

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 4 June 2013
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities
PORTFOLIO: Health and Adults
SUBJECT: Draft Falls Prevention Scrutiny Review Report
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present the Board with the draft Scrutiny Review of Falls Prevention report for approval to go forward to Executive Board.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i)* The Board comment on the findings of the Scrutiny Review; and**
- ii)* The Board endorse the Scrutiny Review and its recommendations to go forward to the Executive Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 This report (attached as Appendix 1) was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board. A scrutiny review working group was established with seven Members from the Board, a Principal Policy Officer from the policy team and the Divisional Manager Intermediate Care.

The report was commissioned because falls are a leading cause of mortality due to injury amongst older people aged 65 and over. They also contribute to the life expectancy gap between Halton and England. People who have been admitted to hospital following a fall are at increased risk of falling again in the next 12 months, experiencing loss of confidence and fear of falling, and of losing their independence through entering a residential care home.

The scrutiny review was conducted through a number of means between April 2012 and January 2013, as follows:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff from the Council and Health (detail of the presentations can be found in *Annex 2*);

- Provision of information;
- Service-user consultation;
- Field visit to a Falls Prevention exercise class

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Existing policies are endorsed by the report.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The recommendations highlighted within the Action Plan will be undertaken within existing resources with some redesign.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

N/A

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

N/A

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The scrutiny review report and recommendations support the Council's strategic priority of Improving Health. Taking on board the recommendations from the report will be positive steps to improving all aspects of Falls Prevention for the residents of Halton.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

N/A

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

N/A

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The report and recommendations support the Council's strategic priority of Improving Health. Taking on board the recommendations from the report will be positive steps to improving Falls Prevention services for people in Halton.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 The implementation of the recommendations will help to improve services in Halton for people who want to access the Falls Prevention Service.

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

None under the meaning of the Act.