

Halton Borough Council

Adult Social Care
Market Position Statement

2023 - 2026

Contents

Foreword from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care	3
Introduction	4
What is the purpose of this MPS and who is it for?	6
An introduction to Halton	7
An Introduction to Adult Social Care in Halton	9
Direction of Travel for Adult Social Care	13
Care for Adults aged 18-64 with a Learning Disability (including Autism)	14
Care for Adults with aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability	17
Care for Adults aged 18-64 with Mental Health Needs	18
Care for Older People aged 65+	20
Adult Social Care Funding and Sustainability	27
Safeguarding	29
Working with Halton Borough Council - Our approach to Commissioning and Procurement	31

Foreword from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

Welcome to Halton Borough Council's Market Position Statement (MPS) for Adult Social Care.

Halton Borough Council is committed to stimulating a diverse market for Adult Social Care. We want to continue to work closely with providers to deliver innovative, flexible and responsive Adult Social Care services.

This document is for providers and prospective providers to use to inform your understanding of the changing needs of Halton residents and begin (or in many cases continue) a dialogue with us around how you can help us improve the outcomes for those who require care and support.

We are developing our approach to designing services, by including local people who use Adult Social Care services in the design process. This is called Co-production. Co-production will ensure that Halton's services meet the needs of local residents and what outcomes they want from local services. We are working with Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) who are experts in Co-production techniques to transform personalisation and community-based support.

We remain committed to working with health colleagues and neighbouring authorities across the Cheshire and Merseyside region to enhance joint working and to deliver person-centred services that focus on the person and their strengths.

We are increasingly looking at the opportunities which exist in our local communities, local community assets and local services, for example to help people achieve the outcomes they would like to achieve for themselves. This extends wider than statutory Adult Social Care provision to local voluntary sector groups and activities.

We are focusing on opportunities to enhance the provision of Adult Social Care and outcomes for residents in Halton by embarking on a three-year transformation programme which aims to deliver some services differently in Halton. This will place local people at the heart of the services we deliver in the future.



Councillor Joan Lowe
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

Introduction

This MPS aims to encourage a dialogue between Halton Borough Council and service providers about the development of the local Adult Social Care sector in Halton. This MPS may not hold answers to all of the questions you may have about the sector, but it is intended to encourage a continuous dialogue so that we explore the sector's opportunities together.

This MPS draws upon evidence from many sources including our Local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), local population data and population projection data and also evidence from various local strategies and plans and national policy, guidance and best practice.

Over the next three years, we are looking forward to working with many of our current providers to maintain and build on the services that are already provided in Halton. We are also looking forward to working alongside providers who may be new to Halton, but who share our aims for improving Adult Social Care services.

We have identified a number of areas for development and these are summarised below. There is more detail about these proposals in the main body of this document.

Care for Adults aged 18-64 with a Learning Disability (including Autism)

- ✓ Transformation of Adult Social Care Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism.

✓	More 'Own front door' provision.
✓	Reshaping provision to ensure good quality services which continue to deliver good and improved outcomes for individuals.
✓	Explore new approaches e.g. the use of Individual Service Funds (ISFs).

Care for Adults aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability

- ✓ The Council will continue to work closely with local employers, education providers and employment organisations to improve accessibility to education and employment for this group of clients.

✓	We will continue to work closely with housing partners to provide the right level of housing which enables assistive living and technology-based housing support so that people can live independently.
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Care for Adults aged 18-64 with Mental Health Needs

✓	We remain committed to working with health colleagues to enhance team working and to deliver a service that focuses on the individual need.
✓	We will continue to commission services which aim to support people in their support and recovery, to enable people to achieve their personal goals.
✓	We will continue to seek to improve the availability supported living settings to enable us to relocate any out of area placements.
✓	We will continue to focus on services that can enhance skills and support individuals into employment.

Care for Older People (65+)

➤	Home First: services that better enable people to live at home.
➤	Greater use of technology and smart working practices in Domiciliary Care.
➤	Focus on Peoples Strengths and support them to regain independence through reablement.
➤	New Commissioning Framework for Domiciliary Care.
➤	Implement a Trusted Assessor Role for Halton's Care Homes provision.

What is the purpose of this MPS and who is it for?

The Purpose of a Market Position Statement

The requirement for Local Authorities to develop Market Position Statements emerged from the 2014 Care Act. In the Care Act, duties were placed on Local Authorities to ensure that there is a dynamic and effective Adult Social Care sector which can provide Adult Social Care services that meet the needs of residents in their area.

Guidance produced to support the implementation of the Care Act states:

“A Market Position Statement (MPS) is a document which summarises supply and demand in a local authority area...and signals business opportunities within the Care market in that area.”

Who is the Market Position Statement For?

The primary audience for this document is providers of Adult Social Care services who already have, or would like to develop services to meet the needs of Halton residents.

Much of the document describes the services that Halton Borough Council currently purchases/commissions on behalf of residents, whilst also providing insight into the wider sector and services that are purchased directly by residents, for example those who wholly self-fund their own care.

The document also identifies where new business opportunities may exist and enables providers to develop effective business plans that contribute to the Adult Social Care provision in Halton.

An introduction to Halton

Location

Halton is situated in the North West of England, with its two largest settlements of Widnes and Runcorn facing each other across the River Mersey.



The borough benefits from excellent connectivity and transport infrastructure. There are good road and rail connections to London (less than 2 hours by train) and Birmingham. Similarly, there is good proximity and access to airports at Liverpool and Manchester and to the Merseyside seaports.

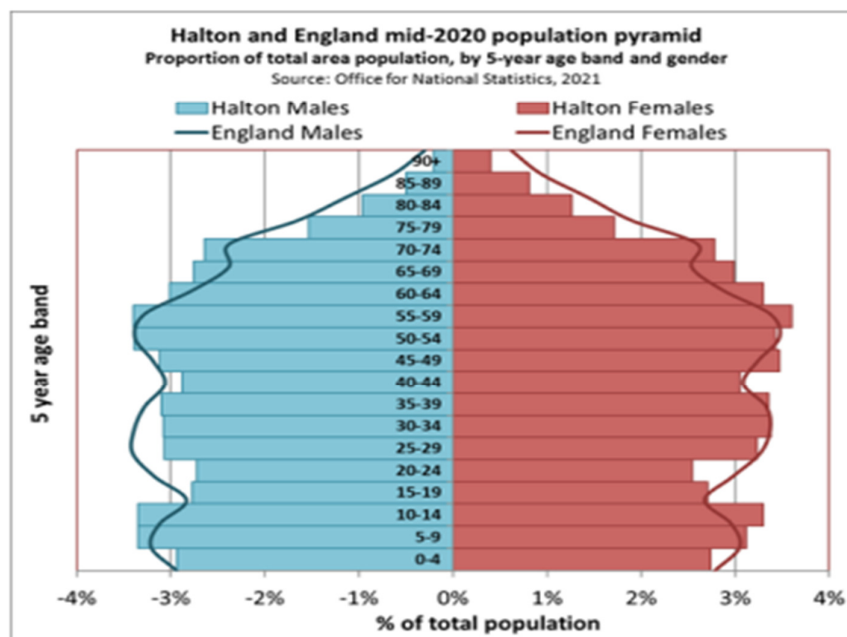
Halton is also part of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. This is one of the few City Regions to have secured a Devolution Agreement with the Government, meaning decision making and resources around key priorities are managed locally.

Population & Population Growth

The population of Halton, like the rest of the country, is changing. The number of Halton residents is projected to rise. In contrast to the older population (those aged 65+) which is predicted to rise substantially, the 'working age' (those aged 18-64) population will remain fairly static. Over time this means that the proportion of the total population made up from the working age group will shrink, even though numbers will not. This is due to the influence of the rise in the 65+ population. There are 76,500 people in Halton age 18-64 according to the 2020 population estimate.

The age breakdown of Halton's population is expected to change over the next two decades. The proportion of people over the age of 70 is expected to swell and the proportion of children and people of working age is expected to contract. This is the case nationally also, but is predicted to be emphasised more so locally due to higher numbers of older people in the population of Halton.

	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	18-64
Males	4,800	7,900	7,700	8,500	8,300	37,200
Females	4,500	8,400	8,400	9,000	9,000	39,300



Deprivation

Halton is a deprived borough, relative to England as a whole (27th most deprived of 326) and over one quarter of its population live in areas classified in the 10% most deprived in England.

Life Expectancy

The average life expectancy at birth in Halton is lower than the national England average. Typically, males live 2.4 years less than England; for females it is 1.7 years less than England.

Ethnicity

The last full population survey of ethnicity found that 8% of Halton's population were not of White British ethnicity. This is low in comparison to the North West (26%) and England (34.9%).

Employment

Halton is an industrial and logistics hub with a higher proportion of people working in manufacturing (particularly chemicals and advanced manufacturing), wholesale and retail, and transport and storage compared to the average for England.

Halton has a smaller proportion of its population who are economically active (75.0%), compared to England (79.5%) and the North West (77.6%).

An Introduction to Adult Social Care in Halton

Adult Social Care Vision

Our Adult Social Care Vision is:

“To improve the health and wellbeing of Halton people so that they live longer, healthier and happy lives.”

Halton Borough Council’s Adult Social Care Directorate is responsible for assessing the needs of adults with care and support needs in-line with Local Authority duties of the Care Act 2014. Under the Care Act, Local Authorities also have responsibility to understand what services are likely to be needed in the future and make sure that people who live in their areas:

- Receive services that prevent their care needs from becoming more serious, or delay the impact of their needs.
- Can get the information and advice they need to make good decisions about care and support.
- Make decisions about how they want their needs to be met and be involved in preparing their care and support plan.
- Have a range of provision of high quality, appropriate services to choose from.

Partnership working is highly regarded in Halton and Halton Borough Council’s Adult Social Care Directorate works closely with a number of partners including health, education, housing providers and voluntary and community organisations to signpost and connect people to the help these organisations can provide in their neighbourhoods.

‘One Halton’ is the name for our local Place-based Partnership that seeks to create a more collaborative and targeted approach to how Health and Care services are delivered to Halton residents.

One Halton brings together colleagues from the Local Authority, NHS Organisations, GP Practices, Third Sector organisations, Health Providers and Hospital Trusts. The organisations involved have made a commitment to make the whole health and social care ‘system’ work better for people – working together, to join up services, share ideas and resources and tackle the borough’s biggest challenges together.

The One Halton Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022- 2027 provides information on how Halton Borough Council, in partnership with colleagues aims to address health inequalities across the borough.

The Adult Social Care sector in Halton is comprised of a mix of provision that includes in-house services, independent sector commissioned services, grant-funded voluntary sector services and a range of services that are developed and funded independently. Halton Borough Council oversees the delivery and development of these services in line with its Strategic Objectives.

Embedding a Prevention approach in Halton holds equal parity to delivering services that respond to people's Adult Social Care needs, as and when they need them. The Council is currently developing a 4-year Prevention Strategy (2023 – 2027) which sets out how we want to work with people to find more effective ways to support people to stay in their own homes or communities for as long as possible, avoiding hospital admissions, delaying, or reducing the escalation of need and finding innovative ways to meet people's need through what we buy or "commission" to maintain a safe and sustainable service. This might involve changing some of the current ways of working to meet emerging needs and using innovative approaches to supporting people, particularly in the use of new technologies.

Halton Borough Council is developing Strengths and Asset based approaches within its care management processes. Assessments will focus on individuals' strengths. Personal strengths can include skills and abilities developed through work, hobbies or life experiences and assets might include a person's access to family, social and community networks. The Council is also keen to see a wider Strengths and Asset based approach developed across Halton and will work with partners to adopt the approach widely.

The Council is also developing its approach to Adult Social Care services, by including local people who use Adult Social Care services in the development process. This is known as 'Co-production'. Co-production will ensure that Halton's services meet the needs of local residents and what outcomes they want from local services. We are working with Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) who are experts in Co-production techniques to transform personalisation and community-based support.

Demand for Adult Social Care aged 18-64

Following an assessment, Halton Borough Council had 754 new requests for support from new clients aged 18-64 in 2022/2023. The rate per 100,000 population aged 18-64 was 981.7.

Of these new clients, 340 people (45.1%) received no service, whilst 409 people received a range of services (54.2%). The majority, 189 new clients received universal services/signposting, 166 people, received low level support, 36 people received short-term support to maximise independence, 18 people received long-term support. The remainder received a range of other services.

The number of clients receiving long-term support during the year was 2,592. The rate per 100,000 population accessing long-term support was 2,568.5.

620 Carers were supported during 2022/2023 with 261 of these being aged 18-64. Six Carers were aged 18-25 and 261 Carers were aged 26-64.

Primary Support Reasons

745 people aged 18-64 received long-term support at the end of the year, categorised into the following Primary Support Reasons:

- 42.8% Learning Disability
- 26.7% Mental health
- 8.5% Physical Support: Access and Mobility only
- 12.3% Physical Support: Personal Care support
- 4.1% Social Support due to social isolation/other
- 2.4% Sensory support for Visual Impairment
- 2.3% Support with Memory and Cognition

Number of clients 18-64 Accessing Long Term Support during the Year, by Type of Support 2022/2023

	Nursing	Residential	Direct Payment Only	Part Direct Payment	Managed Personal Budget	Commissioned Support
Number	17	43	288	210	165	199
Percentage	1.84	4.7	31.2	22.8	17.9	21.6

Demand for Adult Social Care aged 65+

Halton had 1,666 new requests for support from new clients aged 65+ in 2022/2023. Of these new clients aged 65+, 562 people (34%) received no service, whilst 809 people received a range of services (49%). The majority, 274 people received universal services/ signposting, 477 people received low level support, 229 people received short-term support to maximise independence, 78 people received long-term support. The remainder received a range of other services.

620 Carers were supported with 147 of these being aged 65+, 134 Carers were aged 65-84 and 13 Carers were aged 85+.

Primary Support Reasons

Primary support reason: Long-term Support (as at end of 2022/23)

Of the 1,130 people aged 65+ receiving long-term support at the end of the year:

- 20.4 % Physical Support: Access and Mobility
- 45.6% Physical Support: Personal Care Support
- 3.5% Sensory Support for Visual Impairment
- 0.6% Sensory Support for Hearing Impairment
- 14.9% Support with Memory and Cognition
- 3.9% Learning Disability
- 7.6% Mental Health
- 2.835 Social Support due to Social Isolation/other

Number of clients 65+ Accessing Long Term Support during the Year, by Type of Support 2022/2023

	Nursing	Residential	Direct Payment Only	Part Direct Payment	Managed Personal Budget	Commissioned Support
Number	208	376	112	76	644	254
Percentage	12.5	22.5	6.7	4.6	38.5	15.2

Direction of Travel for Adult Social Care

With regard to the future outlook for Adult Social Care in Halton, the following provides an indication of the direction of travel:

- We will continue to place emphasis on providing care at home and building capacity within community based services to best meet individuals' needs;
- We will continue to purchase the greater part of care from the private sector and voluntary sector;
- We will continue to be a service provider in selected markets and services (for example: Care Homes, Day services, Intermediate Care and Reablement);
- We want to explore alternatives to traditional residential care, through greater use of care at home and supported living accommodation which includes 'own front door' accommodation;
- We will continue with the Care Home Development Project which is a long term holistic project approach to a number of interrelated market issues (including quality, resident wellbeing, systems development, digital technology, collaboration and workforce development);
- We will continue to place strong emphasis on early intervention to maximise independence and the opportunity for people to stay in their own homes – reducing the growth in residential care placements, especially for those with learning disabilities;
- We want to improve the provision of respite care to support family carers to meet the needs of those with more complex conditions;
- We want to increase the use of assistive technology to improve the experience of paid-for and family carers in their role as carer;
- We will explore new and alternative models of delivery and opportunities for innovation with providers;
- We will explore the potential development of the direct payment approach and look to remove unnecessary barriers, potentially enabling residents to stay independent for longer by accessing carer support from within the existing community;
- We will continue with long term work collaborative work with the wider Integrated Care System (ICS) to develop preventative models of care that: i) focus on keeping people healthy, independent and out of residential care for longer ii) maximise the opportunities of remote healthcare monitoring and advances in technology;
- We will develop of a borough-wide social care workforce plan to address current workforce challenges.

Care for Adults aged 18-64 with a Learning Disability (including Autism)

In 2022/2023, Adults with a Learning Disability accounted for 42.8% of all Adults 18-64 receiving a long-term support. Often, packages of care for Adults with a Learning Disability are high-cost, reflecting the complexity of need for this group of Adults.

Halton Borough Council aims to support all Adults with a Learning Disability within the borough through a range of accommodation services. The transformation programme which is underway will ensure that there are options within the borough to meet the needs of Adults with Learning Disabilities in the future and that the models care are sustainable.

Accommodation Services

Within Halton there are a range of accommodation services to support Adults with Learning Disabilities, including supported living, residential and nursing care, shared lives, short-term step up/step down and respite services, and shared lives.

- Supported living tenancies
- Step up/Step down
- Respite
- Residential and Nursing care services
- Shared lives

Supported Living Tenancies

Supported living provision continues to be the preferred accommodation option for Adults with Learning Disabilities in Halton. There are currently a range of units of accommodation within shared tenancies, individual tenancies and own front door models across the borough;

- 165 units in shared tenancies
- 29 single tenancies
- 32 'own front door' tenancies across 3 schemes, 2 schemes in Widnes and 1 scheme in Runcorn.

A Transformation project is reviewing the current provision and aims to futureproof supported accommodation for people with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism in Halton, by remodelling, reshaping, or re-providing services to better meet people's needs. The vision is to provide lifetime homes, with accessible properties of a better standard, and additional units to meet the continued increase in demand.

It is anticipated the number of 'own front door' schemes will increase, as demand for this housing option is high as it provides individuals with their own self-contained accommodation but within a wider, safe and supported environment. Discussions are currently taking place for another 'own front door' scheme in Runcorn to provide a further 10 individual tenancies.

We will also look at opportunities for core and cluster developments as demand shifts for individuals with more complex needs from shared supported tenancies to individual tenancies.

Opportunities to introduce technology within services will also be explored and it is expected that some individuals will move to a blended model of care and use of technology, including the use of apps and communication via digital platforms.

Step Up/ Step Down Service

The wider accommodation offer in Halton has been increased in recent years to include a Step Up/ Step Down service for Adults with Learning Disabilities who are either in hospital, in out-of-borough placements, or are at risk of hospital admission. The service can support 2 individuals within their own self-contained flat for up to 18 months while an assessment is undertaken to identify their future care, support and accommodation needs.

Respite

Halton currently has a 4-bed residential respite service providing a traditional model of short-term respite within a shared accommodation setting. Demand for respite provision for Adults with Learning Disabilities has been impacted by the pandemic, with some individuals who used to access the service having moved into alternative accommodation settings. A review will evaluate current and future demand for the service, and a Transformation project will consider and explore Halton's future respite offer.

Residential and Nursing Care

Halton currently has 26 beds within 4 residential care homes and one nursing care home for 12 individuals. Care homes for Adults with Learning Disabilities are a valuable resource within Halton, and another Transformation area of focus is to ensure the current models of care continue to meet people's needs.

Shared Lives

Halton Borough Council's Shared Lives scheme supports Adults with Learning Disabilities by matching someone who needs care with an approved carer. The carer shares their family and community life and gives care and support to the person with care needs. The schemes are sometimes also known as Adult Placement schemes.

Shared Lives carers are self-employed and are paid by the Council, the amount depending on the time and complexity of the care provided. We are always looking for new ways to attract Shared Lives carers and would welcome contact both from individuals and any organisations who have a demonstrable expertise in expanding Shared Lives schemes in other local authorities.

Day Services and Employment Services

Halton Community Services is an award-winning service which is recognised locally and nationally as innovative and ground-breaking, the service prides itself on its person centred approaches to supporting people regardless of disability to develop employment skills which can be transferred into the workplace.

Halton Community Services has radically changed how people who use its services are supported; the whole approach is based on an enabling empowering and in control model of support, caring for people is the golden thread that runs through the service, we believe that if we do care we should give people real opportunities to learn new skills and maintain existing ones.

Halton Community Services strives to provide meaningful day time activity for the people who use its services; the whole concept is based on opportunity for all, the success of the model is measured on achievement and outcomes, an exit strategy into the commercial world of work has been developed, to date, three people have been found an employment opportunity outside the scope of the service.

The service is held over 18 venues within the borough like: Murdishaw Community Centre. The service also provides a base at Bredon and Moorfield Road for people with higher support needs.

Dementia Service provides staffing who have unique dementia care and knowledge who can offer wide range of social and creative activities.

There are approximately 114 people who use Halton Community Services which includes Adults with a Learning Disability, Physical and Sensory Disability and Dementia.

Direction of Travel for Adults aged 18-64 with a Learning Disability (including Autism)

Halton Council is currently embarking on a Transformation programme, which will include the Transformation of Adult Social Care Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism.

Commissioners understand that their current learning disability model is high cost and does not provide the 'own front door' model that most adults want. The transformation programme over the next 3 years will seek to address this.

The Council's vision is that Adult Social Care services focus on enabling and empowering adults with learning disabilities and is committed to reviewing and reshaping provision to ensure good quality services which continue to deliver good and improved outcomes for individuals.

Different and more open relationships emerged with providers during the pandemic, which has made it possible to explore new approaches e.g. the use of Individual Service Funds (ISFs) being tested with one learning disability provider.

Care for Adults with aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability

Long Term Conditions or chronic diseases are conditions for which there is currently no cure, and which are managed with drugs and other treatment, for example: diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, arthritis and hypertension.

Long Term Conditions are more prevalent in older people and in more deprived groups. As an area with high levels of deprivation, Halton generally has higher levels of Long Term Conditions. Long Term Conditions can affect a person's physical health and mobility.

Long Term Conditions are more prevalent in older people and in more deprived groups. As an area with high levels of deprivation, Halton generally has higher levels of Long Term Conditions.

During 2022/2023 the following proportions of Adults aged 18-64 in Halton received support with their physical and sensory needs.

- 8.5% Physical Support: Access and Mobility only
- 12.3% Physical Support: Personal Care support
- 2.4% Sensory support for Visual Impairment

People aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability receive a smaller proportion of care and support from Halton Borough Council in comparison to other client groups in the Living Well category, for example adults with a Learning Disability. We believe a high proportion of needs are met through family care, with supportive equipment and technology. Self-funding is also likely to be more common in this group than in other groups, as those aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability are able to access employment.

Direction of Travel for Adults with aged 18-64 with a Physical Disability

There is a small gap in employment rate for those with long-term health issues compared to the overall working age population in Halton. The Council will continue to work closely with local employers, education providers and employment organisations to improve accessibility to education and employment for this group.

There is a very low demand for residential care for individuals in this age range, with people preferring to live independently. We see this group as highly self-enabled relative to other communities and being particularly open to and enabled by technology-based support, especially in younger age groups. We will continue to work closely with housing partners to provide the right level of housing which enables assistive living and technology-based housing support so that people can live independently.

Care for Adults aged 18-64 with Mental Health Needs

Halton Borough Council's Mental Health Services offer prevention, identification of Mental Health, early intervention and access to support, treatments and recovery.

Working closely with local partners such as Health, Education and local employers, the Mental Health teams seek to improve the determinants of poor mental health, creating a place-based approach across Halton to improve mental wellbeing.

26.7% of all long-term clients aged 18-64 received support from Halton Borough Council in 2022/2023 in relation to their Mental Health.

Data suggests that there is higher premature mortality for those with severe mental illness compared to the overall population. Significant numbers of people suffer mental health problems such as depression. 1 in 4 people will develop depression during their life. Mental health problems account for the single largest cause of ill health and disability in the borough.

Halton Borough Council's vision is Adults with Mental Health issues should be supported in the community, using appropriate settings and services. Where residential care is required, the aim should be to enable service users to move on to other settings. We believe supported living has a critical role and we see a continued need for a broad range of supported living options to cover the variety of needs.

The Council is a core provider of Mental Health services, supported by some voluntary and commissioned services which provided wrap-around care and support for those experiencing poor mental Health, such as Mental Health Outreach, Advocacy and Day and Employment Services.

Mental Health Outreach

The Mental Health Outreach service offers short term outcome focused interventions to adults with assessed mental health problems and those with an Acquired Brain Injury. The main aim of the service is to provide practical structured support to improve mental and physical health, promote recovery, increase wellbeing & independence and enable individuals to live independently and fully inclusively within the local community. Outreach is flexible in its approach and provides clients with many different types of one-to-one support all in accordance with their individual needs.

Mental Health Advocacy

Healthwatch Halton is responsible for providing Halton's Advocacy hub bringing together Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA), Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA), Independent NHS Complaints Advocacy and Care Act Advocacy. The service provides seamless support for individuals who may need more than one type of advocacy. The service acts on behalf of individuals who may require care, support, treatment and recovery.

Day Services

There are a range of day services in Halton which aim to meet the needs of individuals who require support to manage their Mental Health. The aims of these services are:

- To provide opportunities for social contact and support in all community settings.
- To support people to retain or regain existing social roles, relationships and existing social / leisure activities that they value.
- To support people to access new roles, relationships and mainstream social / leisure opportunities of their choosing.
- To provide opportunities for people with mental health problems to run their own services.

Direction of Travel for Adults aged 18-64 with Mental Health Needs

In Halton, the pandemic has impacted the already-growing demand for mental health services and this will be exacerbated by any prolonged economic impacts associated with the current cost of living crisis. We remain committed to working with health colleagues to enhance team working and to deliver a service that focuses on the individual need.

We recognise the significance of dual diagnosis and the correlation of poor mental health and the misuse of substances and the impact that this often has to homelessness in the borough. We will continue to commission services which aim to support people in their support and recovery, to enable people to achieve their personal goals.

We will continue to seek to improve the availability supported living settings to enable us to relocate any out of area placements.

We will continue to focus on services that can enhance skills and support individuals into employment.

Care for Older People aged 65+

Halton's population 65+ is rising and will form a larger proportion of Halton's population in the future. This is especially significant given that the working age (18-64) and child populations are falling. Life expectancy at 65 is lower than England. Disability-free life expectancy is generally below North West and England levels. Fewer Halton residents die in their usual place of residence than in the North West or England. More older people are predicted to be living alone in 2030 and 2040 compared to 2020. Poverty rates are higher than in England and this results in significant health inequalities within Halton. Halton has a higher rate of long-term care packages than NW and England. The majority are for either Physical Support, Personal Care or Access & Mobility.

DEMENTIA

Dementia prevalence data suggests that as at June 2022 there were 431 people aged 65+ within Halton that have dementia, but who have not yet received a diagnosis.

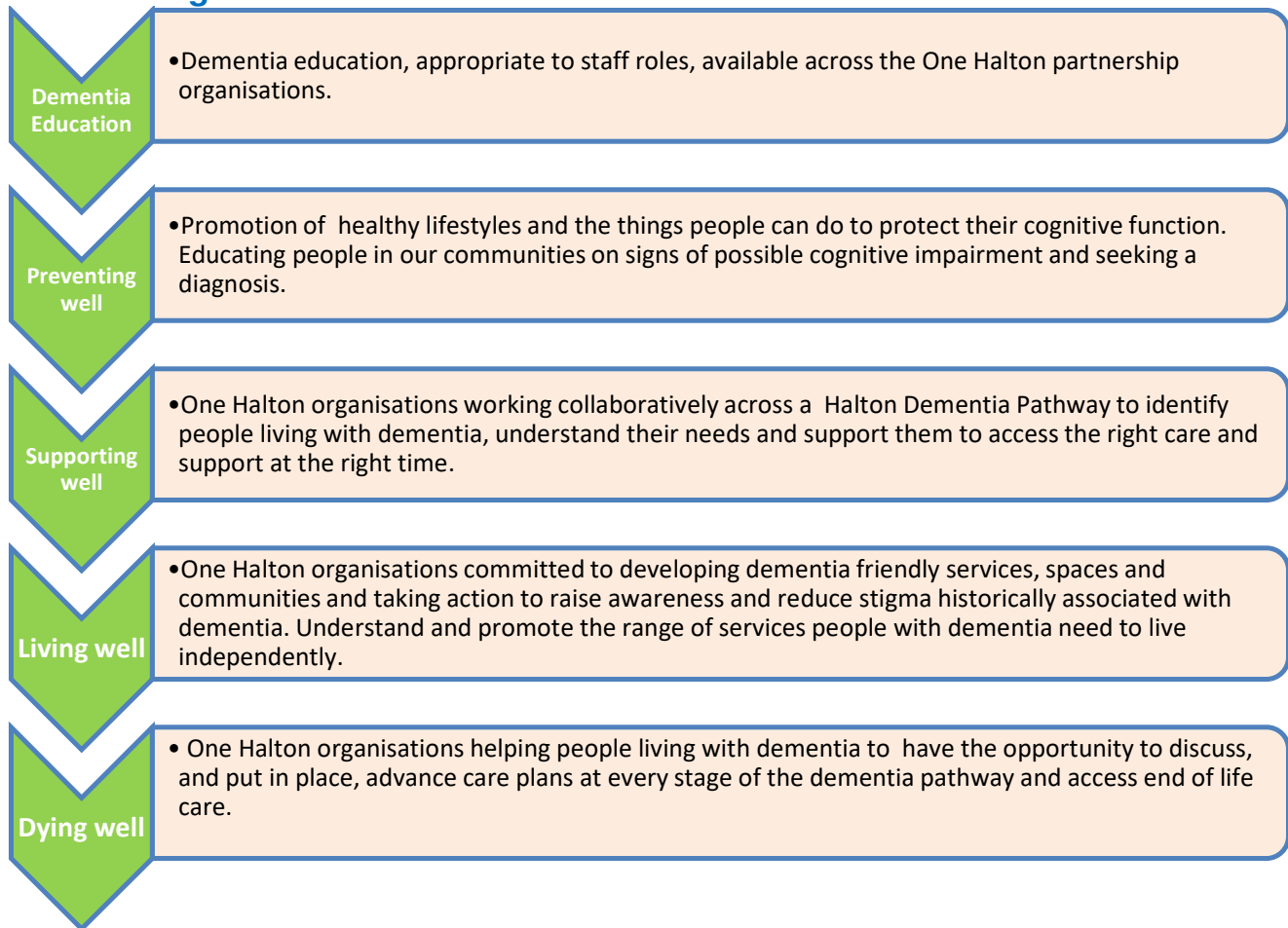
According to projections from the London School of Economics (LSE), the number of people living in Halton with the condition is going to increase as well as the severity of the disease. Projections are shown in the table below.

HALTON: projected number of older people living with dementia by severity		2019	2020	2025	2030
	Mild	223	226	251	290
	Moderate	452	440	473	530
	Severe	915	984	1245	1488

It is One Halton's aim that people can live well with the condition in Halton. Dementia transcends health, social care, organisations in the third sector and all communities, which is why the One Halton Partnership have developed a Dementia Delivery Plan that focuses on:



Strategic Priorities for Dementia in Halton



Dementia Activity Underway in Halton

Halton Borough Council has developed and is implementing a 'Dementia Friendly' Action Plan which outlines the dementia related activity that Halton Borough Council is committed to undertaking. This is in line with the Council's commitment to the Liverpool City Region Dementia Action Group and Halton Borough Council's registration as an Alzheimer's Society recognised Dementia Friendly Organisation.

Halton has a dedicated Community Dementia Care Advisor service, which is commissioned from Alzheimer's Society. This service is recommended as good practice in the NICE Dementia guidelines and has been adopted locally.

Halton also has an Admiral Nurse Service, specifically for those with Dementia in Halton. Admiral Nurses are qualified nurses with a specialism in dementia to help people living with dementia stay independent for longer – and also support the people caring for them, so that they can help support their loved ones with dementia. Admiral Nurses work in a variety of local health and social care settings, including clinics, care homes and hospices.

Halton has a dedicated Dementia Strategy which identifies the following strategic priorities for Dementia in Halton.

RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING CARE

Residential and nursing care will always be a core need for Halton's residents. We expect our residents to be able to live in safe, pleasant environments, able to enjoy their time with fellow residents and families, supported by staff who have their needs at heart.

Regionally, Halton has one of the lowest levels of residents in the North West admitted by the Council to residential and nursing homes. Vacancy levels for residential and nursing beds fluctuate with levels of demand, but typically, average occupancy as a percentage of active beds is approximately 82%. This is in line with national CQC data regarding occupancy levels.

In Halton there are 13 care homes, operated by 7 providers currently providing a total of 647 beds. Of these, Halton Borough Council operates 5 care homes totaling 172 beds (27% of beds).

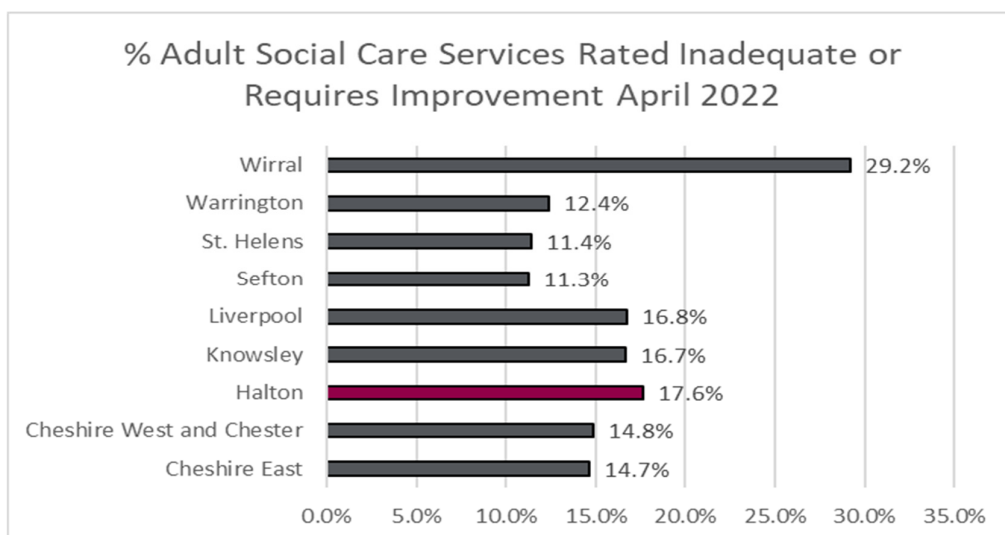
All of the Nursing and Enhanced Nursing provision is delivered across 6 homes, 3 owned by Halton BC and 3 owned by a national provider. There are 7 homes offering Residential (without nursing) and 7 homes offering Dementia Residential without Nursing and there is sufficient geographical spread within the borough. However, there are approximately 60 Halton older people with council funding in homes outside the borough, the majority in adjacent authorities.

Similar to the position nationally, workforce pressures are faced within the local Adult Social Care sector. Data provided by Skills for Care shows that there are 150 jobs vacant within the Adult Social Care sector in Halton (5.5% of the total jobs). Skills for Care estimates that the staff turnover rate for the sector in Halton is 22.3%. This is lower than the regional average of 28.4% and lower than England, at 29.5%.

In Halton, the numbers of self funders is low in comparison to other North West Authorities and self funders generally have their care organised and funded through the council.

Quality

In terms of quality, CQC ratings show 46% of Halton's older people's care homes are rated as 'Requires Improvement'. And 46% are rated as 'Good'. One Care home is rated 'Inadequate'. Monitoring of performance and quality is undertaken by the Quality Assurance Team at Halton Borough Council and the Council is committed to ongoing work with providers to improve the quality of the existing provision.



Direction of Travel for Residential and Nursing Care

We will continue to commission from the private sector, alongside continued provision from homes operated by Halton Borough Council. Halton Borough Council will continue to be a significant provider in the Adult Social Care sector and we are investing in our care homes throughout 2023/2024 to improve the quality of the Council's provision and provide better outcomes for our residents.

During 2022/2023 the Adult Social Care Discharge fund was used to support existing capacity to ensure timely discharge from hospital. For care homes staff incentive payments were made for care homes with Dementia as this area was identified as a key to reduce length of stay. Intermediate care and transitional bed capacity was also expanded and this will continue in 2023/2024. The Council has been working to increase the range of local care homes with digital social care records and will continue this work during 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

In terms of meeting the anticipated increase in demand from Halton's ageing population, the overall current capacity will need to increase for people with dementia across all care services, including residential and nursing care.

A Trusted Assessor role for Halton's 24-hours care provision is being developed to work closely with the care home sector offering a single point of access for discussing placement needs and facilitating transfers of care. The role will impact positively on services by providing them with a comprehensive assessment of needs, being the intermediary between Health and Social Care, to achieve the best outcomes for both the service and people using the service.

As a best practice model the role of a Trusted Assessor supports the Health and Social Care system by working with care homes where patients are transitioning from a period of hospitalisation. This can be where individuals are existing residents of a care home and are returning to the care home following a hospital stay, or where individuals can no longer live independently and need the additional support of 24-hour care. By assisting with safe and smooth transfers of care the experience of the individual is enhanced, which promotes wellbeing which can ultimately speed up recovery time.

EXTRA CARE



The Extra Care housing model which provides independent accommodation with on-site support for personal care and health needs currently is in low demand in Halton. Local demand for extra care housing continues to increase but low levels of local care needs can be met through a domiciliary care model rather than an on-site model.

Extra care housing provision in Halton has recently increased with a new Halton Housing development which opened in 2022 providing an additional 100 units of accommodation at Hazlehurst in Sandymoor, Runcorn. With the existing Extra Care scheme at Dorset Gardens, there are now 140 housing units in Runcorn and 97 in Widnes at Barkla Fields and Naughton Fields.

Direction of Travel for Extra Care

Existing provision meets current demand for extra care housing. Riverside Housing's regeneration plans include looking at a new larger development in Runcorn which will replace some of their current provision.

DOMICILIARY CARE

Halton has one, large national provider of Domiciliary care operating across the borough providing 6,184 hours of support per week commissioned by Halton Borough Council to an average of 506 service users. The provider has one sub-contractor that supports the provision of Domiciliary care across the borough. Approximately 391,253 direct care hours are delivered per annum.

Halton Borough Council places a strong ethos on reablement throughout the delivery of a reablement model within its own in-house reablement services. The Council is committed to the provision of Domiciliary care which incorporates the principles of reablement, in order to maximise each individual's potential to live as independently as possible.

The fee rate was uplifted by 6% in 2022/2023 and a planned uplift of 10% will be implemented in 2023/2024.

In line with the national picture, Halton is experiencing significant workforce challenges with a high level of vacancies currently filled by agency workers (50%).

There are high levels of direct payment users in the borough, however some report that their choice of provider is limited by the commissioning of a single provider for the borough.

Quality

The current provider has a 'good' CQC rating.

Direction of Travel for Domiciliary Care

While residential provision is critical, the majority of our elderly residents prefer to live in their own home and our ambition is to commission services that better enable this, from supporting hospital discharge to long-term care at home.

We see scope for further quality and efficiency improvements in domiciliary care services through the use of technology and smart working practices.

Promoting reablement is a major focus of our strategy and commissioning approach. We favour services from providers who align with our strengths-based approach and focus on encouraging users to maintain their independence through active and individualised development of their skills and capabilities.

During 2023/2024 we will assess the potential for the development of a new commissioning framework for Domiciliary Care to encourage an approach to diversity in service provision without de-stabilising the market. We will also continue with our Transforming Domiciliary Care (TDC) Programme, which is a key programme of work that aims to deliver a modern and sustainable provision of domiciliary care in Halton.

The Council is developing a Trusted Assessment process for Domiciliary Care. Whilst the Council will retain its statutory duty to assess and review care and support needs, we intend to work more closely with our domiciliary care partners to recognise where simple adjustments to care packages can make a big difference.

The Council is working with domiciliary care partners to devise a Trusted Assessment process which represents a partial delegation of responsibility. This will allow care providers to capture details and inform us of possible changes in a person's care package. This may result in an increase or reduction in an individual's care package.

Once a provider has alerted the Council of a possible need to change a care package, the process will involve quality checks being made by Social Care practitioners to verify any proposed changes in care packages. The process will include discussion with the individual themselves and their family/carers where appropriate. The outcome of the verification process is to confirm authorisation for a change in care package.

The approach is intended to utilise the knowledge and expertise of care workers, to expedite simple alterations to packages of care to the benefit of the person receiving domiciliary care and to improve efficiency by allocating resources where they are needed.

The current priority remains addressing workforce challenges in order to best meet the needs of people requiring care.

THE ROLE OF VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN HALTON

Direct Adult Social Care provision (statutory provision) across Halton primarily supports people with enduring care and support needs who meet Care Act eligibility criteria.

However, alongside these services Adult Social Care also invests in a wide range of community-based services which promote wider wellbeing and independence.

These community-based support services are typically provided by independent sector and voluntary sector providers and these services offer a range of services, including information, advice and guidance; engagement activities; and short-term, low-level interventions which stimulate recovery following ill-health or prevent worsening health conditions. Such services enable people to remain living in their own home and achieve the outcomes that they wish to achieve. These services form an invaluable network of support in Halton which impacts positively on Halton's prevention agenda.

Older people's care represents a significant proportion of Adult Social Care provision, and with an ageing population this is only set to grow. Halton Borough Council work with Age UK – Mid Mersey to retain a focus on supporting older people to continue to live fulfilling lives in their own homes and to enable older people to live in an environment that promotes personal safety and social engagement and activity. Age UK's services are aimed at maximising wellbeing and reducing the ill-effects of social isolation, as well as other adverse impacts of ageing. Age UK – Mid Mersey are able to adapt and modify services in order to provide responsive services based on what older people need and ask for.

Alzheimer's Society are funded to host a community-based Care Advisor in Halton to offer

information, advice, support and a 'keep in touch' service for those with a diagnosis of dementia or who are under assessment for a suspected dementia diagnosis, and their informal carers. The service forms a more informal part of a wider dementia pathway, which involves Health and Social Care provision. The service helps people navigate through their dementia journey by signposting and facilitating access to appropriate support services, assisting in running support groups, assisting people with relevant paperwork such as Advanced Care Plans and Power of Attorney applications, and maintaining regular contact to verify their needs are being met.

Halton Borough Council's contract with the British Red Cross provides one-to-one, short-term support for up to six weeks following an illness, injury or hospital admission or other crisis. Their service supports hospital discharge, prevents hospital admissions and averts re-admission to hospital through a range of practical interventions such as community transport, shopping support, prescription collections, home safety checks, and wellbeing assessments and contact to ensure needs are being met and signposting takes place where appropriate. As part of wider wellbeing, the service promotes engagement and connects people with others to build social networks, further strengthening our local communities.

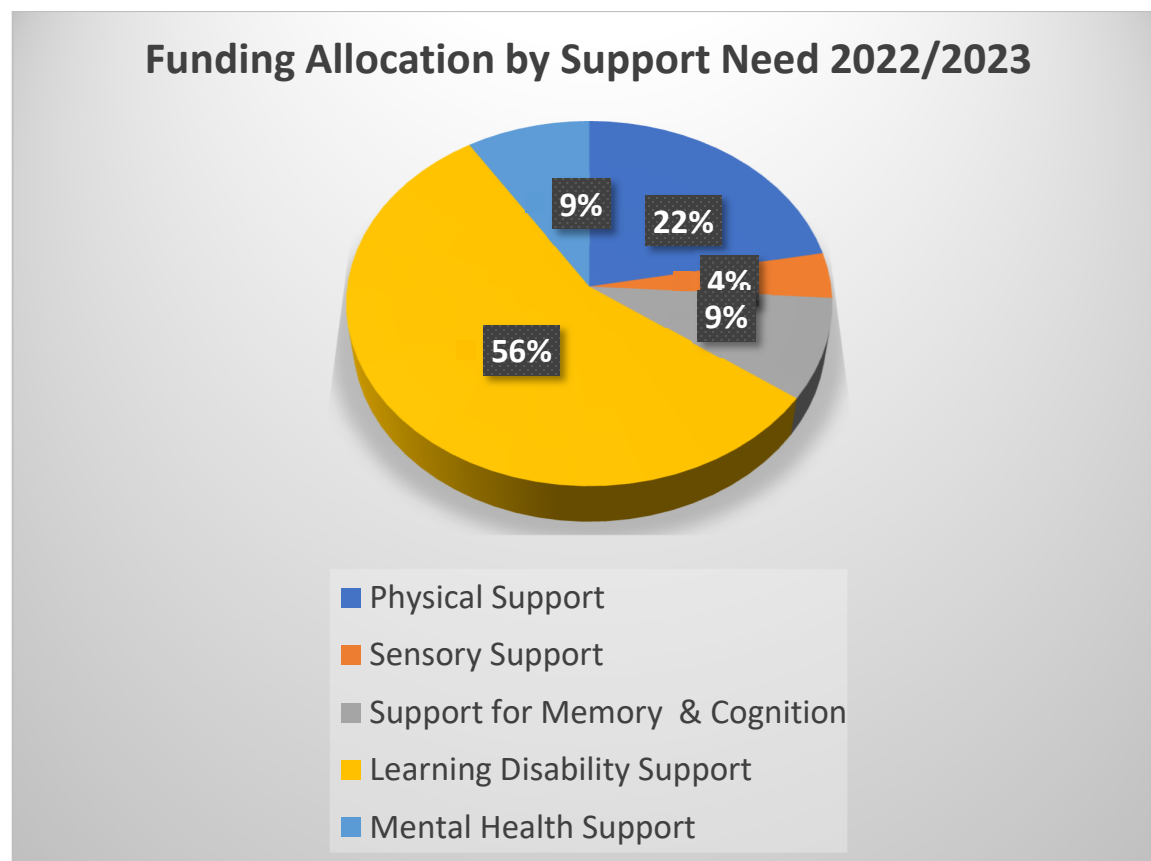
There are many other community-based services and activities being provided via Halton's community centres and other local community assets such as Halton Haven Hospice aimed at improving or maintaining wellbeing. For example, Wellbeing enterprises and Halton Health Improvement team run groups and classes such as health-specific self-help groups and a wide range of wellbeing activities that help people to improve their health and wellbeing. There are lots of opportunities for people to join ranging from gardening groups, day trips to cooking classes.

Halton Borough Council's *Sure Start to Later Life* team provide a dedicated signposting service to guide local residents to the services that can help them to achieve the outcomes that they wish to achieve.

Adult Social Care Funding and Sustainability

ADULT SOCIAL CARE EXPENDITURE 2022/2023

The total expenditure allocated against Adult Social Care during 2022-23 was £54.9 million, which was split across different service user group needs as illustrated below:



The largest proportion of spend during 2022/2023 was for Learning Disability support at 56%, which equates to more than half of the total Adult Social Care expenditure in Halton. This was followed by support for Physical Support, which includes support for all Adults 18+ including Older People. 9% of the total expenditure was for Adults requiring Mental Health support and the remainder was for those requiring sensory support.

FAIR COST OF CARE AND MARKET SUSTAINABILITY

During 2022, Central Government asked all Local Authorities to undertake a national cost of care exercise - produced by surveying local providers for 65+ residential and nursing care and 18+ homecare to determine a sustainable fee rate for different care settings.

There was a recognition from Central Government that the cost of care is greater than the fees providers receive from Local Authorities (LA) which is affecting providers' sustainability and at times leading to poorer quality outcomes.

Halton Borough Council worked with local providers to undertake a local cost of care exercise in 2022. Cost of Care returns were received from 89% of in-scope providers. Two key factors emerged which were reported to be significantly impacting on the local cost of care: workforce pressures; and inflationary costs.

Following the cost of care exercise, the Council will continue to work with providers to ascertain local costs of care and will undertake an annual fee setting process. Halton Borough Council has a strong track record of working closely with local providers to set fees and enter into open dialogue regarding the cost pressures within the local Adult Social Care sector.

Halton Borough Council will follow its fee setting process with all providers willing to engage and with due regard to:

- Consideration of current and likely future demand for services
- Sustainability of the market
- Fostering improvement in the market
- Quality and quality improvement
- The costs of care including the duty to pay the national living wage and provide training and development of staff
- How the market is currently operating
- Engagement with providers

As a result of the cost of care exercise, the Council has also committed to raising fee rates. Fair Costs of Care funding in 2022/2023 was used to inflate the fee rates by 6%. For 2023/2024 this will be 12% for Care Homes and 10% for Domiciliary Care and Supported Living provision.

Ongoing work with providers and market analysis has identified the following key areas that this investment will focus on:

- Pay, terms and conditions – with the aim of meeting the Living Wage Foundation rates;
- Career pathways and development to maintain and improve skills and increase the attractiveness of a career in care;
- Recruitment and retention to provide more consistent and stable provision;
- Inflationary pressures.

Alongside the national cost of care exercise, Central Government asked all Local Authorities to develop a provisional Market Sustainability Plan, which sets out a local strategy for a 3-year period using the outcomes of the local cost of care exercise as a key input. Halton Borough Council has produced a Market Sustainability Plan which sets out the actions that the Council will take to support market sustainability over this period.

Safeguarding

It is everybody's responsibility to report abuse wherever it is seen, suspected or reported. Safeguarding is a vital part of Halton's responsibilities, it is more than just adult protection; it is about protecting the safety, independence and wellbeing of adults who are vulnerable or at risk. Halton's Safeguarding Adults Board works closely with the police, health and a range of private and voluntary agencies to try and prevent adult abuse occurring and stop it when it happens.

The establishment of a multi-agency Integrated Safeguarding Unit with our Health partners has been a positive move forward in dealing effectively with safeguarding issues in a more cohesive way. The multi-agency team has a good skill mix and knowledge base in leading on safeguarding across Health and Social Care on cases that have a complex safeguarding element to them, with a particular focus on the more complex cases within institutional settings. The multi-agency team actively works with Care Home Providers to address complex safeguarding cases and develop practice which can then be extended across the Residential and Nursing sector.

Our primary focus is to work in collaboration with our partners and our service providers to ensure a commitment to quality which translates into standards of practice that make a real difference to people's lives and achieve better outcomes. We actively seek a commitment from our providers, through our commissioning arrangements, to work constructively with us to ensure that high quality services are delivered to all service users. Our Quality Assurance Team works with providers through established Provider Forums to promote and develop quality standards, to share market intelligence and better develop a co-ordinated response to quality matters as they arise.

Halton's safeguarding Adults Procedures can be found using the following link: <https://adult.haltonsafeguarding.co.uk/docs/SafeguardingAdultsProcedures.pdf>

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards/ Liberty Protection Safeguards

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) came into force on 1 April 2009 as a response to an identified breach of the European Convention on Human Rights. This is a particular challenge for the Council in responding to this large increase in the number of DoLS assessments and making sure we keep people safe.

As a result of the mounting criticism of DoLS the Government requested the Law Commission undertake a review and in March 2017, they produced their final proposal on a replacement for the DoLS, and suggested amendments to the Mental Capacity Act itself. The changes to the Act are to incorporate the new scheme, called the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS), and to strengthen people's rights in areas such as Best Interest decisions. It is anticipated that the Liberty Protection Safeguards will be implemented over the term of this MPS.

Making Safeguarding Personal

Making Safeguarding Personal is a joint Local Government Associated (LGA) and Association of Directors of Adults Social Services (ADASS) programme that supports Councils and their partners to develop outcomes-focused, person-centred safeguarding practice. The approach aims to facilitate a shift in emphasis in safeguarding from undertaking a process to a commitment to improving outcomes alongside people experiencing abuse or neglect.

Making Safeguarding Personal is a shift in culture and practice in response to what is known about what makes safeguarding more or less effective from the perspective of the person being safeguarded.

It is about having conversations with people about how we might respond in safeguarding situations in a way that enhances their involvement, choice and control as well as improving their quality of life, wellbeing and safety. The key message about this approach is a shift from a process supported by conversations to a series of conversations supported by a process. It is about seeing people as experts in their own lives, drawing on their strengths and working alongside them.

Working with Halton Borough Council - Our approach to Commissioning and Procurement

This MPS and subsequent dialogue with service providers is not limited to the services that Halton Borough Council commissions. Ultimately, the dialogue between Halton Borough Council and Providers will be inclusive of the whole of the adult social care sector in Halton, including providers which the Council does not currently commission services from. Our role as a Council is have to an oversight of the whole sector and to shape local services so that all Adult Social Care needs within Halton can be met through appropriate levels and diversity of service provision.

Provider Engagement

As a Council we wish to ensure all Providers understand the challenges facing the Adult Social Care sector and are able to develop their services to adapt to changing demands. Wide engagement will ensure that decisions about commissioning and service provision are inclusive and take into account the full spectrum and diversity of services locally, so that; services can be designed and developed to operate in synergy; overprovision or gaps in services can be limited; and that services are designed and delivered in accordance with the needs of the local population and shaped by shared local policy.

Commissioning

Whilst as a Council we do directly deliver some in-house services, the proportion of market share owned and delivered by Halton Borough Council is a small proportion of the local service provision as a whole. In the main, as a Council we commission the majority of our Adult Social Care services from Independent Provider and voluntary sector organisations.

As a Council, we will make use of a range of evidence to inform commissioning decisions, this includes evidence of effective service delivery locally and also research and published evidence. We will build upon examples of 'what works' to inform our thinking. Providers may have valuable sources of information that will benefit the commissioning of local Adult Social care services.

Halton Borough Council is keen to build on the relationships that already exist with providers within the local area and to develop the sharing of intelligence in order to develop a better understanding of the local Adult Social Care market. In particular, we want to hear about Providers experiences of providing effective and efficient services either in the local area, or elsewhere, so that together we can foster 'good' service models. We place emphasis on examples of successful services that demonstrate a focus on personalisation and the achievement of outcomes for those that use Adult Social Care services.

Procurement

Local procurement in Halton is considered to be mature. As a Council, we spend millions of pounds per year on goods and services, offering a wide range of commercial opportunities to a mixed market of organisations. We recognise that future increased demand from an ageing population in the borough will require investment in the provision of health and social care services. The growth of the local market therefore offers an attractive opportunity for investors and providers to either grow, or develop new business locally. Knowledge and visibility of forthcoming procurement opportunities may facilitate your organisation securing business with us.

Where to Find Contract Opportunities

➤ The Chest

The Council uses the electronic tendering portal known as **The Chest**, which enables existing and potential suppliers to:

- View all forthcoming contract opportunities for Halton Borough Council and other councils from one place.
- Register free to receive e-mails on all relevant contract opportunities on the day they are advertised.
- Receive all contract opportunities relevant to your particular business interests.
- Request details of contract opportunities 24/7.

➤ **Liverpool City Region Flexible Purchasing System (FPS) for the Care and Support for Adults and Young People Preparing for Adulthood**

The Liverpool City Region FPS is for Registered Community-based Services which offer Care and Support either with or without accommodation for those with eligible needs under the Care Act. Halton is one of the Six Councils that procure services via this FPS.

The FPS covers complex care services for people with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism, Mental Health Conditions (including Forensic Needs), Acquired Brain Injury, Physical Disabilities, and Dual Diagnosis (including secondary substance misuse issues) primarily between the age of 18 to 65, however will be inclusive of young people aged 16+ (transitions) and older adults (65+) with complex care needs when required.

The FPS is a single, flexible, procurement framework which operates as a common, shared 'marketplace' across the Liverpool City Region (LCR). There is a single 'entry point' for the six LCR councils and CCG partners to commission services and a single route for providers to register to supply services across the Liverpool City Region (LCR). There is a common set of contract terms and high level service specifications in operation across the LCR which will include a shared outcome and quality monitoring framework.

Providers can apply to join the LCR FPS via 'The Chest' searching for the FPS using Reference number: DN354645

Access Contract Opportunities on The Chest at <https://procontract.due-north.com/>

Social Value

The [Public Services \(Social Value\) Act 2012](#), places a duty on organisations including Local Authorities, to consider how services being procured might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of their areas.

The Best Value statutory guidance defines social value as;

“about seeking to maximise the additional benefit that can be created by procuring or commissioning goods and services, above and beyond the benefit of merely the goods and services themselves”.

As a Council, we evaluate Social Value as part of our procurement process. Providers who can demonstrate how they will deliver ‘social value’ and their ability to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being in Halton will arguably be better placed to secure business locally. As a Council, we are keen to encourage Provider’s capacity to make a positive contribution to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of our local communities.

Contact Us

Visit our website: www.halton.gov.uk for further information about Adult Social Care or email any queries you may have to: email: contracts@halton.gov.uk