

**REPORT TO:** Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 1 November 2010

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Children & Young People

**SUBJECT:** Oral Health Topic follow up

**WARD(S):** Boroughwide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To provide an update on the Oral Health scrutiny Topic undertaken previously by the PPB. In particular, certain recommendations were conditional on the findings of the Lancashire Schools Study. These are now available and will be presented for consideration by the Board.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **That the Board:**

- 1) notes the presentation updating them on developments in the oral health of children in Halton
- 2) considers the findings from the Lancashire Schools study and any other information presented, and their implications for oral health policy and practice in Halton
- 3) makes appropriate recommendations arising from discussion of the presentation, especially regarding any part the Council might practicably play in supporting oral health improvement amongst children and young people in the Borough.

## **3.0 SUMMARY**

A Topic review of children's oral health in Halton was undertaken jointly by Members of the C&YP and Health PPBs in 2008/9, guided by Professor Keith Milsom from the PCT.

The key recommendations from the review are reproduced below:

“2.3 Halton and St Helen's PCT should, subject to parental consent and outcomes of the 'Lancashire Trial', support the administering of fluoride varnish to children, to take place in school settings;

2.4 Halton and St Helen's PCT should take steps to support the take up of dental services by vulnerable young people who may not have regular access to dental services or be registered with a dentist; and

2.5 The Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board should keep under review the implementation of the Oral Health Strategy.”

The Lancashire research was undertaken in accordance with rigorous research standards and Prof. Milsom is now able to report on the findings and to update the Board on other developments.

A key aim for Members in considering this report will be, wherever practicable, to identify and make recommendations as to how HBC can contribute to improving the oral health of Halton's children.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

No other implications have been identified.

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

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

Consideration of the report and any resulting recommendations may be able to contribute to improving the oral health of Halton's children and young people.

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

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

Potential contribution to improved health outcomes and children's well-being (see 6.1 above) and economies for the dental health services to the extent that prevention measures are (cost-)effective.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

#### **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Not applicable.

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

8.1 Effective prevention is likely to be particularly beneficial to the most disadvantaged children in the Borough and should contribute to reducing inequalities.

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

9.1 None