

REPORT TO: Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 10 November, 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Health & Community

SUBJECT: Stroke Services

WARDS: All

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To brief members on the current status of services for people who are at risk of suffering a stroke and for those who have suffered a stroke

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) Members note information contained.
- (2) Members comment on the joint commissioning intentions contained in the attached document (still in draft form) ***Halton and St Helens A New Ambition for Stroke Services.***

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Services for people who have had a stroke are a high priority for Halton and St Helens NHS. As a result, this draft Stroke Commissioning Plan (**Appendix 1**) has been developed but further consultation is required.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial implications for the Council as in relation to the attached document these services are provided by NHS Halton & St. Helens.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 A Healthy Halton

Implementation of the National Stroke Strategy locally will:

- Help to reduce the burden of ill-health through targeted stroke prevention measures.

- Improve the efficiency of local health and social care services through the introduction of a community stroke pathway
- Reduce mortality from stroke
- Increase the number of people able to manage own condition (LAA target N124)
- Improve the quality of life for individuals who have suffered a stroke and for their carers by providing better and more timely information, rehabilitation, care and support

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The following **risks** potentially arise from the publication of commissioning intentions for improvements in stroke care locally:-

False expectations are raised for the patients and the public. The risk is minimised through continual engagement with service user and carer representatives. The Stroke Partnership Group has representation from Halton OPEN, The Halton Lets Go Stroke Club and The Stroke Association.

The required investment is not secured to realise the improvements contained within the plan. A business case for investment (based on an 'invest to save' approach) will be presented to the PCT management executive in October. The business case will only attract new and additional funding to pump prime priority investments if the cost effectiveness and efficiencies over a fixed period can be demonstrated. In addition to this, Stroke care is one of a number of priority areas contained in the PCTs Commissioning Strategic Plan.

The **opportunities** associated with the implementation of the local stroke commissioning plan include:-

Saving lives

Integrated care pathway for Stroke – maximising opportunities for **personalised care** through the support of a multidisciplinary community stroke services that provides flexible life long support.

Greater choice for individuals through extending peer support and enhanced training for generic health, social care and third sector agency staff.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

Access to services for people who have developed disabilities as a consequence of stroke will be improved.