

Public Document Pack



Safer Policy and Performance Board

Tuesday, 11 September 2018 at 6.30 p.m.
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

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

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Dave Thompson (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor Sandra Baker	Labour
Councillor Ellen Cargill	Labour
Councillor Valerie Hill	Labour
Councillor Peter Lloyd Jones	Labour
Councillor Kath Loftus	Labour
Councillor Geoffrey Logan	Labour
Councillor Gareth Stockton	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Geoff Zygadlo	Labour

Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or e-mail gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.

The next meeting of the Board is on Tuesday, 20 November 2018

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

Part I

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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.	
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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.

SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 12 June 2018 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Thompson (Chair), N. Plumpton Walsh (Vice-Chair), S. Baker, E. Cargill, V. Hill, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus, Logan and G. Stockton

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Zygadllo

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Andrews, C. Patino, G. Ferguson and S. Bell

Also in attendance: S. Devereux, Cheshire Fire and Rescue and Donna Wells, Young Addaction.

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
SAF1 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<p>The Chair firstly introduced and welcomed the new Members of the Board. He discussed the previous work undertaken by the Board to achieve White Ribbon status. It was agreed that an action plan would be circulated, together with dates for a Working Party. The Working Party would meet to consider any suggested amendments and to give final approval before submission for White Ribbon Status.</p>	
SAF2 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2018 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
SAF3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>It was reported that no questions had been received.</p>	
SAF4 SSP MINUTES	
<p>The minutes from the previous Safer Halton Partnership (SHP) meeting held on 21st February 2018 were presented to the Board for information.</p>	

SAF5 ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE IN HALTON

The Board considered a report on the work carried out to tackle Alcohol and Substance misuse across the Borough involving Young Addaction and specialist community services for adults. The report provided:

- Information against related targets set in the Community Strategy;
- Details of the services provided by Young Addaction;
- Information on the specialist community services provided for adults, including the number of those engaged in recovery support and structured treatment and recovery rates;
- A summary of key achievements in the last quarter; and
- Emerging issues around opiate clients and the expansion of the needle exchange services in Runcorn and Widnes.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF6 CHESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a copy of the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service Annual report for Halton 2017-18, and received an update on the Integrated Risk Management Plan 2017-18 (IRMP).

On behalf of Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, Stuart Devereux attended the meeting and outlined the Service performance in Halton during the past year and compared the different type of incidents attended to previous year performance. The Board noted:

- A new Fire Chief had been recently appointed;
- The recruitment of apprentice Fire Fighters in Cheshire;
- Details on the Fire Station Build Programme and the current Fire Service Property Enhanced Programme;
- Information on the blue light collaboration;
- The outcome of the staff survey; and
- Information on safe and well visits.

RESOLVED: That

1. the report be noted; and
2. the Board thanked Stuart Devereux for his informative presentation.

SAF7 TRANSFER OF CHANNEL COORDINATION FROM POLICE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Board considered a report by the Director Enterprise, Community and Resources, which outlined the transfer of Channel and Prevent responsibilities from the Police to local authorities' responsibility. The Prevent Strategy had been reviewed and revised in line with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Act placed a duty on specified authorities requiring them to have due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism. It also established a statutory responsibility for every local authority to ensure they had an identified panel to assess the vulnerability of identified individuals and put in place support plans, known as 'Channel Panels'.

Since the establishment of the Channel Programme the responsibility for assessment and case management had been held by the Police. However, in line with a broader aim to position all Prevent activity closer to local communities and forging a stronger link with local authority safeguarding activities, the Home Office had indicated their desire to transfer many responsibilities from the Police to local authorities.

In 2016, the Home Office initiated the 'Dovetail' pilot to assess the feasibility of transferring the resources and responsibility for administering the process and case management aspects of Channel from the police to local authorities, trialled initially in nine areas. The evaluation of the pilot was broadly positive and the decision of the Home Office was to extend the transfer of functions from the police to local authorities in more areas on a regional basis, commencing in the North West. The intention was to implement a regional model with funding being provided by the Home Office to resource the assessment of referrals and management of cases by Local Authority Channel Coordinators.

An initial consultation meeting was held in October 2017 with Channel Panel Chairs and other local authority representatives on the options on the allocation of Coordinators in the region, based on current referral and case activity, and the expectations on local authorities to manage and recruit to these nationally defined roles. For the Merseyside and Cheshire part of the region a preferred option of a 'Three-Hub Model' was identified on the day by the local authority representatives in attendance. Consequently, discussion was held on possible management arrangements and the expectation of hosting

by one local authority in the area. It was considered that, due to the level of existing resource and understanding already in place on Prevent and Channel, Liverpool City Council was best positioned to host these new roles, subject to clarity of hosting requirements, funding provision and service level arrangements across the wider area.

It was noted that work is currently going on to draw up role descriptions for those posts. The posts would be fully funded by the Home Office.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF8 ORGANISED CRIME GANG - CHILDHOOD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, which presented Halton's response to Organised Criminal Gangs and the Government Strategy to tackle County Lines and Childhood Criminal Exploitation. The Serious and Organised Crime Strategy placed significant emphasis on the importance of effective local partnerships. To support this, a partnership group had been established, chaired by the Chief Executive to tackle organised crime groups in Halton (Operation Portfolio). The key objectives of the partnership group were outlined in the report.

Donna Wells from Young Addaction, was also in attendance to provide a presentation which highlighted the work by the service to deliver The Criminal Exploitation Project – Risk and Resilience. This was a project which aimed to prevent children being drawn into criminal activities by older criminals and gangs. Approximately 40 young people had taken part in the project delivered to groups and one to one and included support from the Amy Winehouse Foundation and Gangs Line. It was noted that feedback from those children and parents who had been involved in the project had been positive.

RESOLVED: That the report and presentation on Halton Council's Criminal Exploitation Project be noted.

Meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.

REPORT TO: Safer Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 11 September 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community 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 Chair 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: 11 September 2018
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Specialist Strategic Partnership minutes
WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The Minutes from the Safer Halton Partnership meeting held on 21 February 2018 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**

a member of the Halton Strategic Partnership

Action Points From 2nd May 2018

Present:

David Parr	HBC (Chief Executive) : Chair
Cllr Dave Cargill	HBC (Community Safety Portfolio Holder)
Cllr Dave Thompson	HBC (Community Safety PPB Chair)
Chris Patino	HBC (Operational Director)
John Bucknall	HBC (Children's – Commissioning)
John Davidson	National Probation Service
Lynsey McVay	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Mark Harvey	Halton Housing Trust
Michelle Cotgreave	HBC (Principal Emergency Planning Officer)
Mike Andrews	HBC (Community Safety Manager)
Mike Clark	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Rev Lyn McIver	Faith Representative
Richard Rees	Cheshire Constabulary
Sacha Hatchett	Cheshire Constabulary (for part of meeting)
Simon Bell	HBC (Public Health)
Simon Parsonage	Cheshire Constabulary
Shélah Semoff	HBC (Partnership Officer)

1) **Welcome and Introductions** **Action**

2) **Apologies**
Danielle Whitwell, Donna Yates, Karen Taylor, Karen McDonough, Lorraine Crane, Deana Perchard, Elspeth Anwar

3) **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

Minutes of 21st February 2018 were agreed. It was noted that a meeting has been arranged with the Office of the PCC to discuss their engagement with the Board who has requested either representation or a paper for future meeting. It was felt this was extremely important as the SHP is the primary vehicle for delivery of safety issues.

Presentation on Knife Crime

The Group received a presentation from Acting Assistant Chief Constable Sacha Hatchett. The presentation showed an increase in young people carrying knives and it was agreed that JB would look at a piece of work to explore the reasons behind this; was there potential for a pilot looking at data from various sources already collected; it was mentioned that a Pan-Cheshire service for Missing From Home and CSE was about to be commission and could be included; it was discussed that this was a national issue which needed a national solution whilst Halton could play a part; it was felt that partnership working was crucial to the wrap round solutions needed to address complex issues – it

JB

was just up to the Police to resolve; it was noted that the Government's Serious Violence Strategy, which sets out the government's response to serious violence and recent increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide had just been published, and it was felt that a better understanding of the data sitting within the strategy was required; another piece of work just started was looking at how poverty affected crime levels, and how this impacts on those most in need; Prevention work was of huge importance along with the need to raise the profile in other meetings/settings; the need for intelligence was raised and how the different strands of work needed to be brought together (PVP Group currently looking at this – eg when MFH interviews happen, is the question about knife crime asked?); need to bring parents and families who have been involved this issue together to share experiences and learning; where are the links with probation? JD agreed to look at a piece of work with offenders and data collection, working with the Police.

ALL

JD/RR

Presentation on Family Gold Thefts

The Group received a presentation from Chief Inspector Simon Parsonage who explained that in some communities – mainly Asian and Chinese – there was a tradition of keeping large amounts of gold within the home, and due to a recent increase in home burglaries against on these families, Cheshire Police had an ongoing operation called Hydroplane; they were raising awareness of the issues which included looking for evidence of goods sold locally at markets and car boot sales for example; a range of PR materials had been development to raise community awareness, and these have been circulated to schools, community centres and various other Partner agencies/organisations.

Data Performance Figures

There was a general discussion around changes made in data collection which was making it difficult at the moment in accessing figures, although it was agreed that it was only a matter of time until the new system was embedded; it was agreed that the Board would like to see regular data on hate crime and DG would produce the raw figures and share with Constabulary colleagues around the table beforehand, thus allowing them an opportunity to give the context; discussions took place around the importance of support that could be provided to show intelligence data rather than just the numbers to ensure resources are being targeting in the right places.

DG/SP

4) **Task Group Updates:**

- a) Alcohol : Report noted – no major issues or concerns raised although there had been a slight increase in the numbers of young people being admitted to hospital, however the numbers were small but were influencing the data.
- b) Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Partnership Tasking : Report noted – slight reduction in calls and it was felt this should the successful ongoing work across the partnership.
- c) Domestic Abuse : report noted – low figures with males being the victims and this needed to be look at as percentage wise – with national figures in mind, there was an expectation the numbers should be higher; it was also noted that the numbers of BME victims was low, and discussions were on-going with Umbrella Halton to look at a dedicated piece of work to look at the issues and messages to the community to raise awareness;
- d) Substance Misuse : report noted – emerging issues around Hepatitis C, and as part of a wider strategy to address Hep C - CGL Halton have met with Warrington hospital and commissioners with the view to making hepatitis C treatment more accessible to service users; Halton has commissioned Liverpool John Moore University to monitor drug related deaths across the local authority area and part of the new system will be recording the details of any deaths which are labelled as drug related by the coroner any deaths of individuals in treatment with local drug treatment provider;

there is some anecdotal evidence to show a slight increase with young people using heroin not spice.

5) **Prevent and Channel Panel**

New changes as discussed at the previous meeting were being embedded across the region; the work of Prevent (education, training, support) will be coming back to the local authority and resource implications needed to be looked at.

MA

6) **Police and Crime Commissioner**

See minutes and matters arising.

7) **Police and Crime Panel**

DT shared that the panel moved around the Constabulary footprint and would be in Runcorn Town Hall for it's next meeting; the Chair had recently stepped down with the Vice-Chair taking over; Panel was currently divided about what role it should take on several issues – for example the Chief Constable's suspension and the level of costs involved and which budget these should come from.

8) **Serious Organised Crime**

Main issues covered by two presentations, however Board did discuss further the links between these issues and their links to County Lines; it was mentioned that since the opening of the Mersey Gateway it was felt there was a lower profile of uniformed officers and cars – it was explained that the Police use a host of actions, technology and tools to deal with the issues, and whilst the Mersey Gateway was one access route – it wasn't the only one.

Review of Community Safety

The final report has been released into the review that some colleagues around the table were involved in (attached); the PVP Group are reviewing the recommendations and the Chairs of the different Partnerships groups will consider them; one of which is for one CSP for Cheshire but this has not been accepted and Chief Executives all felt that Community Safety means local; Board requested a further paper and to look at how recommendations could impact Halton.

MA

9) **Information Items**

All information items noted

10) **AOB**

RR raised an ongoing issue related to engagement with services for people in crisis – be that due to substance misuse or mental health – SB and RR to discuss outside the meeting regarding services and signposting; the death of a resident was raised in relation to the refusal of MacDonalds staff to let a defibrillator outside their building, although HBC staff did provide first aid and the use of their defibrillator– this issue is currently being looked at by the CCG; the PCC and Cinnamon Network have announced a pot of funding for faith based community projects.

SB/RR

SB

12) **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- 18th July 2018 @ 10:00 : Ground Floor Boardroom, Municipal Buildings, Widnes

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	11 September 2018
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	Northwest Ambulance Service Annual Report
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the report from Cheshire Ambulance Service presenting the Annual report for Halton 2017-18.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) **the report be noted; and**
- 2) **the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 A representative from the North West Ambulance Service will be in attendance at the meeting.
- 3.2 The North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) NHS Trust was established on 1 July 2006, by the merger of ambulance trusts from Greater Manchester, Cheshire and Merseyside, Cumbria and Lancashire. It currently employs over 6,000 staff.

The Trust Headquarters is in Bolton, and there are four area offices serving the communities of Cheshire and Merseyside (Liverpool), Cumbria and Lancashire (Broughton near Preston and Salkeld Hall, Carlisle) and Greater Manchester (Bury). There are 109 ambulance stations distributed across the region, three emergency operations centres, one support centre, two patient transport service control centres, and two HART buildings (one being shared with Merseyside Fire & Rescue). The Trust operates around 1,000 vehicles on both emergency and non-emergency operations. In addition to this the Trust also provides, along with Urgent Care and OOH partners, the NHS 111 Service for the North West Region. Operating from five sites across the

North West, in Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire and Cumbria.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The policy implications of this presentation relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **None**

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service is a universal service that impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service is a universal service that impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

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.

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	11 September 2018
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	Home Office Border Agency
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the report from the North West Border Agency regarding the work that it carries out in the Borough of Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) **the report be noted; and**
- 2) **the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Border Force is a law enforcement command within the Home Office. Border Force secures the border and promotes national prosperity by facilitating the legitimate movement of individuals and goods, whilst preventing those that would cause harm from entering the UK. This is achieved through the immigration and customs checks carried out at ports and airports. Border Force officers work at 140 sea and air ports across the UK and overseas.

Responsibilities

It is responsible for:

- checking the immigration status of people arriving in and departing the UK
- searching baggage, vehicles and cargo for illicit goods or illegal immigrants
- patrolling the UK coastline and searching vessels
- gathering intelligence
- alerting the police and security services to people of interest

Priorities

Its priorities are to:

- deter and prevent individuals and goods that would harm the national interests from entering the UK
- facilitate the legitimate movement of individuals and trade to and from the UK
- protect and collect customs revenues for trade crossing the border
- provide excellent service to customers
- provide demonstrable effectiveness, efficiency and value for money

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The policy implications of this work relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

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.

REPORT TO: Safer Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 11 September 2018

REPORTING OFFICER Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety

SUBJECT: Transfer of Channel Coordination from Police to Local Authorities

WARDS: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To receive a report on the transfer of Channel and Prevent Co-ordination from Police to Local Authority responsibility.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Prevent Strategy has been reviewed and revised in line with Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Act placed a duty that specified authorities (including local authorities), must have due regard to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. It also established a statutory responsibility for every local authority to ensure they had an identified panel to assess the vulnerability of identified individuals and put in place support plans, known as 'Channel Panels'. Since the establishment of the Channel Programme the responsibility for assessment and case management has been held by the Police. However, in line with a broader aim to position all Prevent activity closer to local communities and to link it with safeguarding and other partnership activity the Home Office has indicated their desire to transfer many of the responsibilities from the Police to local authorities.
- 3.2 In 2016, the Home Office initiated the 'Dovetail' pilot to assess the feasibility of transferring the resources and responsibility for administering the process and case management aspects of Channel from the police to local authorities, trialled initially in nine areas. The evaluation of the pilot was broadly positive and the decision of the Home Office is to extend the transfer of functions from the police to

local authorities in more areas on a regional basis, commencing in the North West. The intention is to implement a regional model with funding being provided by the Home Office to resource the assessment of referrals and management of cases by Local Authority Channel Coordinators.

- 3.3 An initial consultation meeting was held in October 2017 with Channel Panel Chairs and other local authority representatives on the options on the allocation of Coordinators in the region, based on current referral and case activity, and the expectations on local authorities to manage and recruit to these nationally defined roles. For the Merseyside and Cheshire part of the region a preferred option of a 'Three-Hub Model' was identified on the day by the local authority representatives in attendance. Consequently, discussion was held on possible management arrangements and the expectation of hosting by one local authority in the area. It was considered that, due to the level of existing resource and understanding already in place on Prevent and Channel, Liverpool City Council was best positioned to host these new roles, subject to clarity of hosting requirements, funding provision and service level arrangements across the wider area.

4.0 Background – Prevent and Channel Arrangements

- 4.1 The Prevent Strategy is one element of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST), with its aim 'to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism through:
- Countering ideology: taking down harmful internet content; support organisations to develop effective responses;
 - Supporting individuals who are at risk of radicalisation notably (but not only) through Channel;
 - Working with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation and opportunities for countering radicalisation: education, health, local authorities, policing, prisons, charities, faith based organisations, etc.'
- 4.2 The Channel Programme in England and Wales is a voluntary initiative that provides a multi-agency approach to support people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Currently, for those individuals where the police assess there is a risk of radicalisation, a Channel Panel, chaired by the local authority and attended by other partners, such as representatives from education and health services, will meet to discuss the referral, assess the extent of the vulnerability, and decide on a tailored package of support.
- 4.3 Channel Panels will only offer support where they consider it is necessary and proportionate to do so, given all the circumstances of

the case. Information shared among partners is done strictly in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

- 4.4 The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, placed not only the duty that specified authorities must have due regard in the exercise of their functions to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism; but also the requirement for each local authority to 'ensure that a panel is in place for its area, with the function of assessing the extent to which identified individuals are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism' and for identified individuals develop, monitor and review a support plan. The associated guidance establishes the requirements for the Panels including core membership but does not prescribe how they should be operated allowing arrangements to be tailored for the area.
- 4.5 The local authorities in Merseyside and Cheshire have such arrangements in place. The Panels are chaired by the local authority, however, the method of convening the panels differs in each area, varying from a regular, established meeting of representatives from required agencies to convening case conferencing panels in line with Safeguarding procedures as and when assessments identify the potential need for support. The method of operation, frequency and average number of cases in each local authority area for Merseyside and Cheshire are listed in Appendix 1.
- 4.6 The referrals and case management are undertaken by the respective police forces by a designated 'Channel Police Practitioner' who also convenes the Channel Panel. Recently, in Merseyside this has been a Prevent Officer in lieu of a Channel Coordinator. It is the responsibilities of this role that the Home Office are transferring from the police to local authorities and have been trialled in the Dovetail Pilot.

5.0 Evaluation of Dovetail Pilot and Roll-Out

- 5.1 Since the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and significant events, the Home Office has clearly identified its aim and desire to position Prevent activity closer to local communities and link more effectively with Safeguarding and other partnership activity in local authority areas.
- 5.2 This has included indications of their intention to transfer responsibility of Channel coordination and associated Prevent activity (with the exception of the Police Terrorism de-confliction checks) to the local authority from the Police by the end of 2017/18. In line with this ambition, the Home Office launched a 12-month pilot, 'Dovetail' to assess the feasibility of moving the responsibility for Channel administration and case management from the police to local authorities. The nine pilot areas were resourced to establish Local Authority Channel Coordinators for the length of the pilot, with the

Police retaining the terrorism risk and Home Office acting as data controllers. In the North West the pilot areas were Blackburn with Darwen and Oldham.

Positive Aspects of the Pilots

- The number and types of referrals for Channel Panel consideration remained consistent
- The local authority lead for information gathering has helped to build better relationships with other partner agencies
- There was good attendance at the panels from partners, more consideration of which partner would be best to gain consent and the quality of discussion at the panels was improved in half the sites, attributed in part to a greater willingness to share information with the local authority.
- Relationships between the police and local authority were supportive both in timeliness of referrals and in helping to improve understanding and knowledge of the LACCs, leading to confidence in the recommendation to progress a referral to Panel by all parties.

Areas for Improvement

- Reliance on the police remained high in the early stages of the pilot, particularly with regard to the understanding of risk of radicalisation and completion of the vulnerability assessment framework, identifying the need to revise the training for LACC's prior to the commencement of the role
- Access to the Channel Management Information System was initially hindered until access from other agencies could be provided. The quality of information needs to continue to improve.
- Police expressed concern that the Counter-Terrorism risk may not be as effectively managed if there are delays in sharing information gathered by the local authority from other agencies, protocols and training for sharing of information more immediately with police should be in place.

- 5.3 Following the evaluation of Dovetail, the Home Office has taken the decision to extend the transfer of functions from the police to local authorities, rolling it out to other areas having adjusted it to a regionally-based model. Funding will be provided to resource the assessment of referrals and management of cases for the region as a whole. Individual local authorities will still be required to ensure there is a panel in place and which will continue to be chaired by the relevant local authority, but which will now be convened and draw on the Local

Authority Channel Coordinators rather than Channel Police Practitioners.

6.0 Options for the Regional Model

- 6.1 In September 2017, the Home Office shared the evaluation findings and their intention to transfer the responsibilities with all Local Authority Chief Executives. Subsequently, they invited Channel Panel Chairs and other local authority representatives to a consultation event for the North West on 19 October 2017. At the session, it was identified that the roll-out will be implemented by the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT). The consultation event centred on the resources and roles that the Home Office had identified to effectively run the Channel process, namely the LACCs, and Supervisors who will ensure the LACC resources are shared appropriately, have oversight of Channel Panels and performance management of Channel in the Region.
- 6.2 Three options for the allocation of the resources, identified in line with current referrals and cases, were put forward to the group in attendance:

a. Three-Hubs Model

Three Hubs would be established, with three Supervisors and eight LACCs. The hubs would be established on the following footprint:

Merseyside & Cheshire – 3 LACCs

Lancashire and Cumbria – 2 LACCs & 3 Supervisors to cover all 8 LACCs

Greater Manchester - 3 LACCs

In this model, it is unclear both how the Supervisors are intended to be allocated if to a single hub or work together in one location but with geographic responsibilities. The LACCs would be recruited and employed by one of the local authorities in the sub-regional footprint with all funding provided by the Home Office and reporting to a relevant Head of Service for day-to-day management.

b. Single Regional Base Model

All 8 LACCs and 3 Supervisors based together working from one office, identified as being Liverpool OR Manchester. Based on the discussion the assumption would seem to be that one of these local authorities would recruit and employ these roles.

c. Alternative Three-Hub Model

The footprint would be as per the three-hub model above, but with on 2 LACCs for Merseyside and Cheshire and 4 LACCs allocated to Greater Manchester. The reason given for the alternative was that since May 2017, Greater Manchester had seen an increase in volume of referrals.

- 6.3 The Local Authority representatives in attendance requested more detail of the options and the thinking, it was identified that the information being used to determine the allocation of resources was not wholly reliable. While detail on how the Supervision role would be exercised and reviewed information, based on the discussions on the day, all attendees preferred the three-hub model, with the significant majority supporting Option A above.
- 6.4 On the day, representatives were in attendance from all Merseyside and Cheshire authorities, including the Assistant Director Supporting Communities and Prevent Coordinator from Liverpool City Council. Following the outline of the proposed models and preference for the Three-Hub model, the management of the resource was discussed briefly. It was suggested that Liverpool City Council would be best positioned to host given the existing established roles of Prevent Coordinator, Community Coordinator and Prevent Education Officer and close links with the Prevent Unit in Merseyside Police. These officers would work collaboratively with the LACCs and relevant Supervisor to continue to extend knowledge and good-practice sharing across both Merseyside and Cheshire. It was understood that any agreement to host such roles on behalf of the nine local authorities would be predicated on the appropriate funding levels being guaranteed by the Home Office and arrangements on allocation of resources are clearly established.
- 6.5 In describing the roles and expectations, the Home Office has provisionally advised that the salary levels for the LACC role would be in the range of £30-33,000 (approx. £43,000 with on-costs) and Supervisors in the range of £40-42,000 (approx. £52,000 with on-costs). However, it was understood that the job description and person specification would be subject to the relevant local authority's policies and procedures to ensure equity of pay. The job description and person specification are still outstanding from the OSCT, however it is clear that the LACC is more than an administrator and individuals will need a core set of behaviours, skills and abilities to undertake this role.

7.0 Recommendation and Next Steps

- 7.1 The timescales for the roll-out are still provisional with OSCT indicating the LACCs being in place for Summer/Autumn. Notwithstanding, as mentioned above, further detail such as job descriptions, confirmation of funding and confirmation of the preferred model by the OSCT are

still being progressed, on the basis of the Three Hub Model described in paragraph 6.2.

8.0 FINANCIAL UPDATE

8.1 Whilst the employees required for the preferred “Three-Hubs Model” will be employees of Liverpool City Council, the funding will be provided by the Home Office. The Council already operates a Channel Panel and recent numbers of referrals to it have been small.

9.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

9.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service is a universal service that impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

9.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

9.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service is a universal service that impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

9.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service is a universal service that impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

9.5 Halton’s Urban Renewal

None

10.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

11.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

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

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

REPORT TO:	Safer Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	11 September 2018
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Community Safety
SUBJECT:	Manchester Port Health Authority
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the report from the Manchester Port Health Authority detailing the work it carries out in the Borough of Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 A representative from the Port Health Authority will be in attendance at the meeting.
- 3.2 Manchester Port Health Authority is the local authority for the Manchester Ship Canal and River Weaver including the ports of Eastham, Ellesmere, Manisty, Stanlow, Ince, Weston, Runcorn, Partington, Irlam, and Salford. The Authority, originally Manchester Port Sanitary Authority, was established in 1896 following the designation of the Manchester Ship Canal as a customs port.

The latest Port Health Order amended in 2009 (following the creation of Cheshire West and Chester Council) sets out the area of jurisdiction for the authority.

Today the authority is responsible for a wide range of public health controls including:

- Ship sanitation inspections and certificates
- Food Standards, Food Safety and Water Quality (ships and land)
- Infectious disease control

- Environmental Protection
- Pest control
- Smoke Free Legislation
- Emergency planning
- Import controls for high risk products of non-animal origin

The Authority is managed by Acting Chief Port Health Officer, Andrea Smith, 1 full time Officer (Environmental Health Officers), 1 part time Officer, 1 Office Manager, 1 Relief Officer (Environmental Health Officer/Technical Officer).

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The policy implications of this report relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

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6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

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.