

**REPORT TO:** Health Policy & Performance Board  
**DATE:** 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Director of Adult Social Services  
**PORTFOLIO:** Health & Wellbeing  
**SUBJECT:** Halton OPEN activity report  
**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To inform the Board of the work of Halton Older People's Empowerment Network (OPEN) in the Borough.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 RECOMMENDED: That the Board:

- i) Agree the contents of the report.

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Halton Older Peoples Empowerment Network was established in 2002 as a response to the older people's National Service Framework. Since this time it has taken on many roles and has seen membership grow from a handful of members to over a thousand.

3.2 The network has always been supported by Age UK (previously Age Concern) and this has been in the form of different staff roles ranging from a full-time co-ordinator to a part time administrator. Halton OPEN is currently supported by a development officer (part-time) who is employed by Age UK Mid Mersey.

3.3 During the last 12 months the Chair of Halton OPEN had to step down due to ill health and the vice-chair Richard Ashworth has taken interim charge of the network.

3.4 During the same period Halton OPEN has conducted the following:

- Two public surveys (one in Runcorn, one in Widnes)
- A public AGM attended by 70 older people
- A public event to raise awareness of services in the borough and the changes in the Care Act (attended by more than 120 older people)

- Planned older people's event for November (this had not taken place at the time of writing)
- Increased active membership
- Renewed the Board members

The detail of this will be covered in the presentation.

3.5 Halton OPEN aim to continue in 2016 engaging with their membership as well as developing relationships with both the Local Authority and Health to establish work programmes that address the needs of older people in the borough.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL/ RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None identified.

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

##### **6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

There are no implications for this priority.

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

There are no implications for this priority.

##### **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

There are no implications for this priority.

##### **6.4 A Safer Halton**

There are no implications for this priority.

##### **6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

There are no implications for this priority.

#### **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

None identified.

#### **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications arising as a result of the

proposed action.

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

None under the meaning of the Act.