

REPORT TO: Safer Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 18 September 2012
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities
PORTFOLIO: Community Safety
SUBJECT: Safeguarding Adults
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To update the Board on key issues and progression of the agenda for safeguarding 'vulnerable adults' (i.e. adults at risk of abuse) in Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That: the Board notes the contents of the report.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 On 26th June 2012 a report was presented to the Board with details relating to the proposed establishment of a 12 month pilot for an integrated safeguarding unit (ISU) within Halton.

3.2 The pilot was a joint initiative with the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The following posts are in place:

- Principal Manager – Paula Gandy
- Safeguarding/Dignity Co-ordinator – Tracy Ryan
- Social Workers – Rachel Taylor and Jimmy Bush
- Positive Behaviour Analyst – Emma Hulme

The following posts are in the process of being finalised:

- 2 x RGN
- GP Clinical Lead (currently Dr Lyon supporting as an interim measure)

3.3 The ISU have undertaken 48 investigations since its establishment including one major investigation. 32 were substantiated, 10 were not substantiated, and 6 were inconclusive.

3.4 The unit worked closely with a local provider and other organisations to develop and support an action plan to improve the quality of their services and deliver better outcomes for the individuals who access

the provision.

- 3.5 A full evaluation of the project will be undertaken in February 2013. A performance framework is currently being developed with measurable outcomes based on the objectives of the team in order to provide a meaningful evaluation which will inform the future of the pilot.
- 3.6 Safe in Town is a scheme has been developed by the Council to ensure vulnerable people feel safe and confident in our shopping centres. The whole idea is that individuals will be able to access help quickly if and when it is needed.
- 3.7 The scheme will offer telephone facilities to vulnerable people who are in trouble or distress around town. Shops and businesses will display window stickers to show that they are part of the scheme. Users of the scheme will carry key contact numbers on cards.
- 3.8 The scheme's logo has been agreed by Halton's People's Cabinet and Cheshire Police has agreed to cover the costs of printing the window stickers. Police colleagues have also ensured that the rest of the Pan-Cheshire area, where similar schemes are being developed, use the Halton logo (except for Warrington).
- 3.9 The Safeguarding Boards were in agreement that no dedicated training would be required for shops taking part – so long as generic principles were followed. These included ensuring individuals were kept in a public part of the shop, no food or drink to be given and no personal questions to be asked.
- 3.10 Halton Speak Out and colleagues have been developing a comic book that will be used to explain the scheme to both shopkeepers and anyone who registered to be part of the scheme. These one-to-one sessions will be an opportunity to reinforce safeguarding issues.
- 3.11 Partners have also been working together to produce a joint alerter safeguarding card and Safe in Town card – to avoid duplication and help reduce the number of cards that vulnerable people would have to carry.

The Widnes Vikings have agreed to support the scheme and will be part of the publicity launch and campaign in September.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no policy implications in noting and commenting on this report.
- 4.2 All agencies retain their separate statutory responsibilities in respect

of safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse, whilst Halton Borough Council, through its Communities Directorate, fulfils its responsibility for coordination of the arrangements. These arrangements are in accordance with 'No Secrets' (DH 2000) national policy guidance and Local Authority Circular (2000)7 / Health Service Circular 2000/007.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal or financial implications in noting and commenting on this report.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

SAB membership includes a Manager from the Children and Enterprise Directorate, as a link to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Halton Safeguarding Children Board membership includes adult social care representation.

Joint protocols exist between Council services for adults and children.

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

None Identified

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The safeguarding of adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse is fundamental to their health and well-being. People are likely to be more vulnerable when they experience ill-health.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

The effectiveness of Safeguarding Adults arrangements is fundamental to making Halton a safe place of residence for adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable to abuse.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None Identified

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None Identified

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF**

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
No secrets: Guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse (March 2000)	People & Communities Policy Team	Louise Wilson