

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 17 March, 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Adult Social Care Annual Report (Local Account) 2020-21

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To agree the Adult Social Care Annual Report (Local Account) for 2020-21.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That:**

- i) Agree for the Adult Social Care Annual Report 20-21 to be published and shared with partners and stakeholder organisations, and;
- ii) Acknowledge the achievements across Adult Social Care during the height of the pandemic.

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Background

3.1.1 The Adult Social Care Annual Report is now an embedded part of the reporting cycle for Halton Borough Council. While it is not a mandatory requirement it remains supported as good practice by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS).

3.1.2 The 'Local Account', as it is known, has changed format since its inception in 2011. The format of the report for Halton was refreshed a couple of years ago in both its look and focus, making it more straightforward and therefore accessible. The report includes information on the successes and achievements across Adult Social Care, details of our progress against performance metrics, some of the challenges faced, how we're established and responded to community needs and details of future activities to be further developed.

3.1.3 The report is usually published towards the end of the financial year

but reflects the full previous financial year. Reporting in this way allows us to ensure the performance data is verified and narrative encompasses consideration of all areas of services and how delivery has impacted on the community of Halton. The annual report being presented covers the period April 2020 to March 2021.

3.2 The 2020-21 Adult Social Care Annual Report

3.2.1 The Local Account is produced through the Policy, Performance and Customer Care team. In planning towards development of content a report was brought to Adult Social Care Senior Management Team back in October 2021 and, unsurprisingly, agreement was reached to concentrate on the responses to the pandemic, in particular looking at our care homes support.

3.2.2 The annual report is produced for public consumption and is published on the Council's intranet pages, as well as being shared with a range stakeholders and Elected Members. As such it is prefaced with an 'introduction' and some information about Adult Social Care. The opening section for this report also discusses the overall impact of the pandemic and sets out how this year's report is structured slightly differently as a result.

3.2.3 The content is intended as readable by the lay person and is purposely explanatory. The report forms part of the Council's transparency duties and supports the flow of information and guidance back to members of the Halton community.

3.2.4 Articles written for the report cover the following areas:

Care Homes

- Resident wellbeing
- A day in the life – care worker
- New ways of working
- Care Home Resilience Plan
- Maintaining Service Quality

Additional funding support

- Infection control fund
- Rapid testing fund
- Workforce Capacity Grant
- Covid Winter Grant Fund

Alleviating pressure on the health system

- Transitional support beds
- Domiciliary care

3.2.5 The performance data cited in the report collates some overarching figures around continuity of service delivery. The performance section usually covers Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures but these were not mandated for the period.

3.3 A workforce to celebrate

3.3.1 Acknowledgement of the contribution of the entirety of the Council's workforce has been reiterated throughout the pandemic, and cannot be understated.

3.3.2 This year's Annual Report has been brought to your attention to highlight the delivery outcomes across Adults Social Care during this difficult period. In particular it shows the extraordinary commitment and resilience demonstrated by our Adult Social Care workforce. Their ongoing efforts, dedication and resolve have safeguarded continuity of care for those most vulnerable in our community.

Next steps

3.4

3.4.1 Approval is sought to publish this report and share across our partners and stakeholders. It is intended that this report is further taken to Health Policy and Performance Board and Health and Wellbeing Board to raise their awareness of the work undertaken during this time. Publication will be to the Council's internet pages and publicity opportunities will be sought through our Press and Marketing team.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Annual Report serves as a review mechanism for Adult Social Care to consider as part of ongoing continuous service improvement measures.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Adult Social Care Annual Report is published online incurred no print costs.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified at this time

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

None identified at this time

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The report highlights the range and breadth of work being undertaken across Adult Social Services to support our community to live longer, happier and more independently.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

None identified at this time

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**
None identified at this time

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 None identified

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this report.