

REPORT TO: Health Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 26th February 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – People

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Scrutiny Topic Group – Care Homes – Future Sustainability

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present the final scrutiny topic group report on Care Homes – Future Sustainability for approval (at Appendix) and to highlight the Business Planning Priorities for Adult Social Care for 2019/20 at paragraph 3.4.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That:**

- i) **The report be approved; and**
- ii) **The topic for the scrutiny review 2019/20 is confirmed.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 This report (attached at Appendix) was commissioned by the Health Policy and Performance Board. A scrutiny review working group was established with seven Councillors fully involved, chaired by Councillor Lowe and supported by Helen Moir, Divisional Manager for Independent Living Services and Emma Sutton-Thompson, Practice Manager for Policy, Performance and Customer Care. The scrutiny topic group began in June 2018 and ran until December 2018 with regular monthly meetings.

3.2 Methodology for the scrutiny group involved:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff (detail of the presentations can be found in *Annex 2* of the main report);
- Presentations from external sources;
- Provision of information; and
- Family/carers consultation.

3.3 The Scrutiny Topic Group identified seven recommendations as part of the review which are detailed throughout the main report, as well as at the end of the report in a table for ease of reference.

3.4 As part of Member involvement in the current business planning process a range of topic areas have been identified for consideration for scrutiny during the municipal year 2018/19. A meeting was held on 5th December 2018 with members of the Health Policy and Performance Board to discuss and agree priorities for Adult Social Care for 2019/20. Following the meeting, these priorities were agreed as:

- Reablement Pathway, including review of recruitment issues in community services;
- Safeguarding Unit;
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS); and
- Finance.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Existing policies are endorsed by the report.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 It was clear from this scrutiny review that in order to fully sustain the care home sector in the future, as well as implementing changes through the Care Home Development Project, further central Government funding is required. The anticipated Green Paper for Older People may include details including future funding, but this is not certain.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

None identified.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

None identified.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Halton Care Home Model vision is of outstanding care for all individuals who live in our care homes. To enable us to achieve this vision we will need to:

- Provide excellent care every time to reinforce wellbeing and independence.
- Work with all partners to personalise services for the individual.
- We will have strong leadership across the system to ensure a quality driven and sustainable sector, grounded in our community and led by excellent staff.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None identified.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The role of scrutiny within Adult Social Care is a key function to ensure transparency, accountability and consistency within all areas and making sure the residents of Halton have the best outcomes possible.

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 of the Act.