

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 24 March 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People & Economy

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

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

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present an overview of the new Joint Working Agreement (JWA) between Halton Borough Council (HBC) and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which will take effect from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2019, and replaces the current JWA which is due to expire on 31st March 2016; current draft can be found at **Appendix 1**.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board**

1) note the contents of the report and associated Appendix; and

2) approve delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Adult Social Services to finalise the new Joint Working Agreement.

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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

With the introduction of the Better Care Fund during 2015, a revised JWA (to take effect from 1st April 2015) was presented to Executive Board on 26th March 2015 to include the Better Care Fund allocation for 2015/16.

3.2 The focus on joint working and the pooling of resources between HBC Adult Social Care and NHS Halton CCG has continued to develop and strengthen since the introduction of the original JWA in 2013 and we currently have a pooled budget in excess of £42 million pounds.

Both NHS Halton CCG and the Council are committed to further developing our integrated approach to service delivery and transformation to improve the Health and Well-Being of Halton residents.

3.3 The management of the current arrangements has been extremely successful,

improving outcomes for individuals in addition to moving from a position of overspend for both organisations in relation to associated expenditure to that of financial balance. As such both organisations want to continue with the current arrangements in place and as such are seeking the approval that the arrangements continue for another 3 years, until 31st March 2019.

3.4 The development of the JWA has been possible under Section 75 of the Health and Social Care Act 2006, which allows local authorities and health organisations to pool funds. The Agreement itself 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.

3.5 The JWA has been reviewed by both HBC and NHS Halton CCG and has been amended/updated to reflect changes in organisational structure, governance arrangements associated with the JWA and agreed Pooled Budget.

The JWA has been reviewed by legal representatives from both HBC and NHS Halton CCG and some minor issues associated with governance arrangements are still to be finalised before the end of March 2016.

As such the Executive Board are asked to give delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Adult Social Services to finalise the new JWA.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None identified.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 As part of the JWA, HBC and NHS Halton CCG entered into a Pooled Budget arrangement which contains the expenditure on delivering care and support services for adults with complex needs; this budget was increased from 1st April 2015 to incorporate the Better Care Fund.

5.2 HBC and NHS Halton CCG have agreed the spending arrangements of the Pooled Budget.

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 JWA strengthens the existing arrangements in place to deliver high quality, effective and safe care for people with care and support needs. In addition the Pool Budget 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 JWA 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 the JWA.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications associated with the introduction of the new JWA.

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

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Executive Board Report: 26.3.15 Halton Borough Council and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group - Revised Joint Working Agreement	HBC Website	Damian Nolan Damian.nolan@halton.gov.uk
Executive Board Report: 28.3.13 Complex Care Services	HBC Website	Damian Nolan Damian.nolan@halton.gov.uk