

REPORT TO: Health & Wellbeing Board

DATE: 14th January 2026

REPORTING OFFICER: Place Director

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Neighbourhood Health

WARD(S): All

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with an overview of the requirement for and progress made to join up services in the community in a more effective way, particularly for people with more complex health and care needs, helping children thrive and supporting adults to stay independent for longer, improve health and wellbeing, and reduce avoidable pressures on health, social care and other public services.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) That the report be noted; and
- 2) That the Board gives some initial consideration to its role and that of the One Halton Board in assuring, directing and ensuring the implementation of neighbourhood working in advance of a more detailed discussion in March 2026.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 As part of its work to lead the implementation of Halton's Health and Wellbeing Strategy, in March 2023, the One Halton Place Based Partnership Board agreed a model for integrating neighbourhood working, including a vision and key principles for neighbourhood working in Halton.
- 3.2 Since then work has proceeded to develop integrated working through same day access and long-term condition management models.
- 3.3 On 29 January 2025, NHS England published the document Neighbourhood health guidelines 2025/26 (NHS England 29 January 2025).
- 3.4 On 30 January 2025, the Department of Health and Social Care

wrote to local authority chief executives advising of the need for integrated care boards and local authorities to jointly plan a neighbourhood health model for their local populations that consistently delivers and connects these core components, focusing initially on people with the most complex health and care needs.

3.5 Detailed guidance was subsequently published relating to neighbourhood working for children and young people: Guidance on neighbourhood multidisciplinary teams for children and young people (NHS England 19 February 2025.)

3.6 Partners across Halton have been working on progressing the requirements set out in these documents under the leadership of the One Halton Place Based Partnership Board and supported by Cheshire and Merseyside-wide programme boards and enabling programmes.

3.7 Halton's work is developing at pace, with a meeting of the One Halton board further informing priorities and direction when it meets on 17 December 2025. Therefore, a detailed update will be provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board via a presentation at the January Board to follow to assist the Board in considering its role in relation to neighbourhood working.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no known policy implications at this time. Any policy implications that emerge as the work progresses will be set out in future updates to the Board

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no known financial implications at this time. Any financial implications that emerge as the work progresses will be set out in future updates to the Board

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

6.1 None under the meaning of the Act.