

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

**DATE:** 10 July 2006

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

**SUBJECT:** "Change for the Better" – Consultation on Improving Services for Adults with Mental Health needs

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

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To provide an overview of the consultation on Modernisation and Re-design of Mental Health Services for Adults (including services for older people with functional mental health problems) for people in Halton, Knowsley, St Helens and Warrington.

**2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board receive and comment on the presentation of the proposed changes.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The attached consultation document has been prepared as the basis of a formal consultation process, being carried out in accordance with sections 7 and 11 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001, with all those who have an interest in the provision of services for people with mental health problems to the populations of the four boroughs.

3.2 The proposals contained in this document have been developed based upon a number of principles and sources of information regarding future service delivery and development. These are:

- The expressed views of service users and carers as to what they want mental health services to be like.
- A Strategic Commissioning (purchasing of care) Plan produced in partnership working by Primary Care Trusts and Local Authorities in conjunction with the 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust.
- The intention of the Trust to provide quality services based on best practice evidence, both nationally and internationally, within the resources allocated to it by its commissioning bodies, the Primary Care Trusts.

3.3 In addition, these proposals are supported by the recently published Department of Health Guidance, (January 2006), '*Our Health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services*'.

3.4 Ashton, Wigan and Leigh PCT are currently preparing a new commissioning strategy that will be subject to further discussions

regarding what services are needed and how they are to be provided for people in that borough.

3.5 The formal twelve-week consultation process commences on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006 and finishes on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2006. Comments and responses on the proposals and options described in the consultation document will be collated and analysed by Mental Health Strategies, an independent agency who will provide a report to the 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust Board after the completion of the consultation period.

3.6 Opportunities to attend presentations and ask direct questions of members of the Trust were to be arranged in each of the four boroughs, and the details of these are noted in the consultation document on page 31.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

#### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None.

#### **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 Not applicable.

#### **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.