

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 18 January 2024

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director, Adult Services

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy for Care and Support 2023 – 2026 – Key Decision

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present Executive Board with the draft Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy for Care and Support 2023 – 2026.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Executive Board

- (1) note contents of the report and associated Appendix; and**
- (2) approve the draft Strategy.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Commissioning Strategy for Care and Support outlines our commissioning intentions over the next three years which will aim to support residents, unpaid carers and their families to have access to the right services, information, advice and guidance in order to make good decisions about the care and support they need.

3.2 The Strategy contains references to a number of areas such as:-

- What is Commissioning in Adult Social Care; and
- An Introduction to Halton and to Adult Social Care in Halton.

However it's main focus is in respect to 'How' and 'What', we will be Commissioning.

3.3 As such we have identified ten Commissioning Principles that will underpin the work that we will do, a commissioning cycle as a framework to deliver our approach, a number of Commissioning Priorities/Intentions and an associated Delivery Plan.

3.4 Our Commissioning intentions have been categorised into six priorities to provide focus in aiming to support the key challenges locally and adherence to our duties under the Care Act 2014. These six priorities are:-

- Universal Prevention & Wellbeing;

- Independent at Home;
- Socially Engaged;
- Housing;
- Good, Local, Affordable, Quality Care; and
- A Confident, Sufficient & Skilled Workforce.

3.5 This Strategy has been developed by:-

- Reviewing various guidance and published documents;
- Review of current Adult's Directorate Strategies in development e.g. Prevention Strategy etc;
- Review of Care Quality Commission Self-Assessment; and
- Engagement with colleagues from Adult Social Care and Transformation Delivery Unit.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None specifically linked to the draft Strategy, however as part of its implementation if any policy implications are identified linked to specific actions within the Delivery Plan, then these will be identified and presented to the Adults Directorate Senior Management Team (SMT) at the appropriate time.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The implementation of the Commissioning Priorities/Intentions and associated Delivery Plan will have associated financial/resource implications. Each of these will be assessed in turn and presented to the Adults Directorate SMT at the appropriate time as part of the strategy's implementation.

5.2 As part of the Commissioning Principles identified, we aim to ensure value for money, effectiveness and efficiency any if other implications are identified linked to specific actions within the Delivery Plan, then these will be assessed in turn and presented to the Adults Directorate SMT at the appropriate time for consideration.

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

Every person using social care services deserves the highest quality care and support, and the maximum opportunity to influence how that support is arranged and managed. Effective commissioning plays a central role in driving up quality, enabling people to meaningfully direct their own care, facilitating integrated service delivery, and making the most efficient use of the available resources.

We are committed to Halton's Adult Social Care Vision of improving the health and wellbeing of our local people so that they live longer, healthier and happy lives; this strategy and associated commissioning intentions is intended to help support this.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None identified.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None identified.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 As part of the Delivery Plan's implementation, each area will be assessed in respect to associated risks and presented to the Adults Directorate SMT at the appropriate time as part of the strategy's implementation.

7.2 Reference is made within the Strategy's Commissioning Principles regarding being 'risk-positive' and trying new things, so having associated risks identified and appropriately assessed is key.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 The Strategy identifies a number of key challenges locally that need to be addressed, one of which is in respect to Equality, Diversity & Inclusion.

8.2 As outlined in the Strategy, we do not consistently consider protected characteristics in strategic planning or individual work with people. Along with a whole Council approach, there is a need to ensure that taking into account equality, diversity and inclusion is central to all of our work.

8.3 As referenced in the Strategy, as part of the development and implementation of the Workforce Strategy for Adult Social Care in Halton, we will ensure that staff/practitioners are appropriately trained/skilled to undertake their roles via the commissioning of associated training to support individual work with people etc.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no environmental or climate implications as a direct result of this report.

10.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

10.1 The priorities and commissioning intentions identified within the Strategy will not only aim to support addressing key local challenges identified but will prioritise approaches that reduce or delay the need for care and support, building on the strengths of people's existing support networks and also ensure we adhere to our duties under the Care Act 2014.

11.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11.1 The commissioning intentions and associated actions listed within the Strategy have been carefully considered and it is felt that they present the best options

available to promote health and wellbeing and deliver services which lead to positive outcomes for people.

12.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

12.1 This is a three-year strategy which takes effect from 1st April 2023 and runs to 31st March 2026.

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

13.1 None under the meaning of the Act.