is included within the £185,000 projected net underspend for Community Care referred to above.

At this stage, net expenditure for the Complex & Commissioning Care Division is anticipated to be £300,000 below budget at the end of the financial year. Of this figure, £185,000 relates to Community Care.

**Capital Projects as at 30th June 2012**

	2012/13 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £'000	Actual Spend To Date £'000	Allocation Remaining £'000
Renovation Grant	85	21	0	85
Disabled Facilities Grant	650	60	0	650
Stairlifts	250	63	61	189
Energy Promotion	6	1	0	6
RSL Adaptations	550	137	43	507
Choice Based Lettings	29	16	16	13
Extra Care Housing	463	0	0	463
User Led Adaptations	55	0	0	55
Bungalows At Halton Lodge	464	0	0	464
Unallocated Provision	109	0	0	109
<b>Total Spending</b>	<b>2,661</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>2,541</b>

## Prevention and Assessment Services

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2012

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Employees	7,854	1,821	1,801	20
Other Premises	72	13	10	3
Supplies & Services	654	190	189	1
Consumer Protection Contract	386	106	106	0
Transport	116	25	25	0
Food Provision	17	4	4	0
Aids & Adaptations	113	13	13	0
Contribution to JES	231	0	0	0
Community Care:				
Residential & Nursing Care	8,619	1,546	1,801	(255)
Domiciliary & Supported Living	6,970	1,022	1,045	(23)
Direct Payments	2,400	704	680	24
Day Care	235	40	63	(23)
Other Agency	79	33	33	0
Contribution to Intermediate Care Pool	2,206	459	419	40
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>29,952</b>	<b>5,976</b>	<b>6,189</b>	<b>(213)</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Other Fees & Charges	-93	-12	-8	(4)
Sales Income	-25	-26	-26	0
Reimbursements	-274	-25	-34	9
Residential & Nursing Income	-2,631	-506	-557	51
Community Care Income	-576	-154	-179	25
Other Community Care Income	-186	-46	-52	6
Direct Payments Income	-105	-26	-42	16
PCT Contribution to Care	-901	-35	-20	(15)
Transfer from Reserves	-340	0	0	0
LD & Health Reform Allocation	-4,489	0	0	0
Capital Salaries	-84	0	0	0
PCT Contribution to Service	-1,078	-467	-467	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-10,782</b>	<b>-1,297</b>	<b>-1,385</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Net Operational Expenditure</b>	<b>19,170</b>	<b>4,679</b>	<b>4,804</b>	<b>(125)</b>
<b><u>Recharges</u></b>				
Premises Support	429	103	103	0
Asset Charges	160	6	6	0
Central Support Services	3,382	821	821	0
Internal Recharge Income	-419	0	0	0
<b>Net Total Recharges</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Departmental Total</b>	<b>22,722</b>	<b>5,609</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>(125)</b>

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms the Net Operational Expenditure for Quarter 1 is £165,000 over budget profile excluding the Intermediate Care Pool.

Staffing is currently showing £20,000 under budget profile. This is due to savings being made on vacancies within the Department. Some of these vacancies are expected to be filled by the end of Quarter 2.

The figures above include the income and expenditure relating to Community Care, which is currently showing £194,000 over budget profile, net of income. Community Care includes expenditure on clients with Learning Disabilities, Physical & Sensory Disabilities and Older People. These figures will fluctuate throughout the year depending on the number and value of new packages being approved and existing packages ceasing. This budget will be carefully monitored throughout the year to ensure an overall balance budget at year end.

This budget was significantly overspent in 2011/12, however action was taken to restrict the scale of the overspend as far as possible. This action and close monitoring will continue during the current year to again restrict expenditure as far as possible, however it is anticipated that expenditure on Community Care will still be above budget by year end.

## 8.0 Explanation of Symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

<b>Progress</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Performance Indicator</b>
<b>Green</b>	 Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
<b>Amber</b>	 Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> , whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved.</i>
<b>Red</b>	 Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

### Direction of Travel Indicator

Where possible performance measures will also identify a direction of travel using the following convention

<b>Green</b>	 Indicates that <b>performance is better</b> as compared to the same period last year.
<b>Amber</b>	 Indicates that <b>performance is the same</b> as compared to the same period last year.
<b>Red</b>	 Indicates that <b>performance is worse</b> as compared to the same period last year.
<b>N/A</b>	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.

### Operational Director Initials

**PMcW** - Paul McWade – Operational Director Commissioning & Complex Care

**SWB** - Sue Wallace Bonner – Operational Director Prevention and Assessment

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy and Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2012
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director – Policy and Resources
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Risk & Emergency Planning Update
<b>WARDS:</b>	Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Board of the roles and responsibilities of the Risk and Emergency Planning Team.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board notes the report.**

## **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Emergency Planning Team currently consists of three staff (Principal Emergency Planning Officer (currently vacant due to a recent retirement) and two Emergency Planning Officers). The team provides services to the whole Council and is the initial contact for any Major or Serious Incident within Halton. When a call is received from Cheshire Police, the Emergency Planning Officer (EPO) on call makes an initial assessment of the situation and then contacts what is known as a First Responder if necessary. First Responders are essentially all Operational Directors (OD) and Divisional Managers (DM) from across all departments who take it in turns (on a monthly basis) to be on-call to respond to the EPO and subsequently instigate various processes to enable the Council to respond positively and quickly to the incident. During office hours this can be the most appropriate OD or DM for the incident, but outside of office hours this will be from the list of available First Responders. Strategic Directors also take it in turns to be available for calls from the EPO. In consultation with the First Responder a decision may be taken to open a Local Authority Emergency Centre (LAEC) to respond to the incident.
- 3.2 The Risk Management Team prepares, co-ordinates and monitors all the Risk Registers for the Council, highlighting particular risks to the Authority to ensure approach measures are implemented.

## **4.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Emergency Planning team prepares and implements plans as required by statutory duties. One of the main duties is in relation to the Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) Regulations, which apply mainly to the chemical

industry, but also to some storage activities, explosives and nuclear sites, and other industries where threshold quantities of dangerous substances identified in the Regulations are kept or used. One of the requirements under these Regulations is the preparation of "Off Site" plans (Statutory Duty) which detail the co-ordinated response from all the Emergency Services and other Responders (e.g. Environment Agency, Statutory Undertakers, etc.) and details the arrangements for dealing with an emergency. The plans detail and cover all scenarios and ultimately protect the communities and the environment in and around Halton. The COMAH plans need to be completed for Top Tier sites, which are designated such because they hold larger quantities of dangerous substances and are therefore subject to more onerous requirements, within six months of the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) issuing official notification that a site has been designated as a Top Tier site. The plans require input from several organisations, which take some time to coordinate and collate. They then need to be reviewed/updated and tested regularly and certainly within every three years maximum. If these timescales are not met then there could be a fine from the European Union (EU) for failing to meet them.

- 4.2 Currently there are five sites that are classified as Top Tier COMAH within the Borough. The former ICI sites in Runcorn are now classed by the HSE as three sites, due to them being operated by different companies (Ineos Chlor-Vinyls / Ineos Enterprises / Mexichem Fluor, all at the Runcorn Site). HSE have informed us that two current lower tier sites are to be re-classified as Top Tier, although the official notifications have not yet been received. There has been no change in operations at these sites; it is due to a re-classification by the HSE of the materials held on site.
- 4.3 The team prepares and maintains the Corporate and Directorate Business Continuity Plans for the Council. These plans are regularly reviewed and updated to take account of incidents that may have occurred since their implementation and, for example, incorporate lessons learnt from incidents such as buildings being flooded. They were used most recently to consider the potential impact of the Olympic Torch Relay when it passed through the Borough.
- 4.4 There are now two Local Authority Emergency Centres (LAEC) within the Borough (Runcorn Town Hall and the Municipal Building in Widnes) which are used to co-ordinate our response in the event of a Major/Serious Incident being declared. Each month (more frequently if possible) an EPO visits each centre to check the operation of the equipment (computers, etc.) and ensure everything is available to respond in the event of an incident.

In addition, a number of rest centres are maintained to respond in the event of an incident requiring properties to be evacuated. These centres provide shelter and, if necessary, refreshments for people who are evacuated. A reassessment of the capabilities of the rest centres has taken place due to a number of secondary schools becoming Academies. This has resulted in there now being 10 designated rest centres across the borough, which are mostly community centres; previously we had 16 rest centres. More work is

scheduled to take place with smaller establishments such as parish church halls, social clubs, etc. in an effort to support the community and enhance community cohesion.

4.5 The team produce and maintain a number of emergency response plans, which are updated annually or following a major incident (when a structured de-brief is undertaken by the emergency planning team); some of the key plans are listed below:

- Liverpool John Lennon Airport (Cross Border Plan)
- Silver Jubilee Bridge
- Infectious Diseases (Swine Flu, Avian Flu, etc.)
- Creamfields
- Severe Weather (e.g. wind, snow, etc.)
- Disruption to Fuel Supply
- Flooding of areas of the Borough
- Potential failure of Reservoirs
- Major Accident Hazard Pipeline (MAHP) Plan

4.6 The team is actively involved in the work of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF), which is a statutory body, on behalf of the Council. The LRF is led by Cheshire Police and consists of representatives from the emergency services (police, fire, ambulance, and coastguard), local authorities (Cheshire East, Cheshire West & Chester, Halton & Warrington), government departments, statutory undertakers (gas, water and electricity companies) and the voluntary organisations (co-ordinated by Red Cross representative). The LRF co-ordinates the statutory response to incidents and plans for response to incidents. We contribute to the LRF plans, where we do not have our own and ensure our own plans dovetail with the Cheshire plans, where necessary.

4.7 The Risk Management Team prepares and maintains the Corporate and Directorate Risk Registers for the Council. These registers are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure that potential risks are identified and managed.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no policy, legal, resource or financial implications in noting and commenting on this report.

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

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

There are no direct implications for this priority.

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

There are no direct implications for this priority.

**6.3 A Healthy Halton**

There are no direct implications for this priority.

**6.4 A Safer Halton**

The work of the Risk and Emergency Planning Teams contribute to keeping Halton Safer and being prepared for any incidents that may occur.

**6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

There are no direct implications for this priority.

**7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The work of the Risk and Emergency Planning Teams contribute to planning for dealing with emergencies that may occur throughout the Borough and identifying potential risks.

**8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 There are no direct equality and diversity issues associated with this 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

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy & Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2012
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director, Communities
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Environmental Sustainability, Health and Adults
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Food Safety and the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme
<b>WARD(S)</b>	Borough-wide

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report follows a request from the Chair of the board for an update on how well Halton's food businesses are performing on the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. This request followed a letter published in the press that was critical of the authority for allowing food premises with low scores to remain open.
- 1.2 This report will set out how well food businesses perform overall, what action is taken in relation to failing premises and some of the challenges to securing full compliance.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) **The reported is noted; and**
- ii) **Members take the opportunity to seek further information or raise questions about the enforcement of food law and the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme.**

## 3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 3.1 Background

The National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme is a scheme to publish the hygiene rating of food premises. The scheme is operated by the Food Standards Agency in partnership with local authority environmental health departments. The score is published on-line and businesses are provided with certificates and window stickers to display the score on their premises.

- 3.2 Halton was the first authority in Cheshire and Merseyside to launch the National Food Hygiene Rating scheme in April 2011. Previously Halton had operated its own "scores on the doors" scheme since 2007.

### 3.3 Scope of the scheme

The following premises are included in the scheme

- Takeaways
- Caterers including home caterers
- Restaurants
- Grocery Shops
- Supermarkets
- Staff Canteens
- Schools and other public buildings
- Pubs and Clubs

The following premises are generally exempt from publication although where necessary will still be subject to inspection.

- Pharmacists
- Retailers selling very low risk food (e.g. newsagents)
- Food Manufacturers

In total there are 1051 registered Food premises in Halton. 822 are included in the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme.

### 3.4 **Publication and Display of scores**

The local authority will publish all scores on the internet because this is considered public information.

The ratings are published at [www.food.gov.uk/ratings](http://www.food.gov.uk/ratings)

However it is not compulsory for a business to display the score on their premises. In practice the premises that score 4 and 5 are happy to display their scores. However our experience is that some businesses with 3 stars are reluctant to display their score. This is disappointing as consumer research by the FSA suggests that customers would be happy to eat in a premises that scores 3 and above

In general premises with a score of 0, 1 and 2 rarely display their score.

The Welsh Assembly Government is currently working on legislation that would make it mandatory for all businesses to display their score. The UK government are monitoring this development before making a decision regarding legislation for England.

It is important to note that the score displayed for a food business may not represent the current standards. For example premises that scored 0 are likely to have made some improvements required by officers – but because the premises was rated 0 when inspected the score stands unless the business appeals or requests a revisit.

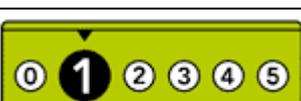
### 3.5 **Hygiene Ratings**

The score is based on the hygiene risk rating given to a business during the last food hygiene inspection by the Food Safety Team in Environmental Health. The rating is based on three key criteria;

- How hygienically the food is handled
- The structure and cleanliness of the building
- How well the business is managed and its track record

Businesses are awarded a score from 5 to Zero. Table 1 below sets out what each score means in practice

**Table 1: What the score means in practice**

Score / Description	What this means in practice
 <p>Very good</p>	The premises is fully compliant with the law
 <p>Good</p>	The premises is essentially compliant with the law but with some minor contraventions that are not critical to food safety. No follow up is needed from the environmental health department
 <p>Generally satisfactory</p>	Overall satisfactory standard – premises need to make some minor improvements but these are not critical to food safety. Business will receive written advice but is unlikely to be a priority for revisit
 <p>Improvement necessary</p>	A number of contraventions have been identified – improvement necessary to prevent fall in standards. Follow up action in accordance with enforcement policy. Premises likely to be subject to revisit to ensure action has been taken
 <p>Major improvement necessary</p>	A number of major contraventions identified some of which if not addressed may be critical to food safety. Premises subject to enforcement action in accordance with enforcement policy. Premises will be subject to revisit to ensure improvements are made
 <p>Urgent improvement necessary</p>	General failure to comply with food law. Premises <i>may</i> pose an imminent risk of injury to health. Immediate action required to improve standards – this may include closure – otherwise enforcement action in accordance with enforcement policy. Premises will be subject to regular revisits and monitoring until situation improves

### 3.6 Safeguards for businesses

The scheme includes a number of safeguards for businesses. If a business believes their score is unfair or unjust they can appeal. Initially this appeal is to management within the environmental health department. If this does not resolve the complaint then the matter is dealt with through the corporate complaint procedure.

In practice the authority has received no formal appeals in the 12 months it has been operating the national scheme. This has been attributed to the way in which the inspection reports are set out which makes clear the rationale and reasoning for the score. The team have also undergone extensive consistency training with colleagues across the region to ensure assessments are fair and consistent. In the event of an appeal the scores will not be published until the appeal is resolved.

Businesses can also request a revisit to reassess the rating but must first satisfy officers that genuine improvements have been made. Requests for revisits can be made anytime after 3 months since the initial inspection has elapsed. Officers will then make an unannounced revisit within 3 months of the request. Until the re-rating is determined the original inspection score will stand. On revisit, a rating may go up, down or stay the same. In the previous year 61 requests for a re-rating were received.

The Food Standards Agency is considering introducing a charge to businesses that request a revisit but this would require a change in legislation. The Welsh assembly government are currently working on legislation to introduce charging for revisits.

### 3.7 Distribution of Scores

Of the 822 businesses in the scheme - 89% of these achieve the top 3 scores of 5, 4 and 3 and are considered broadly compliant with the law. This figure is identical to the North West average.

The measure of broad compliance was established by the Food Standards Agency in 2008.

This figure has risen steadily in recent years as can be seen from the yearly data below

2008-2009	84%
2009-2010	84.77%
2010-2011	87.4 %
2011-2012	89%

Although it is difficult to prove conclusively; the perception amongst officers is that the reason for this increase is that the food hygiene rating scheme has provided a strong incentive for businesses to maintain standards in order to obtain a publicly acceptable rating.

Table 2 provides a breakdown of the number and percentage of businesses in Halton achieving each score.

**Table 2: Number and percentage of businesses achieving each score**

<b>Score</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Number of businesses</b>	334	234	162	47	39	6	822
<b>% of businesses</b>	40.6	28.5	19.7	5.7	4.8	0.7	100

Halton's rate of zero rated premises is consistent with the regional average.

### 3.8 Compliance levels across business types

Table 3 below provides a breakdown of compliance levels by food business sector by detailing the percentage of businesses achieving the top 3 (5,4,3) and bottom 3 scores (2,1,0).

**Table 3 Compliance levels across business types**

<b>Business Sector</b>	<b>% achieving top 3 scores</b>	<b>% achieving bottom 3 scores</b>
<b>Restaurant / café / canteen</b>	94	6
<b>Hotel / Guest House</b>	100	0
<b>Small retailer</b>	87	13
<b>Supermarket</b>	87	13
<b>Caring Premises</b>	99	1
<b>Other caterers</b>	98	2
<b>Pub / Club</b>	86	14
<b>Other retailers</b>	86	14
<b>Takeaways</b>	65	35
<b>Schools</b>	97	3
<b>Mobile food unit</b>	80	20
<b>Manufacturers</b>	100	0

As can be seen from the table the best performing premises are schools, caring premises and caterers – Restaurants, cafes and canteens also perform strongly.

However, whilst 65% of takeaways achieve the top 3 scores a significant proportion do not perform as well. Takeaways account for 9% of all rated food premises but represent a disproportionate 35% of the businesses achieving low scores. This figure is also identical to the regional average.

At the point of writing this report all 6 premises that score 0 are takeaways.

The food team intend to work with the compliant businesses to ensure they display their score and increase public awareness of the scheme to ensure those businesses that maintain high standards are recognised.

### 3.9 Factors that influence compliance

In order to understand why some premises perform poorly it is worthwhile considering

some of the factors that influence compliance

- Staff and management turnover

There is a large turnover of staff and management in the takeaway sector, particularly Kebab and Pizza shops. This makes it difficult to establish a long term working relationship with a proprietor. This is probably due to the strong competition amongst businesses.

- Competition

Halton has 94 takeaway food premises, this includes Chinese, Indian, fish and chip, pizza/ kebab and sandwich bars.

Of this 94, 20 are kebab and pizza premises. 10 are located in Widnes town centre and 8 are concentrated in a relatively small area of Runcorn Old Town. This concentration increases the negative effects of over competition.

In March 2012 Halton adopted a supplementary planning document (SPD) which seeks to prevent the over proliferation of takeaways in existing town and local centres and prevent new takeaways opening near schools and play areas. This new policy should help to maintain the number of takeaways at a sustainable level.

- Business Ownership

The food team occasionally experience difficulty establishing who owns or controls a food business. Officers need to know the identity of the food business operator in order to serve improvement notices and take prosecutions. The team liaise closely with other council departments such as business rates and other partner agencies such as the police to help establish business ownership.

- Tenure of premises

Many takeaway food premises are rented on a short term lease. Therefore proprietors are reluctant to invest in the premises in case the tenancy is not renewed. This makes it difficult for officers to secure long term improvements in premises. Officers can only serve legal improvement notices on the owner of the business not on the owner of the building.

- Suitability of premises

Once a premises has been granted Planning Permission for use as a hot food takeaway this consent remains in place irrespective of the type of catering operation carried out. This is a feature of the planning system nationally. Halton has a number of takeaways in small terrace shops that would historically have been traditional fish and chip fryers. This is a relatively simple and safe catering operation. However over time these premises have evolved to offer a more comprehensive menu. This involves a considerable amount of high risk food handling in a relatively small space which significantly increases the risk of cross contamination. This makes it very difficult for these smaller premises to become fully compliant.

- Training and language

In some cases the management and staff of takeaway food premises do not come into the industry from a catering background and therefore do not have any formal training in catering or food hygiene. Consequently the food team have to provide food businesses with comprehensive advice and guidance to ensure they handle food safely. However in some cases the business owner's first language is not English. The food team do provide businesses with a range of materials in alternative languages however the language barrier can make it difficult for officers to communicate food safety information that may help a proprietor to improve their business and achieve a higher score.

### **3.10 Action at poorly performing establishments**

It is often questioned why premises that receive a low score are allowed to stay open.

The authority can only close down a food business using an Emergency Prohibition Notice - if we can demonstrate to a court that there was an "imminent risk of injury to health". Although this gives officers the power to close premises on the spot – this action must be confirmed by court order within 3 days of the closure. With respect to premises with a zero rating, officers may request the proprietor to voluntarily close the premises until the immediate health risk has been removed. Therefore whilst premises with a score of Zero or 1 are allowed to stay open the officers' assessment is that the premises do not pose an imminent risk to health. However officers will be taking action and monitoring the premises to ensure standards do not deteriorate to the point where public health is compromised. Officers will also provide comprehensive advice and guidance to the business to help them improve standards.

The following are examples of the action previously taken in relation to Zero rated businesses

- Simple caution
- Emergency closure
- Voluntary closure
- Improvement notice
- Written warning with comprehensive advice and guidance.

It is also not uncommon for the management or ownership to change at premises that achieve a low score.

It is important to emphasise that although a business may have made some improvements the low score achieved at the original inspection will stand unless the business appeals or requests a revisit.

### **3.11 Action to improve compliance levels**

The food team actively target the worst performing premises.

In total the team conducted 1,203 visits to all food premises in the borough. Of this

number 327 visits were made to takeaways. Takeaways account for 9% of all food premises in the borough but 27% of all visits.

The current 6 premises that rated zero received a total of 47 visits between them over a 12 month period.

The team work with other agencies to address areas of mutual concern, including the Borders Agency, Police and Fire Service. The team have also worked with a local Chinese language interpreter to provide hygiene advice to Chinese food businesses.

The food team believe it would be difficult to improve compliance significantly more than current levels due to many of the factors described in section 3.9 above. 89% of food premises are compliant with the law and less than 1% achieve the lowest score of zero. The fact these performance figures are consistent with the North West average suggests that the challenges to securing full compliance are shared by other authorities.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are not considered to be any significant policy implications associated with this report. The existing enforcement regime is considered to be performing well and is maintaining compliance at a high level.

#### **5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are not considered to be any other implications associated with this report

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

##### **6.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

Schools, nurseries and child-minders are included in the food inspection programme.

##### **6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

The advice and guidance provided by the team helps to maintain compliant and sustainable businesses.

##### **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

The overall objective of the service is to protect public health by reducing the incidence of food borne disease.

##### **6.4 A Safer Halton**

The overall objective of the service is to protect public health by reducing the incidence of food borne disease.

##### **6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

The food inspection programme contributes to the maintenance of town and neighbourhood centres by addressing matters such as refuse disposal, pests and drainage.

**7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 There are not considered to be any significant risks associated with the matters in this report.

**8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 A significant proportion of food business proprietors are from ethnic minorities. Officer consistency training and on-going professional development ensure that the regulations are applied in a consistent manner to all businesses. Where necessary to protect public health or to ensure fairness in legal proceedings materials will be translated into an alternative language. The Food Standards Agency produce a number of free resources in alternative languages.

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

The are no papers within the meaning of the Act.

**REPORT TO:** Safer Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Communities

**PORTFOLIO:** Community Safety

**SUBJECT:** Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)  
Update

**WARDS:** Borough Wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To update the Safer Halton Policy and performance Board on the progress on the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the report be received and noted.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Policing & Social Responsibility Act 2011 contained legislation which shifts the decision-making on the strategic management of policing to elected Police and Crime Commissioners in England
- 3.2 The first elections of Police and Crime Commissioners are scheduled to occur on 15 November 2012. PCCs will be elected for four years. PCCs will take office 22 November 2012
- 3.3 Police and Crime Commissioners will determine local policing priorities and shortly after their election (March 2013), will be required to publish a five-year Police and Crime plan. This public document will set out the police and crime priorities and objectives for policing and crime reduction across the force area. The Plan may be refreshed each year and may be fully reopened at the PCC's discretion.
- 3.4 PCCs will set the annual force budget in consultation with chief constables. They will receive the policing grant from the Home Office, various grants from Department for Communities and Local Government and the local precept (as well as other funding streams yet to be determined).
- 3.5 The PCC will commission policing services from the chief constable (**or other providers** - in consultation with the chief constable). These services will be set out in the plan where their objectives and funding will be publicly disclosed. The plan must be published and remain a public document including any updates or amendments made during the five year period

- 3.6 At the end of the financial year the PCC will publish an annual report, which will set out progress made by the PCC against the objectives set out in the plan. Alongside the annual report the PCC will publish annual financial accounts, including showing how resources were consumed in respect of priorities and how value for money was secured.
- 3.7 PCCs will have a general duty to regularly consult and involve the public and have regard to the local authority and national policing priorities.
- 3.8 Chief constables will remain responsible for operational matters, however PCCs will appoint (and will be able to dismiss) chief constables, although the chief constable will appoint all other officers within the force.
- 3.9 PCCs will also exercise regional power and influence over the development and work of local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) via powers and duties. These are:
- the reciprocal duty for PCCs and CSP responsible authorities to cooperate with each other for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder
  - the power to bring a representative of any or all CSPs in the PCC's area together to discuss priority issues
  - the power to require reports from CSPs about issues of concern
  - the power to approve mergers of CSPs (on application of the CSPs concerned)
  - the power to commission community safety work from a range of local partners including (such commissioning of crime and disorder reduction work is not limited to CSPs but can include community, voluntary sector or commercial providers)
- 3.10 PCCs will be scrutinised by Police and Crime Panels, which will be formed of a minimum of 10 representatives from the local authorities in the force area. The duties of the panel include requiring the PCC to respond to any concerns they have and making recommendations on the crime plan and annual reports. The Panel is not a replacement for the Police Authority and will not scrutinise the performance of the Constabulary as that is the role of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Panel will only scrutinise the actions and decisions of the Commissioner. The LGA has produced guidance on the role of Police and Crime Panels. [http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/publications/-/journal\\_content/56/10171/3371537/PUBLICATION-TEMPLATE](http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/publications/-/journal_content/56/10171/3371537/PUBLICATION-TEMPLATE)

#### **4.0 Funding**

- 4.1 The Minister of State for Policing and Criminal Justice, Nick Herbert wrote to Police Authorities in June 2012, clarifying arrangements for

drug, crime and community safety funding in 2013/14 and beyond (copy of the letter is attached in **Appendix 1**). The letter confirms that funding will be channeled to Police and Crime Commissioners from 12/13.

- 4.2 In 2012/13 there will be a new and un-ringfenced Community Safety Fund (CSF) which will be paid to PCCs. The exact size and basis for allocation of this fund have yet to be determined. The CSF will replace the vast majority of existing drugs and crime funding provided by the Home Office.
- 4.3 From 2014/15 onwards the Home Office intend to roll CSF funding into Police Main Grant. Again the amount of funding has yet to be decided. In his letter, Nick Herbert makes it clear that that the Home Office has no intention of ring-fencing Police Main Grant, nor the setting of a minimum or maximum amount that PCCs must or should spend on community safety activity. It will be up to the PCCs to decide how to use all of the resources at their disposal in pursuit of local priorities.

## **5.0 Preparations for the PCC nationally**

- 5.1 **Home Office** - The PCC pages of the Home Office website (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/>) has distinct areas for the public, partners and candidates. The partners section includes info for health and care agencies and other criminal justice partners, making the links to Health and Well Being Boards, Children's Services, Safeguarding children and adult services. The candidates section includes national level candidate briefings on a number of areas including national policy and strategy and communications.
- 5.3 **HMIC** has developed a **web-portal** where prospective PCC candidates can access performance information and download force specific and national HMIC reports. The site also includes Frequently Asked Questions and links to key partner and police force and authority websites. Visit the website: [www.hmic.gov.uk](http://www.hmic.gov.uk) for more information.
- 5.4 **Electoral Commission** has published Regulations about the elections covering registration, conduct of elections, offences and the election campaign. (<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/guidance/resources-for-those-we-regulate/candidates-and-agents/police-and-crime-commissioner-elections>) The Elections Order specifies spending limits for each candidate's campaign. In Cheshire, candidates will have a spending limit of £142,720.

## **6.0 Preparations for the PCC in Cheshire and Halton**

- 6.1 **Halton and St Helens VCA**, working with Warrington VA, CVS Cheshire East and Chester Voluntary Action is the local broker for the

Cheshire Safer Future Communities Network. The network aims to support frontline VCSE (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) organisations in preparation for the arrival of PCCs in November 2012, through more effective working between the Sector, Community Safety Partnerships, PCCs and other statutory agencies that impact upon community safety. By engaging with a diverse range of partners, this project aims to ensure that the breadth of Home Office community safety issues (crime, anti-social behaviour, re-offending, substance misuse, violence against women and girls, youth crime) are properly represented in the new local commissioning landscape. Following three events held across Cheshire for interested groups, the Cheshire Network is now established with a membership of over 70 groups. The Network is represented on the Transition Board Partnership and Commissioning Sub Group. A mapping exercise is underway to identify the relevant services that the voluntary sector currently deliver across Cheshire.

- 6.2 **Cheshire Police Authority** will continue to be responsible for maintaining an efficient and effective police service and holding the Chief Constable to account until 22 November 2012. It has established a Transition Board to manage the transition from the existing structures to the new model, splitting the work into eight work streams. As part of the transition process the Police Authority has produced a Candidates Briefing Pack which has been published on their website. An 'Information for Prospective Candidates' section of the Authority's website has also been created and provides relevant, useful briefing information as well as links to the Police Authority protocol on Interaction with Candidates (which ensures equality for all candidates and ensure there is no bias). Further information is available at <http://www.cheshirepa.police.uk/>. All requests for information from prospective candidates are recorded and logged. In order that all candidates have access to the same information, the link provides the [responses provided to requests for information](#). There is also a page on their website which gives further information about Police and Crime Commissioners including why they're being introduced, what their responsibilities will be, and how they are working to ensure a safe and secure transition to the Police and Crime Commissioner model.
- 6.3 As part of the transition arrangements a Partnership and Commissioning Sub Group met for the first time on Friday 20 July to build on the audit of activity undertaken in the Sub Region and bring partners together to understand arrangements within each local authority area and operating jointly across Cheshire in the areas of business directly relevant to the future activities of the PCC. The group will assist the Transition Board in providing relevant information to PCC candidates, to enable them to prepare informed Cheshire-wide election manifestos based on current activity, local priorities and people's needs. In particular the Sub Group is preparing a briefing document with an overview of the partnership landscape in the Cheshire Policing Area to inform the PCC about existing arrangements and the activity

underway. The information being prepared by the SHP will feed into this briefing document. The aim is to have this document in place for 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

- 6.4 **Safer Halton Partnership** is developing a “Welcome Pack” for the PCC. This will provide useful background for the PCC and will identify:
- The current operating arrangement in Halton.
  - The community safety architecture in Halton.
  - The key players and partners involved directly and indirectly in crime and community safety in Halton.
  - The current crime and community safety priorities for Halton based on the JSNA, research and data.

It is hoped this document will provide the new PCC with a quick and comprehensive guide to Halton. This will enable the PCC to quickly understand Halton’s needs and aspirations in respect of crime and community safety. In so doing this should encourage the PCC to invest in Halton, thereby maintaining and building on the progress made by the Police and SHP to prevent crime, tackle crime, punish offenders and rehabilitate.

The CST is also developing separate and distinct Business Plans for each of Halton’s priority community safety activities. Once again this should provide the PCC with clear evidence of the community safety benefits of investing in what we are doing in Halton.

## 7.0 **Police and Crime Panel update**

- 7.1 The Cheshire Police and Crime Panel will cover the area served by Warrington; Cheshire East (Alsager, Congleton, Crewe, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Poynton, Sandbach, Wilmslow); Cheshire West and Chester (Chester City, Winsford, Northwich, Ellesmere Port, Sandbach); and Halton (Widnes and Runcorn). Warrington Borough Council has taken the lead on this work area. Financial arrangements, protocols, equality impact assessment and an induction pack for members of the Panel are being developed. A web site for the new panel arrangements and associated information is live and is currently hosted on Warrington Borough Council’s website [http://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/200727/crime\\_support\\_and\\_prevention/893/police\\_commissioners\\_and\\_crime\\_panels/2](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/200727/crime_support_and_prevention/893/police_commissioners_and_crime_panels/2) ).
- 7.2 The panel will be made up of ten local councillors, representing the four borough councils in Cheshire, and represent, as far as practicable, the political make up of the four councils. The Cheshire Police and Crime Panel will soon be seeking two people from Cheshire to serve as co-opted independent members for a four year term. The panel may co-opt additional members including extra councillors provided the panel does not exceed 20 members and the Home Secretary agrees to the increased size of the panel. A Shadow inaugural meeting of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel was held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012 and the

next scheduled meeting is due to take place on 11<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Shaun Osborne and Cllr Dave Cargill were at the inaugural meeting representing Halton.

## 8.0 PCC elections update

- 8.1 Halton Borough Council's Chief Executive David Parr has been appointed as the Police Area Returning Officer (PARO) in Cheshire and will be responsible for overseeing the arrangements for the elections. The elections will be conducted using the supplementary vote system. Under the supplementary vote system, a voter is asked to indicate first and second preferences, if no candidate has 50 per cent of the first preference votes, the two candidates with the highest number of first preference votes proceed to a second round count. In the second round of counting, ballots indicating a first preference for a candidate that lost the first round are reallocated according to the second preference indicated on the ballot paper. The timetable for the election process is tabled below

DESCRIPTION	DATE
Publication of Notice of Election	8 October
First day for the receipt of nominations	9 October
Last time for the receipt of nominations	Noon 19 October
Publish Statement of Persons Nominated	21 October
Publish Notice of Poll	7 November
Polling Day	15 November
Results	16 November

## 9.0 Candidates Update

- 9.1 As at 4 September 2012, the Labour party has selected Cllr John Stockton and the Conservative party has selected Mr John Dwyer to stand for PCC in Cheshire and there is one Independent Member Sarah Flannery. In order that all candidates are treated equitably and have access to the same information, requests for information and their responses are being logged and published on the Authority's website. The Electoral Commission has published Guidance for Candidates which is available from (<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/guidance/resources-for-those-we-regulate/candidates-and-agents/police-and-crime-commissioner-elections>). Nominations for PCC can of course be submitted until the 19<sup>th</sup> October deadline.

## 10.0 Communications Update

- 10.1 **Nationally** there has been media coverage recently around how the government will communicate to the electorate about candidates in

their area. Following Government consultation with the Electoral Commission and others Ministers decided on a candidate information website, with hard copies available on request. This went against the Electoral Commission's recommendation for a booklet to be sent to voters with information about all Police and Crime Commissioner Candidates in their area. However on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2012, Peter Wardle, the Electoral Commission's Chief Executive issued a press statement which said "*We are now working with the Home Office to make sure voters have the information they need to take part in the November elections. We will send a booklet to every household so that people know about the elections and how to cast their vote.*"

Further details will be available in due course, however it now appears that information for voters will be available on the Government website and in addition every household will also receive a booklet from the Electoral Commission.

**10.2 Locally** the Transition Board has identified Communications and Community Engagement as one of the eight work streams. As part of their work a briefing was held for editors, which resulted in coverage in the local press and radio. A press Release was issued in May, following the local elections, in preparation for the PCC elections and information provided on the Halton Borough Council website (: <http://www3.halton.gov.uk/news/newsroom/262804/>). The Cheshire Police Area Returning Officer (David Parr) has produced a leaflet to publicise the PCC elections (attached in **Appendix 2**) which is being distributed by the Police Authority. A Communications Strategy is also being developed by the PARO which will be available soon. An article has also been prepared for the September edition of Halton Borough council's Inside Halton magazine, which will go to Halton's 57,000 households on 10 September 2012.

## **11.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The policy implications of the review relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority as set out below, however this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

## **12.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

12.1 The future funding implications for non mainstreamed services may seriously impact on the Local Authorities delivery of community safety services and safeguarding issues. Further Briefings will be provided as we receive notification of the final changes to legislation.

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

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

The work of the Community Safety Team links very closely with that of the council's Children's' and Enterprise Directorate and the Youth

Offending Team. They provide a valuable role in addressing anti social behaviour and promoting positive behaviour by young people.

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

The Community Safety Team work closely with the Probation service and YOT, supporting offenders to change their behaviour and to access training and employment opportunities.

### **13.3 A Healthy Halton**

Addressing anti-social behaviour and crime is the key function of the Community Safety Team and without this work it is likely that both will increase having a significant impact on resident's health.

### **13.4 A Safer Halton**

Should funding for community safety no longer be available, there will be an impact on crime and anti-social behaviour with both likely to rise, having a negative impact on residents quality of life.

### **13.5 Environment and Regeneration**

If anti-social behaviour and crime are not fully addressed in Halton this is likely to lead to a deterioration in the quality of the environment and a corresponding reduction in confidence of the public and business in the borough.

## **14.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

None.

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

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

3



# Home Office

Rt Hon Nick Herbert MP  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR POLICING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF  
www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Mark Burns-Williamson  
Chair  
Association of Police Authorities  
10 Dean Farrar Street  
London  
SW1H 0DX

? clarity in November

2A June 2012

See Mail

I understand from my officials that there remains some confusion over arrangements for drug, crime and community safety funding in 2013/14 and beyond. I thought that a short note explaining the arrangements and the rationale behind them would be helpful.

As you will be aware, arrangements for this funding in this financial year will remain broadly unchanged, apart for most of the London funding being channelled to the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and some youth crime and substance misuse prevention funding being channelled to police authorities and MOPAC.

As the Home Secretary and I have said on a number of occasions, we plan to channel community safety resource to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) from 2013/14 to ensure that these democratically elected individuals are able to target funding at activities focused on local priorities.

In 2013/14 there will be a new and un-ringfenced Community Safety Fund (CSF) which will be paid to PCCs (and the City of London Corporation) to help them establish community safety priorities. The exact size and basis for allocation of this fund have yet to be determined. I will make further details available as soon as I am in a position to do so. The CSF will replace the vast majority of existing drugs and crime funding provided by the Home Office.

From 2014/15 onwards we intend to roll CSF funding into Police Main Grant. This will further reduce the number of separate central Government funding streams to the police, increasing transparency and freedom and flexibility over how PCCs use their resources.

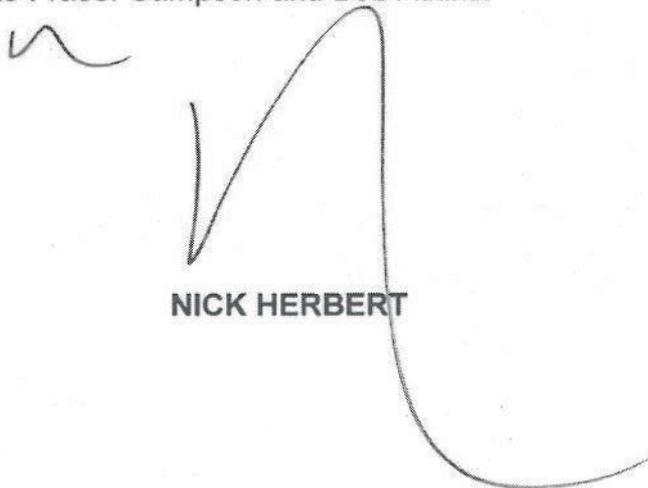
Again, the exact amount of funding to be rolled into Police Main Grant has yet to be decided and I will make further details available as soon as I am in a position to do so.

I would like to take this opportunity to make absolutely clear that we have no intention of ring-fencing Police Main Grant (I understand there has been some confusion on this point). It will be for PCCs to decide how to use all of the resources at their disposal in pursuit of local priorities.

Equally, we have no intention of setting a minimum or maximum amount that PCCs must or should spend on community safety activity. Again this is a local decision for individual PCCs to take. Furthermore, subject to the constraints that may be placed on individual funding streams (for example the ring-fenced Counter-Terrorism Policing Grant) PCCs will be able to pool funding as they and their local partners see fit.

I hope that this helps to clarify these funding arrangements but if you have any further questions I would ask that you contact Ziggy MacDonald (Head of the Crime and Policing Group Finance Unit) or Eleanor Cannell (Police Funding Policy) directly.

I am copying this letter to Fraser Sampson and Bob Atkins.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a small flourish on the left and a large, stylized 'N' that loops down and to the right.

**NICK HERBERT**

## Safer Halton Policy Bulletin: May - August 2012

This Policy round-up summarises new policy, research, consultations and other publications that may be of interest to Safer Halton partners. It is provided as a series of short summaries, with links to the source documentation included for further information.

### ***Research, General Information and Guidance***

#### **14/5/12 Baroness Newlove - Ten communities to tackle binge and underage drinking unveiled**

The 10 communities that will lead work to tackle binge and underage drinking have been announced by the Government Champion for Active Safer Communities, Baroness Newlove. Over the next two years these innovative grassroots projects, backed by local authorities, police and retailers, are expected to deliver real results to end the fallout of problem drinking. Each successful bid had to demonstrate how their projects would be sustainable beyond the two years of the funding. Measures of their success will include:

- a reduction in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents related to alcohol consumption
- fewer A&E admissions to local hospitals or fewer ambulance call outs as a result of drinking
- the consumption of alcohol by young people reducing to safe levels; and
- a reduction in purchasing of alcohol made on behalf of under 18s ("proxy purchasing").

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2143865>

#### **15/5/12 Local Government Association launches offer for police and crime commissioners**

The LGA is proposing to be a national representative body for the police and crime commissioners once they are elected. Subscriptions will range from between £12,000 to £17,000 (excluding London and subject to agreement by LGA Resources Panel).

Subscriptions will be calculated according to the population of each police force area. Separate subscription arrangements would apply for those forces without a police and crime commissioner.

PCCs have the opportunity to have a free subscription period from 22 November to 31 March 2013.

<http://www.local.gov.uk/pcc/>

#### **17/5/12 Home Office : Annual Review of Drug Strategy 2010**

This is the first annual review of the Drug Strategy 2010. It provides a progress update on implementation of the strategy and includes an action plan for tackling the threat from new psychoactive substances

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/alcohol-drugs/drugs/annual-review-drug-strategy-2010/>

**18/5/12 Department of Health: Delivering drugs and alcohol recovery bulletin**

This is the online bulletin for the Payment by Results for Recovery Pilot Programme. It provides the latest news about the programme, events to promote payment by results and hear from pilot sites on how implementation is progressing.

<http://recoverypr.dh.gov.uk/>

**18/5/12 Police and Crime Commissioners – Candidate addresses**

On 15 November 2012, the public across England and Wales will elect police and crime commissioners (PCCs) who will be accountable for how crime is tackled in their police force areas. This is the first election of this kind and, in order that they can exercise their vote effectively, the public will need information about the full range of candidates that are standing.

In order to aid candidates in reaching the public, the Home Office is proposing a single national website on which candidates can publish an 'election address'. This will allow every candidate, for free, to set out to the public what they would do if they were PCC. Every candidate will have an identical page to ensure they are treated equally, and as such will provide a level playing field for everyone seeking election.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/pcc-policy-equality-statement?view=Binary>

**23/5/12 Delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership**

The report sets out the benefits of delivering neighbourhood policing in partnership between neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs), partner agencies and residents in six local areas which were identified as having a strongly embedded partnership approach. The research is based on interviews with local partners and focus groups with residents conducted in these six areas between January and August 2010.

It also offers some advice to practitioners on how to work effectively in partnership, and how to overcome key barriers. The findings may also be informative for Police and Crime Commissioners in thinking about how local policing can best be delivered.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/horr61?view=Binary>

**24/5/12 Home Office Research Report. An estimate of youth crime in England and Wales: Police recorded crime committed by young people in 2009/10**

This report provides an estimate of the proportion and number of police recorded crimes committed by young people aged 10 to 17 in 2009/10. The analysis estimates that young people aged 10 to 17 were responsible for 23 per cent of police recorded crime in 2009/10, equivalent to just over a million police recorded crimes.

Although young people aged 10 to 17 were responsible for a minority of incidents of police recorded crime, the estimate of around one in four incidents of police recorded crime attributable to young people represents a disproportionate amount of crime given that 10- to 17-year-olds account for only about one in ten of the population above the age of criminal responsibility (age 10). This finding highlights the importance of tackling crime by young people in reducing overall levels of crime.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/horr64/horr64?view=Binary>

## **28/6/12 Results of LGA poll of Police and Crime Commissioner candidates**

The survey found that PCC candidates believe:

- Party politics will have the most bearing on how people vote. 78 per cent said they thought political party would be among the factors that had the most bearing.
- Tackling anti-social behaviour would be a top priority for 69 per cent of candidates, while 50 per cent said clamping down on alcohol-related crime and disorder.
- Voter turnout will be low, with 75 per cent of candidates saying they expect it to be less than for council elections.
- Local councils were identified as a key partner organisation to work closely with by 89 per cent of candidates, while 67 per cent said the probation service and 58 per cent said voluntary sector
- Media profile will be a key factor in how people vote, according to 69 per cent of candidates, 61 per cent said knowledge of crime issues in the local area would also be a decider.

[http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal\\_content/56/10171/3629334/NEWS-TEMPLATE](http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal_content/56/10171/3629334/NEWS-TEMPLATE)

## **2/7/12 Police and Crime Commissioners to determine local victims' services**

Offenders will be forced to pay up to £50 million each year to help victims, the majority of which will be made available to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to spend on services in their area. This is on top of a share for PCCs of the £66 million each year central Government already dedicates to services supporting victims and witnesses.

Under plans set out today by the Ministry of Justice, democratically-elected PCCs will act as commissioners for a range of victims' services in their local area. They will commission emotional and practical support services which help individuals cope with, and recover from, the consequences of crime, ensuring that services meet local need, represent value for money and deliver real outcomes for victims.

PCCs will also be required to consult with victims in setting the policing priorities in their local area. This will ensure that, for the first time, victims of crime have a clear role in determining what the police should focus on and how. On 15 November 2012 the public will take to the polls to elect 41 Police and Crime Commissioners across England and Wales.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/pccs-victim-services>

## **24/5/12 MAPPA Guidance**

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a framework of statutory arrangements operated by criminal justice and social care agencies that seek to manage and reduce the risk presented by sexual and violent offenders in order that re-offending is reduced and the public are protected. This is done by the sharing of information and the establishment of co-ordinated risk management plans that allow offenders to be effectively managed. The MAPPA guidance 2012 is a concise multi-agency document which effectively supports the management of MAPPA offenders.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/offenders/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements>

**19/7/12 Home Office: Police and Crime Commissioner candidate briefing - Working with others within your force area**

These candidate briefings cover how police and crime commissioners should work with others in their force area. The briefings provide candidates with the information to help them understand partnership structures, working and initiatives.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/working-with-others/>

**26/7/12 Home Office: Drug misuse declared - Findings from the 2011-12 crime survey for England and Wales**

This release examines the extent and trends in illicit drug use among a nationally representative sample of 16 to 59 year olds resident in households in England and Wales.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/drugs-misuse-dec-1112/>

**1/8/12 Listening to Troubled Families**

Louise Casey Communities and Local Government has published Louise Casey's report Listening to Troubled Families "as a starting point" to get a deeper understanding of troubled families to help learn from successful interventions. Louise Casey is the Director General Troubled Families, CLG.

It calls for a longer term view and is based on Ms Casey's interviews with families in 16 local authorities, drawn largely from families involved in family intervention projects in 2006.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/listeningtroubledfamilies>

**2/8/12 Police and Crime Commissioners Candidate briefing: working beyond your force area**

These candidate briefings look at the national context for the police and crime commissioner (PCC), covering the role of key government departments and relevant agencies, and some important strands of operational (public order and international police assistance) and administrative work. The briefings are titled:-

- Dealing with public order
- Delivering value for money
- Providing international police assistance
- Working with the Attorney General

Working with the Secretary of State for Justice

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/working-beyond-force-area/>

**2/8/12 Police and crime commissioners communications handbook**

This handbook is intended to support and advise communicators in police forces and police authorities, however, partners who work in a communications role in the community safety or criminal justice sector may also find this handbook useful.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/communications-handbook>

**6/8/12 101 ways councils will be helping Police and Crime Commissioners**

With 101 days to go until elections for commissioners are held on November 15, the Local Government Association has pulled together a 101-strong list highlighting a selection of these key roles. Local government services, ranging from trading standards, licensing and protecting children to planning, parking and community safety, will all have a part to play in working with police.

Tackling problems caused by troubled families is a prime example of where councils and police are collaborating to provide a more effective service while getting better value for

money Key areas for joint working between PCCs and councils highlighted in the LGA list include:

- Council trading standards teams working with PCCs to tackle rogue traders, loan sharks, doorstep crime, scams, counterfeit goods and product safety concerns.
- Council hosted multi-agency Youth Offending teams bringing other organisations together with PCCs to help reduce crime and reoffending.
- Ward councillors providing a link between residents in their ward and commissioners who will need to take on board views from hundreds of thousands of people in large geographical areas.

[http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal\\_content/56/10171/3673580/NEWS-TEMPLATE](http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/media-releases/-/journal_content/56/10171/3673580/NEWS-TEMPLATE)

#### **14/8/12 News Release from Electoral Commission - Lack of free candidate mailings in the Police and Crime Commissioner elections**

Peter Wardle, the Electoral Commission's Chief Executive said: "The Electoral Commission recommended that the Government should arrange for a booklet to be sent to voters with information about all Police and Crime Commissioner candidates in their area. Ministers decided against this approach in favour of a candidate information website, with printed copies available on request.

We are now working with the Home Office to make sure voters have the information they need to take part in the November elections. We will send a booklet to every household so that people know about the elections and how to cast their vote.

"We also have a responsibility to monitor and report to Parliament on how the elections were run. As part of our assessment, we will look at what impact this new approach to providing candidate information had."

<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/news-and-media/news-releases/electoral-commission-media-centre/news-releases-campaigns/lack-of-free-candidate-mailings-in-the-police-and-crime-commissioner-elections>

#### **15/8/12 Police and Crime Commissioner - Candidate briefings: national policy and strategy**

The Home Office contributes to cutting crime and promoting community safety through its national policy and strategies. The Government recognise that PCCs, police forces and their partners are best placed to decide on what action is needed to tackle crime in their areas, but there are some aspects of crime and policing that need national strategies and nationally coordinated operational response. PCCs will need to be aware of these, and how they affect police and partners.

The briefings cover the topics listed below and cover areas where central government input is important, whether, for example, it is national co-ordination of our policing contribution to international law enforcement, or our work with the drinks and hospitality industries to reshape our national approach to alcohol.

- Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- Tackling drugs
- Tackling gangs and youth violence
- Tackling organised crime
- Tackling violence against women and girls

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/pcc/national-policy-and-strategy/>

## Legislation

### **1/5/12 Protection of Freedoms Act came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012**

The Act includes the following provisions:

- further regulation of closed circuit television/automatic number plate recognition systems – introducing a statutory code of practice and the appointment of a surveillance camera commissioner with responsibility for reviewing and reporting on the operation of the code
- restrictions on the powers of government departments, local authorities and other public bodies to enter private homes and other premises for investigations and a requirement for all to examine and slim down remaining powers
- scrapping section 44 powers to stop and search
- prohibiting wheel clamping – creating a new criminal offence to immobilise, move or prevent the movement of a vehicle without lawful authority.
- freedom of information – extending the freedom of information regime to cover companies wholly owned by two or more public authorities
- right to data – creating an obligation on departments and other public authorities to proactively release datasets in a reusable format
- the liberalisation of marriage laws to allow people to marry outside the hours of 8am-6pm

widening of the existing offence of trafficking for forced labour and ensuring that UK nationals who commit trafficking offences anywhere in the world can be prosecuted under UK law

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/protection-of-freedoms>

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/9/contents/enacted>

### **1/5/12 Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Bill receives Royal Assent**

The Bill includes a range of improvements to the justice system, including:-

- Creating a new offence of threatening people with a knife in public or at schools, with a mandatory prison sentence.
- Criminalising squatting in people's homes and creating a new offence to appropriately punish drivers who seriously injure others by driving dangerously.
- Changing the terms of no-win no-fee law suits to stop lawyers being able to double their fees through payments which have driven up insurance premiums and left local authorities, hospitals and businesses threatened by high legal costs. Banning referral fees will also help to stop middle-men making unreasonably high profits.

Focusing legal aid on cases where legal help is most needed, where people's life or liberty is at stake or they are at risk of serious physical harm, face immediate loss of their home or their children may be taken into care, and reducing the £2.1 billion per year legal aid bill for England and Wales.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/moj/royal-assent-for-legal-aid,-sentencing-and-punishment-of-offenders-bill>

### **9/5/12 Queens Speech - Crime and Courts Bill**

The Queen's Speech announced that a Bill will be introduced to establish the National Crime Agency to tackle the most serious and organised crime and strengthen border security. The courts and tribunals service will be reformed to increase efficiency, transparency and judicial diversity

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/queens-speech-2012-background-briefing-notes>

### **9/5/12 Queens Speech - Government crack down on drug driving**

Legislation unveiled in the Queen's Speech will create a specific drug driving offence. Currently police have to demonstrate that driving had been impaired by drugs in order to prosecute.

Under the proposed legislation it will automatically be an offence to drive a motor vehicle if you have certain controlled drugs in your body in excess of specified limits. This will make it much easier for police to take action against drug drivers.

Devices to screen for drugs in the body are expected to receive type approval from the Home Office by the end of the year.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/news/press-releases/dft-press-20120509a>

### **22/5/12 Antisocial Behaviour White Paper**

This white paper sets out the government's plans to introduce more effective measures to tackle antisocial behaviour. This includes **helping agencies to identify and support high risk victims, giving frontline professionals more freedom**, including using informal measures for example using restorative or reparative approaches, or Acceptable Behaviour Contracts where appropriate, **Improving our understanding of the experiences of victims**, for example by improving the way anti-social behaviour is measured in the Crime Survey for England & Wales. Also **ensuring professionals have the powers they need** to deal with the persistent anti-social behaviour which causes serious harm to victims or their community by **Introducing faster, more effective formal powers** including a civil injunction that agencies can use immediately to protect victims and communities before an individual causes serious harm, a new court order for the most anti-social individuals, available on conviction, that allows the courts to require them to stop their behaviour and address its underlying causes, powers to close premises that are a magnet for trouble and a more effective police power to stop anti-social behaviour in public places. Also **speeding up the eviction of anti-social tenants and focusing on long term solutions to anti-social behaviour by addressing** the issues that drive much of it in the first place – binge drinking, drug use, mental health issues, troubled family backgrounds and irresponsible dog ownership.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/anti-social-behaviour/white-paper/>

### **29/6/12 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012**

From Monday 2.7.12, anyone who deliberately causes or allows serious physical harm to a child or vulnerable adult faces up to 10 years in prison. Taking effect in England and Wales, it also enables prosecutions of people who stay silent or blame someone else. Guidance is being sent to prosecutors, judges and others on the new law.

The move follows a number of cases where prosecutions could not be brought because it was impossible to identify the individual responsible for the abuse.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/4/contents/enacted>

### **6/7/12 New Law for missing persons**

Families of missing people will be given greater support when a loved one goes missing with today's announcement that the Government will introduce a certificate of presumed death – through legislation. This certificate will be equivalent to a death certificate in its legal power and will go a long way in simplifying the processes and problems faced by those left behind. Having a presumption of death certificate in place will help families to deal with the array of legal and financial issues that need to be resolved when a person is missing and presumed dead, such as direct debits with a mobile phone company or access to bank accounts.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/press-releases/moj/new-law-for-missing-persons>

### **13/8/12 Registered sex offenders face tougher checks**

All registered sex offenders will face much tougher checks from today (13 August). The new measures will tighten areas of the current law that could be open to exploitation by offenders who seek to cause harm. The changes, which the government announced earlier this year (5 March) following a 12 week consultation, will make it mandatory for sex offenders to notify the police:

- of all foreign travel, including travel outside the UK for one day
- weekly where they can be found when they have no fixed abode
- where they reside or stay for at least 12 hours with a child under the age of 18
- of certain information in relation to their passports or other identity documents, bank accounts and credit and debit cards

The Home Office [has published new guidance for the police and probation service](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/tougher-checks-for-sex-offenders) on the changes, which are set out within Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/tougher-checks-for-sex-offenders>

## ***Data and Statistical Releases***

### **New – Halton Health in numbers**

To support work around the public health agenda, R&I have produced a "[Halton Health in Numbers](#)"

### **Halton's Health Profile 2012**

The Association of Public Health Authorities (APHO) have released local authority health profiles for 2012 (commissioned by the Department of Health). The [Halton Health Profile](#) is now available, with the data in the profile highlighting particular issues around: alcohol specific hospital stays (under 18); female life expectancy; and early deaths by cancers.

### **Measuring National Wellbeing – The 'Happiness Index'**

ONS have published initial estimates of subjective well-being from their own 'Measuring National Well-being' Programme. The report provides overall estimates of people's own views of their well-being from four subjective well-being questions introduced on the Annual Population Survey in April 2011. Halton residents responded positively to these questions, recording higher than average scores at both regional and national level for satisfaction. The full report can be found [here](#). The Guardian have also produced an [interactive map](#) of Britain which displays how each region fared in comparison to the rest of the country.

## First 2011 Census Output – Age and sex of population and usual household counts

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released the first output from the 2011 Census. This release contains population and household estimated counts at local authority level. The [local authority level data from this release](#) can be found on the Office for National Statistics website.

- The population estimate of Halton from the 2011 Census is 125,800 with an estimated 53,300 households. This compares with the 2001 Census population estimate of 118,210.

More data and information from the 2011 Census will appear on the Research and Intelligence [Census web page](#)

### Consultation Update

The [findings from the Halton Residents' Survey 2011](#). The results have been split into five topic areas and each consist of a short 'dashboard' report.

## Funding Opportunities

### 19/7/12 BIG Announces New £6 Million Assist Programme

The Big Lottery Fund and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations have come together for a new £6 million initiative to help voluntary sector support and development organisations become more effective. The “Assist” programme is the first stage of Big Lottery Fund’s Building Capabilities for Impact and Legacy approach. It is a new approach in providing capacity–building investments, as the majority of funding will go directly to local support and development organisations. These organisations will then be able to choose what support they need in order to adapt their services to changing needs, funding and expectations of frontline organisations. Some of the areas covered by the menu of support services will include:

- Establishing trading and new business models
- Promoting collaboration and partnership
- Connections to the public sector; creating efficiency
- Developing and managing assets
- Connecting to the frontline
- Co-production
- Promoting equalities/addressing inequalities
- Leadership and demonstrating impact.

Further information, including details of how national experts can apply to be included on the menu of support services and how local and specialist support providers can register interest in receiving support, will be made available in September 2012.

[http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr\\_100712\\_ass\\_eng\\_backing\\_for\\_sector\\_support?regioncode=-uk](http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr_100712_ass_eng_backing_for_sector_support?regioncode=-uk)

### 12/7/12 Investment and Contract Readiness Fund

The Social Investment Business (SIB), the UK’s largest investor in social ventures, has announced that the £10 million Investment and Contract Readiness Fund is now accepting applications.

The new fund aims to build the capacity of social enterprises to become investment ready and bid for public service contracts. Through the Fund grants between £50,000 and

£150,000 are available on a rolling basis to ambitious social enterprises who will go on to raise at least £500,000 investment, or who want to bid for contracts over £1 million. Grants are awarded primarily to fund revenue costs. The Fund can be used towards equipment costs, but cannot be used to acquire fixed assets with a total purchase cost (including VAT) in excess of £5,000. Ventures will be required to apply in partnership with an approved provider.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

<http://www.beinvestmentready.org.uk/about/>

## Training Opportunities

### Halton Safeguarding Children Board Autumn/Winter training overview September-December 2012



HSCB Autumn  
Training Schedule.pdf

### Race Awareness

1<sup>st</sup> November 2012, Willow Room, Municipal Building, Widnes

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**Police & Crime**

**Commissioner for the**

**Cheshire Policing**

**Area**

**15 November 2012**



# **Police & Crime Commissioner Election**

**15 November 2012 is your chance to vote for the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, Halton and Warrington.**

**This is the biggest change to the way the police is governed in recent history.**

The candidate elected on 15 November will start work on 22 November.

The Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) will have a statutory duty and electoral mandate to hold the police to account on behalf of the public.

The main duties of the PCC will be to:

- hold the Chief Constable to account on behalf of the people of Cheshire, Halton and Warrington;
- make sure that Cheshire Constabulary is efficient and effective;
- decide the police budget and set the council tax for policing;
- ensure that the Constabulary achieves value for money;
- gather the views of the public, victims and businesses to set the strategic direction and objectives of the Constabulary;
- monitor the performance of policing against agreed priorities; and
- appoint (and if necessary dismiss) the Chief Constable.

The PCC will have a specific responsibility for the delivery of community safety and crime reduction. The PCC will work with other agencies such as the council to reduce crime and disorder. The PCC will be able to award funding for crime and disorder reduction and be able to select who provides these services from the public, private and voluntary sector.

# **Make sure Your Vote Counts**

For more information visit [www.cheshirepa.police.uk](http://www.cheshirepa.police.uk) or [www.halton.gov.uk](http://www.halton.gov.uk)

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy & Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	18 September 2012
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director, Communities
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Safeguarding Adults
<b>WARD(S)</b>	Borough-wide

### 1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To update the Board on key issues and progression of the agenda for safeguarding 'vulnerable adults' (i.e. adults at risk of abuse) in Halton.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That: the Board notes the contents of the report.**

### 3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012 a report was presented to the Board with details relating to the proposed establishment of a 12 month pilot for an integrated safeguarding unit (ISU) within Halton.

3.2 The pilot was a joint initiative with the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The following posts are in place:

- Principal Manager – Paula Gandy
- Safeguarding/Dignity Co-ordinator – Tracy Ryan
- Social Workers – Rachel Taylor and Jimmy Bush
- Positive Behaviour Analyst – Emma Hulme

The following posts are in the process of being finalised:

- 2 x RGN
- GP Clinical Lead (currently Dr Lyon supporting as an interim measure)

3.3 The ISU have undertaken 48 investigations since its establishment including one major investigation. 32 were substantiated, 10 were not substantiated, and 6 were inconclusive.

3.4 The unit worked closely with a local provider and other organisations to develop and support an action plan to improve the quality of their services and deliver better outcomes for the individuals who access

the provision.

- 3.5 A full evaluation of the project will be undertaken in February 2013. A performance framework is currently being developed with measurable outcomes based on the objectives of the team in order to provide a meaningful evaluation which will inform the future of the pilot.
- 3.6 Safe in Town is a scheme has been developed by the Council to ensure vulnerable people feel safe and confident in our shopping centres. The whole idea is that individuals will be able to access help quickly if and when it is needed.
- 3.7 The scheme will offer telephone facilities to vulnerable people who are in trouble or distress around town. Shops and businesses will display window stickers to show that they are part of the scheme. Users of the scheme will carry key contact numbers on cards.
- 3.8 The scheme's logo has been agreed by Halton's People's Cabinet and Cheshire Police has agreed to cover the costs of printing the window stickers. Police colleagues have also ensured that the rest of the Pan-Cheshire area, where similar schemes are being developed, use the Halton logo (except for Warrington).
- 3.9 The Safeguarding Boards were in agreement that no dedicated training would be required for shops taking part – so long as generic principles were followed. These included ensuring individuals were kept in a public part of the shop, no food or drink to be given and no personal questions to be asked.
- 3.10 Halton Speak Out and colleagues have been developing a comic book that will be used to explain the scheme to both shopkeepers and anyone who registered to be part of the scheme. These one-to-one sessions will be an opportunity to reinforce safeguarding issues.
- 3.11 Partners have also been working together to produce a joint alerter safeguarding card and Safe in Town card – to avoid duplication and help reduce the number of cards that vulnerable people would have to carry.

The Widnes Vikings have agreed to support the scheme and will be part of the publicity launch and campaign in September.

#### 4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no policy implications in noting and commenting on this report.
- 4.2 All agencies retain their separate statutory responsibilities in respect

of safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse, whilst Halton Borough Council, through its Communities Directorate, fulfils its responsibility for coordination of the arrangements. These arrangements are in accordance with 'No Secrets' (DH 2000) national policy guidance and Local Authority Circular (2000)7 / Health Service Circular 2000/007.

**5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal or financial implications in noting and commenting on this report.

**6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

**6.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

SAB membership includes a Manager from the Children and Enterprise Directorate, as a link to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Halton Safeguarding Children Board membership includes adult social care representation.

Joint protocols exist between Council services for adults and children.

**6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None Identified

**6.3 A Healthy Halton**

The safeguarding of adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse is fundamental to their health and well-being. People are likely to be more vulnerable when they experience ill-health.

**6.4 A Safer Halton**

The effectiveness of Safeguarding Adults arrangements is fundamental to making Halton a safe place of residence for adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse.

**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**

<b>Document</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
No secrets: Guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse (March 2000)	People & Communities Policy Team	Louise Wilson