

REPORT TO: Health Policy & Performance Board
DATE: 26th September, 2023
REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director, Adults
PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care
SUBJECT: Carers Respite Finance
WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To update the Board and highlight key aspects of the use of the funding available for respite services for carers in the borough

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

i) Note the contents of the report

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Halton Borough Council Adult Social Care carers budget for 2022/23 was £428,070. This represents a 9% increase from the 2019/20 budget of £393,600.

The budget is available for spend on direct respite provision of services for carers of people who are in receipt of adult social care services as part of a carers assessment; carers who apply to Halton Carers Centre for finance to support their caring role and as small grants to voluntary and independent sector organisations who apply.

Spend of the budget varies year on year. The table below shows allocated budget and spend for the past 4 years:

| Year | Allocated Budget | Spend | Variance |
|-------|------------------|---------|----------|
| 19/20 | 393,600 | 312,702 | 80,898 |
| 20/21 | 404,810 | 264,774 | 140,036 |
| 21/22 | 412,410 | 235,911 | 176,499 |
| 22/23 | 428,070 | 268,768 | 159,302 |

The decrease in spend in 20/21 and 21/22 are clearly linked to the pandemic with 22/23 seeing the start of an increase in spend.

In addition to this budget resources from the pooled budget support Halton Carers Centre operating costs; Adult Social Care budget commissions specialist respite provision for adults with learning disabilities at the Bredon Centre; the general Adult Social Care Community Care Budget is available to support carers as required.

Halton Carers Strategy has been in development and is due to be completed September 2023. This will direct future budget and expenditure from Adult Social Care and other resources for carers.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None identified at present.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

N/A

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

N/A

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The provision of timely and accessible carers respite can support carers to live and enjoy their own lives while caring for others.

6.4 A Safer Halton

N/A

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

N/A

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 None identified.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 It is essential that the Council and partners addresses issues of equality, in particular those regarding age, disability, gender, sexuality, race, culture and religious belief, when considering its provision of services

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 This report is for information only, therefore there are no environmental or climate implications as a result of this report.

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

10.1 There are none under the meaning of the Act.