

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13 December 2018

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Children, Education and Social Care

SUBJECT: Shared Lives

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present Executive Board with details of a proposed Shared Lives scheme representing a new approach to the delivery of the Adult Placement service in Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Executive Board

- 1) note the contents of the report; and
- 2) approve the proposed scheme.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Shared Lives offers people an alternative and highly flexible form of accommodation and/or care or support using the Shared Lives carer's home as a resource. Shared Lives arrangements are set up and supported by Shared Lives schemes and the care and accommodation people receive is provided by individuals, couples or families in the local community. Individuals and their Shared Lives carers enjoy shared activities and life experiences. There are currently 150 shared lives schemes operating in the UK supporting approximately 12,000 people.

This report outlines a proposal for Halton Borough Council Adult Placement to operate a Shared Lives Scheme.

3.1 The funding model is based on guidance from Shared Lives Plus¹ and is designed to ensure that Shared Lives Carers who provide long term accommodation and support are fairly and appropriately remunerated to ensure service sustainability.

¹ A Membership organisation which provides advice and guidance for establishing Shared Lives services, of which HBC are a member.

As Shared Lives is dependent on a pool of registered Carers to operate (as well as the availability of suitable accommodation), new and innovative ways of increasing the numbers of carers will be put in place. Actions would include the use of posters and Shared Lives publicity materials in Doctors surgeries, Council offices, day centres, libraries and promotion via HBC internal and external news publications.

3.2 The following proposed funding model is on the assumption that HBC will operate the Shared Lives scheme. Fees are made up of three parts:

i) Room Rent

A payment for accommodation which is usually paid for by housing benefit, or if the service user is ineligible they will need to pay this themselves.

ii) Basic fee, incorporating 'board and lodgings'

A payment for electricity, heating and food, which is paid for by the service user from their benefits or other income. Shared Lives Plus have identified this fee element as being £275.32 per week for 2017.

iii) Care and Support Fee

A payment for assessed care and support needs which is paid from the local authority, health, a personal budget, or someone self-funding.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Current social care policy puts great emphasis on community-based, personalised services that are designed to give people more choice and control over their care and support.

Shared Lives schemes were primarily focused on adults with learning disabilities, but there is increasing evidence of schemes supporting older people, people living with dementia and people with mental health conditions.² There is potential for the Halton scheme to be utilised across service user groups (the costs of some placements, such as mental health, may be higher than the figures included in this report).

² https://www.nesta.org.uk/sites/default/files/remember_me.pdf

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Proposed Unit Cost

The proposed Halton Borough Council bandings are based on an average of care banding charges set by Bolton, Tameside and Kent plus the 'basic fee' (Board and Lodgings) calculated using the Household Expenditure Survey.

Band	Total weekly fee received by carer (£) (Basic fee + Care Fee)
Band 1	345
Band 2	416
Band 3	483
Band 4	620

- 5.2 To demonstrate a typical Shared Lives support package, Adult Placement has identified two clients who could be transitioned into a Shared Lives arrangement at Band 4.

Current support costs per week are as follows. Note: Halton Day Services and respite would remain in place under a proposed Shared Lives Agreement.

Client A	Package of care	Direct Payment per week
	Care (x2 carers)	£1439.27
	Sleeps x7	£70.00
	42 nights respite	£100.60
	Halton Day Services x3	£255.00
	Lifeline	£9.88
		Total: £1874.75
Client A	Shared Lives Scheme	Proposed Shared Lives Cost per week
	Care (x2 Carers)	£1240
	4 weeks respite	£60.06
	Halton Day Services x3	£255.00
		Total: £1555.06
Client B	Package of care	Direct Payment per week
	Care	£742.31
	7 x sleeps	£70.00
	5 weeks respite	£283.33
		Total: £1095.64
Client B	Shared Lives Scheme	Proposed Shared Lives Cost per week
	Care	£620
	4 weeks respite	£226.26
		Total: £846.26

The potential savings to be realised through this approach as illustrated by Client A and Client B could be £29,591 per annum. Any savings realised would be reinvested in the community care budget to meet increased

demand.

5.3 Staffing

Following an evaluation of the first year of the scheme, consideration should be given to the recruitment of an additional post in order to ensure the continued success of the scheme. This would be to oversee the ongoing development and sustainability of the service, the cost of which may be met through the savings on residential fees.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

A Shared Lives model creates opportunities to recruit new Shared Lives carers - for example foster carers who are looking to move on to supporting children as they transition into adult social services could be potential Shared Lives Carers.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

A Shared Lives model creates opportunities to recruit new Shared Lives carers – for example from amongst people who have been made redundant, or who are looking to work from home, or looking for ways to supplement their income.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 HBC, as the Shared Lives scheme operator, should provide support to the service user to claim all eligible welfare benefits so that they can meet this part of the cost. If there is a change in the service user's circumstances, the Scheme will contact the Care Management Team to request a review. The client will be responsible for any shortfall between the housing benefit rate and the room rent. Should there be any change in the way housing benefit is paid to those with a disability; a review should be carried out.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed. No negative impact was identified.

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

None under the meaning of the Act.