

# Public Document Pack



## Safer Policy and Performance Board

**Tuesday, 9 February 2021 at 6.30 p.m.  
To be held remotely - please contact the  
clerk below for access**

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 Eddie Dourley	Labour
Councillor Valerie Hill	Labour
Councillor Peter Lloyd Jones	Labour
Councillor Kath Loftus	Labour
Councillor Geoffrey Logan	Labour
Councillor Margaret Ratcliffe	Liberal Democrats
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 a date to be agreed.***

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

**Part I**

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<b>1. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
<b>2. MINUTES</b>	<b>1 - 3</b>
<b>3. 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>4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>	<b>4 - 6</b>
<b>DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES</b>	
<b>5. EMERGENCY PLANNING</b>	<b>7 - 14</b>
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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, 17 November 2020 held remotely.*

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

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

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

Also in attendance: PC Tetlow and Alex Crisp – Cheshire Police. One member of the press

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

*Action*

*The Board took part in a minute's silence in honour of Councillor Morley, who had sadly passed away last week.*

**SAF14 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairs announcements.

**SAF15 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2020 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

**SAF16 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

It was reported that no questions had been received.

**SAF17 CHESHIRE POLICE THERAPY DOG TRIAL**

The Board received a presentation from PC Jane Tetlow in relation to the new initiative to trial a Police therapy dog in the Northern division of Cheshire. Cheshire Police would be the first North West Force to pioneer this resource with the aim to improve victim engagement, staff wellbeing and youth intervention and diversion. The therapy dogs would work alongside the Safer Schools Young Persons Partnership Officers. Their work involved working closely

with schools, Beat Management and Partnerships to anticipate problems involving young people and their families. They regularly attended schools dedicated to additional educational needs working with those individuals.

PC Tetlow outlined to the Board examples of ways the therapy dog could be used in Halton and the benefits this would bring.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

SAF18 MENTAL HEALTH STREET TRIAGE TEAMS

The Board considered an update from Alex Crisp, Mental Health Co-ordinator, Cheshire Police, on the Cheshire Police approach to addressing mental health issues when they presented themselves in the community. The report also highlighted the increased number of calls for mental health support and of suicides during the Covid-19 Pandemic and the Police response.

The Board was advised on the changing demand for crisis management services during the past months, the impact on the increasing calls to Cheshire Police to respond to those in crisis and details of the 24-hour crisis line that had been in place since March 2020. In addition, the report set out:

- the partnership approach that was in place and the benefits and areas for development including; street triage, liaison and diversion, Cheshire and Merseyside Prevention of Suicide (CHAMPS) and High Intensity Users (HIU); and
- the training for Cheshire Constabulary for Officers and Staff to develop a best practice emergency response to mental illness.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF19 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PROTECTION ORDERS

Members were advised that this report had been added to the agenda in error and had been considered by the Board at its last meeting.

SAF20 CONSUMER ADVICE

The Board considered a report on the work of the Consumer Advice Team, which also provided case studies from the past 12 months. The report provided information on

the work of the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline, which was a national helpline that provided the first response advice on behalf of the Trading Standards Service. It also detailed how Trading Standards worked alongside the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline to support the needs of the consumer and the law that applied when goods and services were bought.

Members were advised that a satisfaction survey of service users was undertaken quarterly which showed that consistently 98% of users were either very satisfied or satisfied with the service they had received from Halton Trading Standards Consumer Advice Service.

RESOLVED: That the Board noted the information presented.

*Meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.*

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

**DATE:** 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**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.



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy & Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director Enterprise, Community & Resources
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Emergency Planning
<b>WARDS:</b>	Boroughwide

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

To raise awareness of the role of the Emergency Planning Team and the work undertaken for the period 2019-2020.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the report be noted.**

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Background**

Risk & Emergency Planning is a team within the Enterprise, Community & Resources Directorate. The team consists of a Principal Emergency Planning Officer and two Emergency Planning Officers.

#### **3.2 STATUTORY DUTIES:**

Halton Borough Council, as a Local Authority, has a 'Statutory Duty' to comply with the following legislation:

- Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004
- Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations (COMAH) 2015
- Pipeline Safety Regulations (PSR) 1996

Therefore, the Emergency Planning Team are governed by this Legislation, aiming to ensure the Borough of Halton is safe and resilient.

#### **3.3 Civil Contingencies Act 2004**

As part of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, the Council has a duty to ensure the resilience of the Council's response to an emergency situation. Part:1 of the Act is designed to deal with preparations by local responders for localised emergencies, such as risk of serious damage to human welfare or the environment. Part: 2 is designed for use in very serious emergencies, which affect a larger geographical area.

The Act divides local responders into 2 categories, imposing a different set of duties on each. Category:1 organisations are at the core of the response to most emergencies (e.g. Emergency Services, Local Authorities, NHS bodies).

As a Category:1 Responder, Halton Borough Council is subject to a full set of 'civil protection statutory duties' and is required to:

- Assess the 'risk of emergencies' occurring and use this to inform contingency planning;
- Put in place Emergency Plans;
- Put in place Business Continuity Management (BCM) arrangements;
- Put in place arrangements to make information available to the public regarding civil protection matters and maintain arrangements to 'warn, inform and advise' the public in the event of an emergency;
- Share information with other local responders to enhance co-ordination.
- Co-operate with other local responders to enhance co-ordination and efficiency.
- Provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations regarding Business Continuity Management.

Category: 2 organisations (e.g. Health & Safety Executive, Transport and Utility Companies) are 'co-operating bodies' which are less likely to be involved in the heart of planning work. However, will be heavily involved in incidents that affect their sector.

### **3.4 Planning for Local Risks**

In line with the CCA, Halton Borough Council have a number of Emergency Plans with the aim to ensure resilience is in place to protect, minimise the effects and reassure the community of Halton; limiting the consequences in the event of a Major Incident / Major Incident Standby within the Borough.

Emergency Planning have prepared a number of key plans to ensure resilience within the Borough of Halton, which are regularly updated and tested.

The CCA identifies two pieces of legislation that relate to Major Accident Hazards at *industrial establishments*, Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH) and to *hazardous pipelines* (Major Accident Hazard Pipelines) (MAHP).

### **3.5 Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations (COMAH) 2015**

COMAH applies mainly to the chemical industry, some storage activities, explosives and nuclear sites and other industries, where a threshold quantity of dangerous substances identified in the Regulations are kept or used.

The COMAH Regulations require Halton Borough Council, as a Local Authority, to prepare adequate emergency plans to deal with the off-site consequences of possible major accidents at 'Upper Tier' sites and should review and where necessary revise them. They must also test them at specified intervals at least once every three years.

The Seveso Directives are the main EU legislation dealing specifically with the control of on-shore major accident hazards involving dangerous substances. The Seveso III Directive came into force on 1 June 2015, replacing the Seveso II Directive.

The COMAH Regulations 2015, Regulation: 9, places 'nine' industrial sites within Halton as 'Upper Tier' sites. Each of these sites requires an 'external emergency plan' to be in produced and exercised / tested at least once every three years.

The Runcorn Site COMAH Operators is the 'umbrella terminology' which is used to capture the six operators, which is based in Weston Point, Runcorn. This name has been agreed by The Competent Authority (HSE and The Environment Agency), the Operators and Halton Borough Council.

Below is a list of 'Upper Tier COMAH sites' in Halton:

#### **'Upper Tier' - Runcorn sites**

##### **Runcorn COMAH Site Operators:**

- INOVYN ChlorVinyls
- INEOS Enterprises
- Vynova Runcorn Ltd
- Runcorn Membrane Chlorine (MCP) Ltd
- Packed Chlorine Ltd
- Koura Ltd (formerly Mexichem Ltd)

#### **'Upper Tier' - Widnes sites**

- Univar Ltd, Pickerings Road, Halebank
- ICoNiChem Widnes Ltd, Moss Bank Road
- Kalama Chemical Ltd, Dans Road

### **3.6 COMAH Compliance**

COMAH Regulations requires all 'Upper Tier' COMAH sites to produce and submit a 'Safety Report' to the Competent Authority and this is reviewed every 5 years by them.

These sites are also responsible for producing a Major Accident Prevention Policy (MAPP), which focuses on major accident hazards and details the Safety Management System, which will include the quantities of dangerous substances which are present or likely to be present.

All 'Upper Tier' COMAH sites are required to produce both an 'Internal' and 'External' Emergency COMAH Plan. The 'Internal' Plan is produced by the operator and the 'External' Plan is produced in partnership between Halton Borough Council and the Operator(s). All External Plans have been updated within the past 12 months to reflect changes at the site(s) and/or in line with the new Cheshire Resilience Forum (CRF) COMAH Template. The Competent Authority (HSE and the Environment Agency) schedules an annual compliancy meeting with Halton, the aim to review the External COMAH Planning work. All nine sites within the borough, are compliant.

### **3.7 Exercises / Validation**

Due to the complexity and interconnectivity of the six operators at the Runcorn COMAH site, the External COMAH Plan is tested on an annual basis. This is a recommendation by the Competent Authority and has been implemented for a number of years.

Univar Solutions Ltd, Widnes, ICoNiChem, Widnes and Emerald Kalama Chemical Ltd 'External COMAH Plans' are tested / validated every three years. This is in line and in agreement with the Cheshire Resilience Forum (CRF) 3-year cycle.

### **3.8 Lower Tier COMAH Sites**

Halton Borough Council has no statutory duty for 'Lower Tier' COMAH sites. However, these sites remain governed under COMAH Regulations and are required to produce a Safety Report, an 'Internal COMAH Plan' and a Major Accident Prevention Policy. There is also an annual inspection from Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service. All dates of these inspections are circulated to the Emergency Planning Team. Halton has one 'Lower Tier' COMAH sites, Syntor Ltd, which is based on Manor Park, Runcorn.

### **3.9 Further Local Risks**

Halton have a number of further risks within the Borough such as the Mersey Gateway, Severe Weather, Flooding and Cross Border Risks, such as Liverpool John Lennon Airport and Merseyside's COMAH site, Vertellus Specialities UK Ltd. Halton work with partner agencies to produce Emergency Plans and exercise, as appropriate.

### **3.10 Major Accident Hazard Pipeline (MAHP) Regulations 1996**

The Major Accident Hazard Pipeline (MAHP) Regulations 1996, governs all high pressure natural gas supply transmission and distribution network within the Borough of Halton. These substances are known collectively as dangerous fluids, as defined in Schedule 2 of the Major Accident Pipeline Safety Regulations (1996).

Major Accident Hazard Pipeline Emergency means an occurrence i.e. an explosion, fire or breach of a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline. This is further defined as a Mobile Cloudburst - an incident involving a release of chemicals or toxic substances at any location (usually during transportation) i.e. highways, railways, ships and pipelines and not relating to a specific site i.e. COMAH site.

Halton Borough Council, as the Local Authority has a statutory duty to work with the pipeline operators who have MAHP infrastructure in the area and partners to produce a MAHP Multi-Agency Plan. Consultations have taken place with pipeline operators, Emergency Services, NHS England, Public Health England, HSE and with members of the public via their Elected Members.

As part of the Regulations there is no specific duty on Local Authorities to test the plan but exercises may be carried out as part of duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. It has been agreed between partners and MAHP Operators across Cheshire to exercise and validate the MAHP Template in the near future.

### **3.11 Public Reassurance**

The 'Community' / Public Information Zone (PIZ) are consulted regarding a COMAH site which is in close proximity to their home / business. This consultation process includes a 'Safety Letter' and 'Information Card' which is circulated, at least every 5 years, and includes actions to be taken in the event of a major incident. This information is also posted on the HBC Website.

As part of the community reassurance, the team have worked, with the local Parish Councils and schools, where appropriate, with the aim of raising awareness regarding a COMAH Site in their area.

### **3.12 Emergency Centres**

In the event of an emergency, there is a number of Emergency Centres which may be activated in the response to the incident. This depends on the type, nature and severity of the incident.

### **3.13 Local Authority Emergency Centres**

In the event of a Major Incident / Major Incident Standby, Halton has two Local Authority Emergency Centres (LAEC), one is based at Municipal Building and the other at Runcorn Town Hall. All equipment and plans are checked and updated on a monthly basis.

### **3.14 Emergency Survivor Reception Centres**

In the event of a Major Incident / Major Incident Standby, a Survivor Reception Centre may be activated in response to the incident. Within the borough there are approximately 50 designated centres, which are made up of Church Halls, Social Clubs and Hotels. These buildings are used as a secure area where people affected by an Emergency will be taken for short-term shelter. People attending this centre will not require acute hospital treatment, however, may require first aid.

### **3.15 Emergency Rest Centres**

In the event of a Major Incident / Major Incident Standby, a Rest Centre may be activated in response to the incident. Within the borough there are a total of 10 designed Rest Centres, which are made up of Leisure Centres and Community Centres. These buildings are used as temporary accommodation, a place of safety for displaced people. Two of the ten designated establishments are designed care homes, which would be used to move vulnerable people, who have been involved in an emergency evacuation. These establishments all have a Rest Centre box, which is checked on a quarterly basis or before a major event.

### **3.16 Working with Partners**

Halton continues to work with partner agencies as part of exercise planning, training and validation exercises, both within Cheshire and Cross-Border. For example, Halton attend and umpire COMAH Exercises. Also, attending cross border exercises in Merseyside. Halton is also a member of the Liverpool John Lennon Airport Emergency Planning Group.

### **3.17 Working with Cheshire Resilience Forum (CRF)**

Halton is an active member of the Cheshire Resilience Forum. The forum works with partner agencies, such as Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service, NWAS and Health Organisations. The aim and objectives of the Cheshire Resilience is to prepare for, respond to and recover from any emergency.

The forum brings together local emergency services, NHS and local authorities, plus other agencies that can help to prepare and respond to any event. Under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 every part of the United Kingdom is required to establish a Local Resilience Forum, which is a multi-agency group covering a policing area that share information and resources, and respond together to an incident. Cheshire Resilience will not offer immediate information in the event of an emergency. The aim is to work together to protect the community and make Cheshire the best prepared place for any emergency.

The forum works towards the National Risk Register, where these risks are assessed at a Cheshire level and risks assessed at a local level and where appropriate work programme.

Over the last twelve months the Team has been heavily involved in working with colleagues from the partner agencies that form the LRF on the response to the Covid 19 Pandemic and supporting Senior Management who represent the Council on various LRF Groups. Regular briefings and discussions also take place with the Executive Board Portfolio Holder for Community Safety.

### **3.18 Internal Resilience**

Emergency Planning continue to develop SharePoint and the Emergency Planning Portal via the intranet, with the aim to ensure emergency planning documents, Business Continuity Plans, Training Programmes and dates are easily accessible for Emergency Responders.

### **3.19 Training**

A number of HBC First Responders and partner agencies have been involved in the training exercises throughout the year.

### **3.20 Major Incidents in Halton**

The team have responded to a number of incidents throughout the year.

The team have worked supporting the authority's response to Covid-19 internally and externally with partner agencies.

The team have supported the Portfolio Holder and Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources regarding the preparedness and response to the potential impact of EU Exit may have for the authority.

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

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

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

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Children and Young People in Halton' priority

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

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton' priority.

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

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'A Healthy Halton' priority.

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

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'A Safer Halton' priority.

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

There are no direct implications on the Council's 'Halton's Urban Renewal' priority.

## **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

No full risk assessment is required.

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

None

## **9.0 KEY DECISIONS ON THE FORWARD PLAN**

These proposals do not constitute a key decision and are not included in the Forward Plan.

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

February 2017	Introduction to the Emergency Planning Service
February 2018	Annual Emergency Planning Service update
February 2019	Annual Emergency Planning Service update
February 2020	Annual Emergency Planning Service update
February 2020	Annual Emergency Planning Service update



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Policy and Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	Community Safety
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Covid19 – Updated working arrangements
<b>WARDS:</b>	Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The impact of the Coronavirus is being felt in our communities in many different ways, and will be personal to each individual. This report sets out the range of services that Halton Community Safety Partnership have put in place during the COVID 19 Pandemic to support the community.

## **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 Introduction**

- 3.1 Safer Halton Partnerships number one objective is helping communities to be and feel safe. During this time, a wide range of services and support continues to be available throughout Halton to respond to concerns about crime, anti-social behaviour and other issues that impact on community safety.

## **4.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **4.1 Community Safety/ASB and Crime/Police**

The Constabulary is now shifting between the operational and response phases with regards to COVID-19. This means we that the

Local Policing Unit (LPU) Superintendents are returning to their normal roles.

#### **4.2 Widnes Policing Update**

Please see below, a summary of the previous month (including weekend)

- The patrol plan is reduced but focused- the team has also been dealing with a wider range of incidents as life returns to a new normal
- The Police are still actively patrolling in high visibility clothing, engaging, explaining and encouraging and enforcing only as a last resort in relation to Covid breaches
- Also there has been a strong emphasis and extra attention paid to vulnerable victims, especially from the schools officer and beat managers
- There has been a slight increase in crime (10%) - officers are investigating all incidents all but no repeats, patterns or matters for consideration
- There has been a limited amount of - off road bikes issues recently, largely due to the force off road motorbike team that did an excellent job.
- There has been an increase in ASB, a number of those are COVID related

#### **4.3 Runcorn Policing Update**

Last week there has been an increase in demand both Covid related and normal business.

- Op Scrambler incidents are up- Daresbury Firs is a hotspot for this. These particular bikes have been responsible for a great deal of ASB recently. The feedback on social media from our posts relating to the seizures, shows how much concern this behaviour causes the majority in our communities.
- Asylum Seekers (AS) - We had just one report stating that large groups were congregating in Preston Brook. Regular patrols have not confirmed this. They have only ever been seen them acting safely and appropriately as they walk from and back to the hotel. Officers are in contact with the Spar and again this week they state they have no issues or concerns. The AS socially distance and are

always courteous and considerate. One male was reported as missing for a few days, who has now been found and returned.

- Reports of Covid breaches are increasing as expected, people are losing patience. The team is still focusing on education and encouragement rather than enforcement.
- Lastly, Runcorn LPU have concluded Operation Winter Warmer. In all over 170 winter hampers were delivered , visited 12 schools and nurseries in Runcorn and PC Panda / Runcorn Staff delivered 190 Christmas bundles that contained selection boxes/ colouring books and pens and a Kops n kids Christmas card.

#### **4.4 Operation Pandas: What is it?**

Operation Pandas is the name of the internal major incident response stood up by Cheshire police. It covers the response, management and coordination of all aspects of Coronavirus and its effects on the internal aspects of the Constabulary. It sits side by side to the external multi agency major incident response (LRF) responding to Coronavirus (Operation TALLA) which is run out of the Joint Tactical Command centre (JTCC). These two operations rooms literally sit side by side and work in partnership.

Op Pandas is best described as a hybrid major incident room. It is part major incident command, part major investigation room, part strategic change and projects. It has aspects of all of these and more present and has brought in skill sets as it has stood up to meet the unique challenges that Coronavirus has brought.

Op Pandas command structure has a Gold (Chief Officer) who has oversight.

Op Pandas has a silver commander sitting across the internal and external tactical command and coordination

Op Pandas then has a number of bronze commanders that have responsibility for operation, or functional command aspects and feed into silver.

The operations room has an Operations bronze commander running and coordinating the information and response from all the bronzes, and acting as a hub to problem solve quickly as the incident progresses, or issues are identified.

#### **4.5 School Liaison**

The team have been doing home visits in company with a PCSO to students' homes who have not been accessing education and the online

platforms as expected. We offer them assistance with accessing online apps/school website. Update passwords or print out homework and drop off etc.

Its business as usual regarding crimes and outcome.

We have sent out PowerPoints to cover the main areas of concern. E Safety, ASB etc. We have sent out monthly newsletters with current information on. We have also sent out a “We are with you” contact sheet, to support parents.

The team have ordered and received some CCE leaflets to distribute to the schools. These will be up in all schools for the attention of staff and Safeguarding leads.

#### **4.6 Domestic Abuse**

Our main concerns are DA/DV as we don't have the usual third party opportunities via schools etc. We are pushing the Open Door multi agency comms, Arriva buses, all retailers, pharmacies and Apex taxis are displaying the posters. Suzi Williams and Jane Tetlow (schools officers) have also done joint visits with staff from Bridge school on those not attending school. Visited on pretext of checking welfare, delivering Easter eggs, but also to reinforce message we are still here and to protect and prevent any harm to those most vulnerable.

Our local DA service has reported a slight increase in DA self-reporting /none-Police referrals this week but this is still lower than usual.

- We are hoping to get Op Enhance back on-line in the next week or so.
- Refuge is full, we have three victims who are in a position to move out and we are supporting them to facilitate these moves, this will free up some space for any new referrals coming through.
- Grange way Court should be online shortly, offering an additional 4 units.
- Cheshire Police held a real time on-line DA Q & A session last week, they were supported by each locality to provide a DA specialist to support this.

#### **4.7 Raising awareness – Domestic Abuse**

There are many volunteers working within the community that have not had the opportunity to attend any HBC domestic abuse awareness

training as part of their induction. We recognise the important work that volunteers are doing in many roles supporting the most vulnerable people within our community; as such, they may be the only person an individual may see beyond those they are locked down with. Recognising this as an opportunity to have more reach, HBC developed a quick guide to domestic abuse, with details as to how to reach out for help if any of our volunteers are concerned about someone they are supporting. Adult Safeguarding have reported a slight increase in their referrals relating to domestic abuse, this underlines the important and observant work of carers and volunteers in our community.

#### **4.8 HBC Press Releases**

Numerous press releases have been circulated gaining local media attention and radio support, this press release was used by Wire FM as a sound bite.

##### COVID-19 and potential impact on those experiencing domestic abuse

We know that this is a difficult and worrying time for everyone – but particularly so for adults and children living with domestic abuse, and the professionals working hard to support them. For those people experiencing domestic abuse, we want you to know that you are not alone. Our local services are available and can offer you help even if you are unable to leave your home due to COVID-19.

If you, or a child or any one in your family are in immediate danger you should call 999.

The Halton Domestic Abuse Service is working together with Halton Borough Council and Cheshire Police to ensure that we maintain essential services, and have contacts for anyone who is affected by domestic abuse or is concerned about domestic abuse and needs to talk to someone during the weeks to come.

What happens behind closed doors doesn't need to stay there...

To access free support tips and advice please use this link :  
<https://www.openthedoorcheshire.org.uk/>

If you need to speak to someone for help relating to domestic abuse, please contact your local support service 0300 11 11 247 to speak to the Halton Domestic Abuse Service.

#### **4.9 Weekly Open the door Webchat**

Each week across Cheshire, a live webchat session is held where members of the public can log in and ask questions about domestic abuse to local professionals, this gives members of our community the

chance to reach out on a different platform, this is completely new and direct response to Covid-19.

The response has been really positive, questions have been submitted from a range of people including victims past and those still suffering from ex-partners concerned family and friends as well as professionals working in front lines services.

#### **4.10 Local Domestic Abuse Service:**

##### **Refuge:**

As the Refuge is modelled into self-contained units, we have been able to continue to provide safe accommodation in all 12 of the units available. The Refuge is in full operation, is 'business as usual', and is supporting families to stay safe during this especially testing time. Additional Covid-19 accommodation spaces have been identified however, so far we have not needed to mobilise this to support victims of domestic abuse and their children.

##### **Complex cases:**

Those individuals being supported as part of the Complex Case Accommodation Project continue to be supported either within the Refuge or via community support contact and support being regularly undertaken.

##### **Community Support:**

The Independent Domestic Violence Advisors are working from home due to Covid 19 and the difficulties meeting victims face-to-face at the moment, they are offering regular telephone/text or email support and safety planning with those victims it is safe to be in contact with. Should an IDVA be unable to contact a victim or if they have safety concerns, Cheshire Police have agreed to visit victims within the community.

#### **4.11 MARAC**

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference, it is at this meeting those victims identified as high risk are discussed in greater detail combing what information is known about the victim, the perpetrator, children and other vulnerable adults who share or frequent the address. The Halton MARAC has always been very well attended since its inception around 2005, it has always been a face-to-face meeting. Due to the current restrictions, this meeting has continued to be supported however, virtual meetings have been undertaken with key partner agency representatives calling in and sharing information in order to recognise the risks for that family and develop a personalised action plan to minimise harm. Reports back from colleagues supporting the

MARAC meeting are very positive that the virtual meetings are well supported; the objectives of the meeting are being fulfilled.

#### **4.12 COVID-19 Technological Support**

Changing Lives our domestic abuse provider has been supported in achieving additional funding. This new funding will be used to provide local children and families who are socially excluded. At no time has it been more important for children and young people to have access to the internet so they can complete their homework, connect to family and friends and take on-line fitness classes that their peers are accessing. In addition, the equipment will be able to be used by victims who need to access Universal Credit, connect to the outside world and support their mental health too.

#### **4.13 After COVID-19**

Research on Savelives website, An Exploratory Investigation: Post-disaster Predictors of Intimate Partner Violence suggests that following COVID-19, we may have a sharp increase in the number of victims and families needing support due to domestic abuse. Both the adult and children service providers in Halton have been supported to submit additional funding bids to the Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner to increase available resources to provide direct support victims of domestic abuse in both Runcorn and Widnes; the PCC was successful in achieving additional funds from the Ministry of Justice, Halton await the decision of the commissioner.

#### **4.14 Alcohol/Licensing Night time Economy**

As the Board will be aware all hospitality venues are currently closed.

We have advised anybody with any questions to contact the Environmental Health Team on 0151 511 5200 or [environmental.protection@halton.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.protection@halton.gov.uk)

We have also made ourselves available for advice and support, up to 10pm in the evening and at weekends.

#### **4.15 Enforcement Performance Activity:**

This continuing situation has and is causing lots of discussion between the premises in Halton and the main difficulty has been keeping venues and operators updated as much as possible. At the start of this current lockdown we received large numbers of enquiries as to when it may end and unfortunately at the moment we have no idea.

Personal visits have been greatly reduced to protect venues staff and customers but we have however been available till 10pm 7 days a week for help and advice. The Halton Licensing Whats App Group has over 70 members and is monitored virtually 24/7

The vast majority of venues across Halton have acted in a professional and responsible manner many going above and beyond to offer a safe environment for their customers and operating lawfully under difficult situations, when allowed.

In the last few months Licensing and Environmental Health Officers have worked with Operators, Managers, Designated Premises Supervisors and Staff when they were able to open, to ensure that all are up to date with current legislation and with virtual and personal visits ensured that Social Distancing and sanitary measures were correctly implemented and that track and trace systems, whether manual or digital were installed. It was a very difficult and confusing time for venues.

#### **4.16 S 19 Formal and Informal Premises Closure Orders and Premises Issues**

Since the last report there have been further issues with a particular venue and it was subsequently closed using a Police closure order. The initial court case was adjourned and as we entered further restrictions, which would keep the venue, closed, it was decided that we could take action by way of an Action Plan. There has since been a meeting of Police, EH, Licensing, the venue management and the brewery and a number of actions were put into place. The venue is currently closed and when re-opening is allowed there will be visits to ensure compliance.

#### **4.17 Licensing Issues**

Issues have had few and far between with only a hand full of venues bothering to open during the tier 3 (Restaurant) restrictions and with nobody flouting the current lockdown.

#### **4.18 Licensing Visits**

For obvious reasons there have been no partner licensing operations, although individual issues and intel are still being passed between HBC Licensing, Border Force and Cheshire Fire. Officers from all partners are in constant communication and visits will recommence when the situation allows.



#### 4.19 Pub Watch

There have been no further meetings of the group however all the members are on the whats app group and still in full contact with each other.

#### 4.20 ASB Victim and Witness Support Service

The suspension of 'face to face' contact has resulted in contact maintained with service users via telephone, email and text. Where the victim or witness is, 'vulnerable' 'Face Time' contact is also available. Needs assessments and support planning has been conducted over the telephone.

The local policing units at Runcorn and Widnes (Beat Managers, ASB Officers and Inspectors), registered social landlords (ASB Officers and Tenancy Enforcement Officers) and community based organisations have been contacted on a regular basis publicising the service.

This regular contact and the additional stress placed on the community during the period of confinement has seen a marked increase in the number of cases; the figure now stands at **43**. This equates to an increase of 19 since the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

During the period of restrictions on activity, officers have responded to the needs of victims who have contacted Halton Direct Link. The advice provided ranges from providing the victim with a clear understanding of the difference between reporting nuisance behaviour via 101 and 999. Where there is a threat of harm or damage to property 999 is appropriate with the realistic expectation of police officers being dispatched to the location. For other incidents/nuisance, behaviour without the risk of harm a victim would dial 101.

Regular contact takes place with the appropriate staff at the local policing units and with social landlords to ensure victims are supported and relevant advice, intelligence is passed on appropriately. In keeping with this service delivery standard, the use of **Community Protection Notices are being encouraged**, which are designed to address the types of behaviours that have become prevalent since the restrictions were imposed. (Community Protection Notices are for behaviour **that has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the community, is persistent and is unreasonable including on private land for people aged 16 and above** as per the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014)

A breach of a Community Protection Notice is a criminal offence and can be the platform for other orders such Criminal Behaviour Order to be pursued.

Two **Multi-Agency Consultation Meetings have taken place** to discuss the viability of pursuing (Civil Injunctions and Community Behaviour Orders for example) when the behaviour of an individual comprises their safety and wellbeing and the health and safety of the wider community.

### **Summary**

The absence of face-to-face contact and the reliance on other forms of communication has not impaired the ability of the ASB Victim and Witness Support Service to provide the three distinct levels of support to victims and witnesses of nuisance behaviour, whilst ensuring service delivery/quality standards have been maintained. This period of adjustment has resulted in me becoming adept in the use of Skype as a meeting/conferencing tool.

#### **4.21 The challenges for Counter Terrorism and Channel Policing during lockdown:**

Chief Supt Nik Adams, Vice-chair of the CT Advisory Network and National Co-ordinator for Prevent recently spoke to The Independent newspaper about the challenges for CT Policing during lockdown. He explained that CT Policing has been working tirelessly to prepare for and manage the impact of COVID-19.

Across the country, Prevent colleagues have developed new ways of working focussed on three priorities:

- We have changed the way we work to cope with reduced access to multi-agency support and face to face mentoring. Channel panels, the multi-agency panels that support those who are at greatest risk of radicalisation, are now being held virtually to ensure that we continue to work together to understand and meet the needs of the client.
- We have developed a national communications campaign to mitigate the reduction in referrals from partners, (particularly schools, where teachers are often the first to notice behavioural changes). We are sharing information with families about radicalisation risks and the work of Prevent to build the trust, confidence and knowledge needed to help people to share their concerns. More than ever, families are

most likely to spot concerns and we need to be ready to help. Advice is available to families through The Let's Talk About It website.

- We are focussed on managing all cases effectively, paying particular attention to those where isolation could increase vulnerability. We are adapting our approach as we identify new risks.

Our lives changed suddenly in March, and that had a profound impact on many areas of safeguarding. We will stay safe by looking out for each other and knowing how to reach out for support. We are still here and we stand ready to help.

### **4.22 Digital safety during Covid-19:**

The impact of COVID-19 means that most of us will be at home for an extended period and are likely to be spending large amounts of time online. Extremists are using the outbreak to promote hateful views, conspiracy theories blaming a particular group for the virus and to spread misinformation regarding these groups.

A better understanding of digital safety will help professionals, carers and parents safeguard vulnerable individuals from a range of harms, whether that is child sexual exploitation, fraud, or extremist influences seeking to radicalise and exploit vulnerable people. The Government has encouraged Internet Service Providers to allow parents to easily filter content to put you in control of what your child can see online. The UK Safer Internet Centre provides guidance on how to do this and Internet Matters also provide step by step guides on how to setup parental controls.

Behaviour and vulnerabilities may be changing due to the unusual circumstances we are now living in. The signs that something may not be right are many and varied and could be an indication that harmful influencers are seeking to exploit vulnerable individuals. You may know that person and you may feel able and want to speak with them, ask them about what they are viewing, who they are speaking to and how they are feeling.

**If you suspect someone is being exploited online:** There are a number of resources available to help you understand and protect your vulnerable individuals from different harms online. A selection of which are included here:

[Let's Talk About It](#): Working together to prevent terrorism, online safety advice

[Educate Against Hate](#): DFE resources about hate and extremism for teachers and parents

[Educate Against Hate Parents' Hub](#): Advice for guardians to keep young people safe from extremism

[Think you know](#): Activities for all age groups to build resilience and awareness online

[Online safety](#): NSPCC - details the key issues faced by young people online.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The policy implications of the review 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.

## **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None

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

### **7.1 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.

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

None

### **7.3 A Healthy Halton**

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

### **7.4 A Safer Halton**

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

**7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None

**8.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

None

**9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

None

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

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

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

**DATE:** 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Community Safety

**SUBJECT:** Crime Reduction Initiative - Hough Green Ward

**WARDS:** Borough wide

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

1.1 Following the recent Community Safety Partnership survey carried out in the Hough Green area of Widnes, this report outlines a new crime reduction initiative that will be taking place in Partnership with Cheshire Constabulary and the Police Crime commissioner.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

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

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Hough Green is one of the more deprived areas of Cheshire and is subject to many cross border criminal activities. The Police carry out a considerable amount of crime disruption in the area and safeguarding measures are put in place for those involved.
- 3.2 Listening to community concerns, we recognised the necessity to make people safer and feel safer, so the Police and the Community Safety Partnership carried out a community safety survey which involved 3200 homes. During this survey, we identified many vulnerable people requiring further safeguarding and we engaged the Crime Reduction officer to view the area and come up with a design out project to improve the environment. For example, better lighting/CCTV, litter picking/fly tipping removal, landscaping and encouraged community engagement to create pride in the local area.

3.3 One key action was the identification of a doorbell CCTV project that will provide coverage of hard to monitor areas around the Arley Drive/Cherry Sutton estates providing reassurance by making residents feel safer. We have now identified a number of homes who are willing to have CCTV doorbells fitted and share any footage with us should incidents occur.

3.4 Residents felt that CCTV coverage of these areas will make them feel safer with the Partnership showing their support to the improvement and regeneration of the area; it will encourage and improve a greater level of community interaction and co-operation. This will ultimately have a reduction in criminal activity in the area which in turn will provide the residents the comfort and enjoyment for reinvestment into their properties and in enjoying the area in which they live.

In addition, should this facility be able to identify younger offenders, this will give us the opportunity to have an early intervention and provide the necessary education and provide the appropriate sign posting.

3.5 Funding has been agreed by the Police and Crime Commissioner and we will purchase the bells and these will be fitted by community safety partnership which consists of local authority, housing providers, fire, police and local volunteers. This will also be matched with funding from local authority in funding and time.

This scheme will also coincide with high profile policing patrols, litter picking, knife sweeps, court convictions, and mass engagement from fire and trading standards.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The policy implications of the review 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.



<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board
<b>DATE:</b>	9 February 2021
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
<b>WARDS:</b>	All

<b>1.0</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>
1.1	To update the Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board in relation to the activities being supported across the Borough in response to domestic abuse and sexual violence.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that members of the Board Consider and comment on any aspect of this report.</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION</b>
3.1	<p><b>Halton Domestic Abuse Service – Integrated Family Model</b></p> <p>Halton have awarded the new Halton Domestic Abuse Service, integrated family model to WHAG a specialist domestic abuse provider that has services in operation in Cheshire West, Rochdale and Bury. The new model differs to anything we have delivered previously in Halton, but crucially has been carefully designed to maintain the proven strengths of our local services.</p> <p>Our new integrated family model will focus on the ‘Whole Family’ and will provide support, services and advocacy to adult victims, children affected by domestic abuse and in a change in the way the support services work in Halton interventions will be offered to those who harm. We anticipate better outcomes for victims, children and perpetrators whether they remain in the current relationship or go on and form new relationships.</p> <p><b>OVERALL SERVICE AIMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The service will form a whole family response to domestic abuse, working together to reduce the impact of domestic abuse on individuals, families and the community. This will enable people of all ages affected by domestic to be safe/r, to cope, to change and to recover.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a specialist Domestic Abuse service which will provide information, consultation and direct support to adults, children, young people and families experiencing domestic abuse ensuring a co-ordinated approach for individuals and families.</li> <li>• To provide access to short-term supported accommodation for victims of domestic abuse and their dependents, to allow them to receive appropriate support to meet their particular needs, focus on securing settled move-on accommodation and to start rebuilding their lives.</li> <li>• To provide individual and group support to parents and carers affected by domestic abuse. This support will aim to reduce the impact of domestic abuse on parenting capacity, helping them to understand and address the impact on the child's behaviour.</li> <li>• In partnership with the Council, to agree Halton's approach to working with perpetrators of intimate partner abuse, develop and deliver a perpetrator provision.</li> </ul> <p>The new service began operations in Halton on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</b>
4.1	There are no policy implications contained within this report.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES</b>
5.1	
5.2	<b>Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton</b>
5.3	<b>Children and Young People in Halton</b>
5.4	<b>A Safer Halton</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>RISK ANALYSIS</b>
	These are contained within the report.
<b>7.0</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES</b>

<b>9.0</b>	<b>LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972</b>
	None under the meaning of the Act

We offer a range of support for adults, children and young people.

To best meet the needs of those referred to our service, we offer personalised support pathways.

This can include;

Domestic abuse group programmes

Children and young person specific interventions

1-1 support

Counselling

Sanctuary scheme – also known as target hardening

Short term refuge accommodation

Court support and legal remedies

Move on to independent accommodation

For further information and advice please contact our services on 0300 11 11 247



PHONE

0300 11 11 247



EMAIL

[Halton.Referrals@whag.info](mailto:Halton.Referrals@whag.info)

[Halton.Referrals@whag.cjsm.net](mailto:Halton.Referrals@whag.cjsm.net)



WEBSITE

[www.whag.info](http://www.whag.info)



# HALTON DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE

*"An integrated holistic Domestic Abuse Service for adults, children, young people and families within Halton"*

## We provide:

### Short-term Supported Accommodation

- Self-contained temporary refuge accommodation for up to 12 families.
- Accessible for Women and Men aged 16 and over, and their children who have to leave their homes due to domestic abuse.



### Community Support Provision

- Adults who are or have been recently abused in a family or intimate relationship
- Adults who are causing harm to others in their family or intimate relationship
- Adults who present both as abused and abusing
- Children and young people affected by domestic abuse via exposure to harm within their parents/carers relationships
- Children and young people who are harming parents or carers where domestic abuse is a factor

## Support can include things like:

- Help with moving in
- Arranging for security equipment such as window locks to be fitted (sometimes known as 'target hardening')
- Applying for benefits such as Universal Credit
- Getting gas, electricity and water supplies in your name and putting payment arrangements in place
- Finding out about community services such as support groups, Citizens Advice, volunteering opportunities, libraries and health services
- Recovery programmes such as counselling, befriending and training programmes.



## How do I access this service?

You need to fill in a HALTON Referral Form and email it to [Halton.Referrals@whag.info](mailto:Halton.Referrals@whag.info)

You can fill in the form yourself or you can ask someone else to do it for you.

This could be an organisation such as your Housing Office or Housing Solutions, Women's Aid, and Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) the police or the National Domestic Violence Helpline.

