

**Health Policy and Performance Board
Member Briefing Note 6th November 2013**

Business Planning 2014 - 17

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide members of the PPB with an overview of the key strategic issues facing the Board over the medium-term to feed into the Business Planning process 2014 - 2017.

As you will appreciate this briefing cannot cover all aspects of those service areas falling within the remit of this Board but will provide details of the primary drivers that will shape the work of the department(s) in supporting and delivering the Council's organisational priorities and business needs.

The Council continues to operate in an extremely difficult financial climate. We will need to ensure that we continue to meet our statutory responsibilities across all areas of our operations and the Directorate will continue to play a key supporting role in this endeavour, for example through effective financial management and the integration of national policy initiatives with efficient arrangements for service delivery.

2014/15

- **Integration** – commissioning between NHS Halton CCG and HBC – Health and Social Care Act 2012 – Integrated Transformation Fund
- **Mental Health**
- **Draft Care and Support Bill 2012** –
 - Eligibility and Assessments
 - Charging and Financial Assessments
 - Protecting Adults from Abuse and Neglect
- **Care Closer to Home**
 - Urgent Care
 - Integration
 - Supporting vulnerable adults to live independently with reduction in long-term care and lower packages of care in the community

Whilst the on-going financial climate continues to be challenging over the medium term there are opportunities to develop and improve services as well as important decisions that need to be taken in the medium term.

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Integration

Commissioning between NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (HCCG) and HBC continues to be a priority. A revised Integrated Commissioning Framework is being developed and joint team meetings have begun between NHS HCCG, the public health commissioning team, the council's commissioning team and members of the Policy and Performance team.

Through the Health and Social Care Act 2012, a new pooled fund has been created called the Integrated Transformation Fund. Work is currently underway in developing an Integrated Plan between HBC and the NHS HCCG to enable access to the new funding arrangements for adult social care.

Mental Health

As the local older population increases and people live longer we have seen a significant increase in the number of people diagnosed with dementia. As a result of this we are developing a local dementia strategy that aims to address the needs of people with dementia and their carers. The strategy outlines the importance of early diagnosis, particularly in primary care, access to services in the community and improved quality in accommodation based service provision for example residential care.

Draft Care and Support Bill 2012

The Draft Care and Support Bill 2012 proposes a single, modern law for adult social care and support that replaces outdated and complex legislation. It focuses on many elements and all will have implications for HBC. The three main priority areas for us in the short-term are:

- The change nationally in eligibility criteria from “moderate” to “substantial” and the effects this will have on assessments;
- Charging and financial assessments;
- Increased protection for vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect with the introduction of the first statutory framework for adult safeguarding and those of our local partners

Care Closer to Home

With the proportion of older people growing and generally people living longer, often with long-term health and care needs, moving to care closer to home is the way forward. The provision of supportive and enabling care closer to home is wide ranging and includes building on initiatives that the council already has in place with prevention and early intervention, such as Telecare/Telehealth. Making greater use of technology with its mobility, flexibility and rapid transfer of information, improved **integrated care pathways** for users, making effective links between health, social

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care and other services and building up commissioning capacity and capability, working with communities to establish outcomes that matter to them.

An ***Urgent Care Strategy*** has been developed over the last year which outlines the strategic direction for the delivery of urgent care in Halton over the next five years. It enables a common approach to provision and creates a framework within which care providers and commissioners can work to ensure seamless, high quality and appropriate care. It builds on national and local policy and aims to bring together a range of work streams that will see the cohesive implementation of the key aspects of the urgent care strategy.