

TOPIC BRIEF

Topic Title: Care at Home Provision in Halton

Officer Lead: Marie Lynch – Divisional Manager

Planned Start Date: July 2014

Target PPB Meeting: March 2015

Topic Description and Scope:

This topic will focus on the quality of Services provided to those who are supported to live at home within Halton. It will examine the services that are already in place with a view to evaluating their effectiveness in meeting the needs of the local population. In addition the topic group will examine the access to other services e.g. Health Services that individuals supported to live at home have.

Why this topic was chosen:

As people get older, they are increasingly likely to need care at home.

In 2010/11, nationally an estimated 543,000 service users received home care of which 81 percent were aged 65 and over,¹ and as our population ages, more people will inevitably need care at home in the future.

In terms of increases in the number and proportion of older people in the UK population, the percentage of persons aged 65 and over increased from 15 per cent in 1985 to 17 per cent in 2010, an increase of 1.7 million people. By 2035 it is projected that those aged 65 and over will account for 23 per cent of the total population.²

Within Halton, the older people age group (65+) are projected to grow by 33% from 17,300 in 2010 to 25,700 in 2025.³

Nationally, Councils with Adult Social Services responsibilities purchased or provided 200 million contact hours of home care during 2010-11, an increase of 13 per cent on 2005-06 and the percentage of contact hours provided by the independent sector (private and voluntary sectors) has been steadily increasing over the past few years, with 72% of hours being provided back in 2005-06 to 87% being provided in 2010-11.⁴

Studies show that older people would prefer to stay at home until it is impossible for them to do so rather than move into residential care and that the benefits of home care are enormous, both to individuals and to the state. Home care provision also costs less than a place in residential or nursing care. In 2008-09 the average weekly cost to local authorities for an older

¹ Health and Social Care Information Centre - Community Care Statistics 2010-11: Social Services Activity Report, England (2012)

² Office of National Statistics (ONS) - Population Ageing in the United Kingdom, its Constituent Countries and the European Union (2012)

³ ONS - Population Projections 2010

⁴ Health and Social Care Information Centre - Community Care Statistics 2010-11: Social Services Activity Report, England (2012)

person in residential and nursing care was £497. In contrast, the average weekly cost of home care was £145.⁵

Key outputs and outcomes sought:

- An understanding of existing Care at Home provision in Halton.
- An understanding of the role that partner agencies play in the provision of care provided to those living at home.
- Ensure services provided take into consideration national best and evidence based practice.
- Consider ways to continue to make improvements to services to ensure they continue to be effective in meeting the needs of the population of Halton.
- An understanding of the different elements of service monitoring that take place in respect of this area of provision.

Which of Halton’s 5 strategic this topic addresses and the key objectives and improvement targets it will be help to achieve:

A Healthy Halton

- To understand fully the causes of ill health in Halton and act together to improve the overall health and well-being of local people.
- To respond to the needs of an ageing population improving their quality of life and thus enabling them to lead longer, active and more fulfilled lives.
- To remove barriers that disabled people face and contribute to poor health by working across partnerships to address the wider determinants of health such as unemployment, education and skills, housing, crime and environment.
- To improve access to health services, including primary care.

Nature of expected/ desired PPB input:

Member led scrutiny review of Care at Home provision.

Preferred mode of operation:

- Meetings with/presentations from relevant officers from within the Council/Health Services, partner agencies and contracted providers to examine current provision.
- Desk top research in relation to national best and evidence based practice.

Agreed and signed by:

PPB chair

Officer

Date

Date

⁵ Equality and Human Rights Commission - Close to Home : An inquiry into older people and human rights in home care (2011)