

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 5 March 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director - Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health and Adults; Children, Young People and Families

SUBJECT: Scrutiny Topic 2013/14 : Mental Health

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To present the Board with details of the Mental Health Scrutiny topic as outlined in the attached topic brief.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board**

1. **note contents of the report;**
2. **approve the Topic Brief outlined at Appendix A; and**
3. **nominate Members of the Board to form part of the Scrutiny Topic Working Group.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Significant numbers of people suffer mental health problems such as depression.

Mental Health problems account for the single largest cause of ill health and disability in the Borough and can have a significant impact on a person's ability to lead a full and rewarding life.

The current economic climate and welfare reforms are likely to increase the levels of people suffering from mental distress.

3.2 However, through a range of evidence based interventions to promote mental and emotional wellbeing this is amenable to change. Therefore this report seeks approval to carry out a scrutiny review of Mental Health provision in terms of prevention and promotion. It will examine interventions and materials that are already in place to address this key area and will look at their effectiveness in meeting the needs of the local population.

3.3 Subject to agreement by Board to accept the topic brief; this report seeks nominations from members of the Board to form a member led scrutiny working group.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The recommendations from the resulting scrutiny review may result in a need to review associated policies and procedures.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None identified.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

The mental wellbeing of children who have been in care tends to be worse than children who have not been in care.

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

None identified.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Halton's Health and Wellbeing Board have chosen the 'prevention and early detection of mental health conditions' as one of their five priorities for action during 2013-16.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None identified.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None identified.

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

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

