

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 26 March 2015

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Halton Borough Council and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group: Revised Joint Working Agreement

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present and seek approval for the revised Joint Working Agreement between Halton Borough Council (HBC) and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CGC), which now incorporates the Better Care Fund for 2015/16.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

1) note the contents of the report; and

2) approve the revised Joint Working Agreement, attached at Appendix 1.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In April 2013, HBC and NHS Halton CCG entered into a 3 year Joint Working Agreement for the commissioning of services for people with Complex Care needs. NB. This Agreement was previously presented and agreed at Executive Board on 28th March 2013.

3.2 The development of this Joint Working Agreement has been possible under Section 75 of the Health and Social Care Act 2006, which allows local authorities and health organisations to pool funds. This Agreement provides the legal framework in which HBC and NHS Halton CCG work together in order to achieve their strategic objectives of commissioning and providing cost effective, personalised, quality services to the people of Halton. As part of the Joint Working Agreement, HBC and NHS Halton CCG entered into a Pooled Budget arrangement, totalling just under £33 million. This pool contained the expenditure on delivering care and support services for adults with complex needs.

3.3 In the Summer of 2013, the government announced its intention to further promote integrated working across health and social care through the development of mandatory pooled budget arrangements between Local Authority Adult Social Care Services and Clinical Commissioning Groups. These new arrangements were intended to improve the quality of care delivered within localities and strengthen system capacity and demand management. These new pooled budget arrangements became known as

the Better Care Fund.

- 3.4 During 2014, partners within Halton worked collaboratively, within the national guidance and framework to develop Halton's Better Care Fund. It was agreed that the Better Care Fund should be incorporated into the existing Pooled Budget arrangements between HBC and NHS Halton CCG.
- 3.5 Halton's Better Care Fund plan was presented and approved for submission by Halton's Health and Wellbeing Board and received the necessary national approvals in January 2015.
- 3.6 The Joint Working Agreement has been revised to reflect the following changes:
- the Complex Care Board is renamed the Better Care Board
 - the Executive Commissioning board is renamed the Better Care Executive Commissioning Board
 - the budget schedule for 2015/16 has been revised to incorporate the additional Better Care Fund allocation for 2015/16

No changes have been made to the legal framework of the agreement.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None identified.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 HBC and NHS Halton CCG have agreed the spending arrangements of the revised Pooled Fund.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified

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

None identified

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The Better Care Fund strengthens the existing arrangements in place to deliver high quality, effective and safe care for people with care and support needs. In addition the fund enhances the delivery of health promotion and preventative services designed to support people to live more years of healthy life.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The Joint Working Agreement complies with the financial standing orders of HBC and NHS Halton CCG and the regulatory and monitoring arrangements contained within.

7.2 No specific risk assessment is required for this revision to the Joint Working Agreement.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications as a result of the revision to the Joint Working Agreement.

9.0 **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

The revised Joint Working Agreement would take effect from 1st April 2015.

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

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Executive Board Report: 3 Year Joint Working Agreement: 28/03/2013	HBC Website	Damian Nolan Damian.nolan@halton.gov.uk
Executive Board Report: Better Care Fund Submission: 27/03/2014	HBC Website	Damian Nolan Damian.nolan@halton.gov.uk