

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 25 February 2020
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People
PORTFOLIO: Children, Education and Social Care
SUBJECT: Draft Scrutiny Review Report – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the Board with the draft report written in conclusion to the Scrutiny Review of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) The Board comment on the findings of the Scrutiny Review; and*
- ii) The Board endorse the Scrutiny Review and its recommendations to go forward to the Executive Board; and*
- iii) The Board consider scrutiny topics for 2020.*

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Commissioning of the report

3.1.1 This report (attached as Appendix 1) was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board in response to the continued focus on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) on the Council's Risk Register.

3.1.2 A scrutiny review topic group was called to action by Councillor Joan Lowe as Chair and operational support being led by the Helen Moir, Divisional Manager – Independent Living Services. The Principal Manager for the Integrated Adult Safeguarding Unit and the Senior Service Development Officer from the Policy, Performance and Customer Care Team were present at each meeting to contribute information and record considerations towards recommendations.

3.1.3 As part of considerations by the topic group information and requirements for policy and procedural change were considered in respect of amended legislation. The Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) are to replace DoLS arrangements and, at the time of the

report being written, further Government Guidance was anticipated.

3.1.4 The topic group met between July and December with an open invitation to Members to participate throughout. Those Elected Members involved in the review are named in the report.

3.2 Scrutiny review

3.2.1 The review involved the participation of six Elected Members, including the Chair.

3.2.2 Activity undertaken included:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Reports and presentations made by key members of staff as well as services and partners involved in the DoLS process;
- The minutes for each review meeting were circulated to participants to check for accuracy.

3.2.3 The Board identified nine recommendations as a result of the topic group. Approval is now sought to take these recommendations forward to the Executive Board.

3.3 Scrutiny Review 2020/21

3.3.1 As part of Member involvement in the current business planning process a range of topic areas have been identified for consideration for scrutiny during the municipal year 2020/21:

- 3.3.2
- **'In-House' Care Homes** – What difference is it making?
 - **The G.P. Hub** – Integration of Adult Social Care with GP practices (One Halton).
 - **Are we Protecting People?** – The impact of finances on individuals who receive Adult Social Care.

3.3.3 These are now open to discussion, and may be added to based the identification of additional topic areas.

It is intended that a final topic area will be chosen and a project brief ratified at the next Board meeting.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 New policies and procedures are already planned as part of implementation of the new Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) legislation. A further framework was requested as part of the topic group recommendations in relation to identification of self-funders.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The recommendations highlight a need to consider resource implications of the new legislation.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

N/A

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

N/A

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The scrutiny review report and recommendations support the Council's strategic priority of Improving Health. Taking on board the recommendations from the report will support services which impact positively on safeguarding measures implemented in support of those most vulnerable in Halton's community.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

N/A

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

N/A

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The report and recommendations support the Council's current practice and planned transformation towards new legislative requirements. Taking on board the recommendations from the report will strengthen the Council's position in relation to recognition and understanding of their legal duties.

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 identified.