

# Council Improvement Profiles

LOCAL AUTHORITY : HALTON

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Amongst its achievements, Halton reports good or improved performance in:

- Providing choice, dignity and independence for people who need support
- Overall satisfaction of people who receive services
- Proportion of people who are in receipt of self-directed support
- Non-elective admissions of re-admission rates
- Number of bed days for delayed transfers
- Permanent admissions to residential care of people aged over 65
- Proportion of budget spend on people aged over 65

**Vision for Adult Social Care:** Halton's strategic vision is "to improve the health and wellbeing of Halton people so they live longer, healthier and happier lives". This vision is strategically underpinned by the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013-2016), which sets the framework for the commission of health and wellbeing services in Halton and with particular emphasis on the five priorities we have identified with local residents, strategic partners and other stakeholders.

The five priorities for action are as follows:

- Prevention and early detection of cancer
- Improved child development
- Reduction in the number of falls in adults
- Reduction in the harm from alcohol
- Prevention and early detection of mental health conditions

**Social Care in Practice:** Social Care in Practice (SCiP) is a team of Community Care Workers, employed by Social Services and was initially based in Runcorn. Such was the success of the team in Runcorn, Halton Clinical Commissioning Group and Social Services have expanded the service to cover all GP practices in the Halton area. This will form the basis of the social care component of the multi-disciplinary team approach with primary care hubs that is in development

The function of the SCiP team is to work with healthcare professionals, e.g. GP's, District Nurses or Community Matrons.

The service is striving to develop closer relationships between health and social care and aims to reduce duplication for the individual being supported, giving a much better experience of help from public services.

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**Launch of Admiral Nurse Service:** Admiral Nurses are specialist dementia nurses who give practical and emotional support to family carers, as well as the person with dementia. They offer valuable support to families throughout their experience of dementia that is tailored to their individual needs and challenges. Admiral Nurses provide families with the knowledge to understand dementia and its effects, the skills and tools to improve communication and provide emotional and psychological support to help family carers carry on caring for their family member.

**Challenges:** There are many challenges currently facing Adult Social Care, both nationally and locally, amid increasing financial pressures and an ageing population.

- Res/Dom Care Providers
- Financial situation
- Transition (LD)
- Working with providers – challenges with Res/Dom Care

**Domiciliary Care Market Failure** - Current providers reporting recruitment and retention issues. National Living Wage issues also arising in respect of HMRC approach to care providers.

**Quality of Care in Care Home Sector** - Extensive work is underway with providers and partners to review and improve quality of care in key care homes.

**Increase activity in respect of DoLS management** - Increased activity putting pressure on existing assessment capacity

**Resources** - Increase in pressure from providers and engagement with changing NHS expectations both with resource implications

**Financial Situation** - Demand for Adult Social Care Services in Halton has been increasing year on year and is expected to continue to grow.

The Council has already made significant savings and will continue to work with partners to deliver more over the next three years. This will be delivered through an even greater emphasis on prevention and independence and through making the most of universal and community based services to help people build, retain and recover skills.

**Review of Transition from Children's to Adults Services for those with LD** - Halton Borough Council and NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group have recently completed a joint project to review processes in place to support young people (aged 14-25) with health and social care needs as they make their transition from children's to adults' services.

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