

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 27th November 2018
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People
PORTFOLIO: Physical Environment
SUBJECT: Fortunatus Housing
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise the Board about Fortunatus Housing and their work in Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) **The Board note the contents of the report and associated presentation**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Fortunatus Housing is a Northwest based registered charity providing supported accommodation for vulnerable adults with mental health problems and/or learning disabilities who are unable to access social housing.

They currently accommodate and support 41 people in tenancies in Halton, and they have a further 6 people on their waiting list.

3.2 Fortunatus have a robust referral assessment process, with all referrals coming from health and social care services.

As part of their assessment, Fortunatus consider a number of factors including:

- Vulnerabilities, support needs and social history
- Ongoing support needed to maintain their tenancy
- How they can support the individual to give them a better quality of life
- Accommodation requirements, type of property, location including any areas to be avoided
- Their capacity to support the individual

3.3 Fortunatus supply good quality accommodation. They have a professionally qualified Property and Lettings Manager who quality assures all tenancies and undertakes safety checks including gas, electric, energy efficiency and ensures smoke alarms fitted.

She also and undertakes annual housing maintenance visits. This has recently been completed for all Halton tenancies.

Fortunatus have an out of hours service to make properties safe and secure, other calls received via this service will be referred to the relevant duty team and followed up by Support Workers the following day.

- 3.4 All tenants receive person centred support, and receive weekly visits from their designated Support Worker. Tenants also have designated Maintenance Officers to ensure consistency, make every contact count and to allow relationships to be established.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None, funding is through housing benefit.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None.

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

None.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Fortunatus work with an ethos of mindfulness, wellbeing and positive thinking. They have established links with health and social care services in Halton.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

Fortunatus provide good quality accommodation for vulnerable adults who cannot be accommodated within social housing provision, and work closely with partner agencies including the police to sustain people in their tenancies.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

- 7.1 None.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

- 8.1 None identified.

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

9.1 None under the meaning the Act.