

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 16th June 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People Directorate

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Dementia Friendly Halton Borough Council (HBC)

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the draft Dementia Friendly Halton Borough Council (HBC) Action Plan for approval.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) The contents of the report and appendices be noted; and
- ii) The action plan be approved.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Dementia friendly communities is a programme from the national Alzheimer's Society that encourages everyone to share responsibility for ensuring that people with dementia feel understood, valued and able to contribute to their community.

3.2 The Dementia Friendly Communities programme focuses on improving inclusion and quality of life for people with dementia and encourages organisations to develop local action plans to do so.

3.3 Chief Officers gave approval in 2020 to develop a dementia friendly HBC approach, and an initial draft action plan was presented to COMT in late 2021 (delay due to COVID-19 pandemic response).

3.4 Through further discussion with the senior managers of both directorates, at Management Team meetings and individual meetings, a number of achievable actions have identified and form the Dementia Friendly HBC action plan, attached.

3.5 Whilst there is considerable scope across all council areas to include dementia friendly actions, the draft action plan has selected tasks that can be done relatively quickly and with minimal/no direct financial implications (not withstanding staff resource required to

implement the actions).

- 3.6 The actions have been grouped into 3 priorities
- 1) Setting up the 'infrastructure' to support a dementia friendly commitment by the council
 - 2) Raising awareness amongst HBC staff, and beyond. A key aspect of the Alzheimer's Society dementia friendly approach.
 - 3) Specific service area tasks. As awareness is raised and knowledge grows, it is anticipated that further dementia friendly/service development actions will be identified going forward.

- 3.7 Monitoring of progress against the plan will be done initially via quarterly update report to Adult Social care SMT, as this sits alongside the wider One Halton Dementia Delivery Plan that is being led by adult social care and health

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Developing a more dementia friendly HBC for staff and residents of Halton is in line with HBC's commitment to the Liverpool City Region Dementia Pledge.

- 4.2 The actions in the draft action plan are in line with the Alzheimer's Society dementia friendly approach.

- 4.3 One Halton is in the process of developing a local dementia delivery plan, in which building dementia friendly communities will form an integral part, based on recommendations from Alzheimer's Society in their guidance to local authorities for developing local strategies.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There will be staffing resource implications in terms of time ie for attending the Dementia Friends Champions training (1/2 day) and for delivery of the Dementia Friends Awareness Sessions. This will require manager approval before staff volunteer to train as a Champion. However, the impact of this is anticipated to be mitigated through building a database of a number of champions so that they will only be required to host a Dementia Friends Awareness session maybe once or twice per year (1 hour per session). The Dementia Friends Awareness session will be promoted via the corporate training calendar and requests to attend will be approved in the same way as all other training requests via the staff member's line manager.

- 5.2 In developing the actions, Managers have indicated that the 'ask' within the draft action plan is achievable within current staffing resources, and will in most cases, follow or be added into existing processes and procedures.

5.3 Where there is a financial cost associated (the specific training for Landscape Architects) there has been assurance from the manager that there are training funds available.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified at this time

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

None identified at this time

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

This action plan fits with the work of One Halton in the development of a local Dementia Delivery Plan, in taking action to improve the lives of people living with dementia and their carers.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified at this time

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified at this time

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Halton Borough Council is well placed to lead a local 'dementia friendly' movement, and there are many opportunities to do so across both directorate service areas. The attached action plan should be seen as a starting point, with further actions to be added throughout regular reviews of progress and as the movement gathers momentum within the organisation.

There are no risk identified at this stage that would warrant a full risk assessment.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Whilst it is not an inevitable part of aging, dementia does most commonly affect those over the age of 65. The action plan aims to raise awareness of dementia so that council service areas may better understand the needs of people living with dementia.

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

None.