



Milorad Vasic
Strategic Director, People,
Municipal Building,
Kingsway,
Widnes
WA8 7QF

Our Ref	MV/cd
If you telephone please ask for	0151 511 6004 Milorad Vasic
Your ref	
Date	July 2018
E-mail address	Milorad.vasic@halton.gov.uk

To: All Directors of Children's Services

Services available to Children in Care (Looked After Children) and Care Leavers placed in Halton

Halton Borough Council People Directorate would like to notify you of the services and facilities available to children in care that are placed in our area by other local authorities. Please circulate this information to relevant professionals within your area. We hope that the information will help your professional staff to understand and access the range of services that are available to children residing in Halton. This letter includes the process for notifying us of the placement of a child in Halton, information about accessing universal services and contact information for our Children in Care Council.

It would also be useful to receive similar information and contact details about services and opportunities available to Halton children that are placed in your local authority.

Context

The borough of Halton is made up of the two main towns of Widnes and Runcorn, and:

- has an increasing population - current estimate of 126,900 (2016 ONS). Of these, 38,100 are children and young people aged 0-25;
- is ranked as the 27th most deprived local authority in England; and
- has a higher proportion of children in poverty (25.9%) than the England average (20.1%).

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate
Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Consultation and Notifications

Consultation:

In line with the 2014 amendments to the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010, if you are planning to place a child or young person in Halton, you should consult with us prior to placement. Please contact our integrated Contact And Referral Team (iCART) on 0151 907 8305 or by secure email at contactandreferralteam@halton.gcsx.gov.uk

When you are considering a placement in a children's home you should take into account the information in the home's Statement of Purpose. You should ask for a copy of the home's location assessment which should include details of the home's safeguarding arrangements, including any measures taken by the home to manage safeguarding concerns arising from the neighbourhood where the home is located.

Notification:

Once you have made a decision to place a child in Halton and consultation has taken place as above, notification of the details of children in care and care leavers placed in Halton should be sent to us by the most appropriate method listed below. So that we can update and maintain correct records this would include any change of address and notifications of children in care or care leavers leaving or moving within Halton. Please ensure that notifications highlight any particular risks or vulnerabilities to assist the professional network in Halton in responding effectively to any issues that might arise.

By secure email: contactandreferralteam@halton.gcsx.gov.uk

If you need to contact Halton Children's Services please call iCART on 0151 907 8305 or for emergencies outside office hours call 03450500148. This includes if you are unsure if a placement is based in Halton.

Halton has made a commitment that any child in care placed out of this authority will receive the same level of monitoring and support as their peers within Halton.

Education

School Admissions:

Halton Borough Council is the admissions authority for all community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools and manages the co-ordinated admission arrangements statutorily required for all schools in Halton. The council coordinates all school admissions to reception class and for the year 6 to 7 transfer. For general in-year admissions there are two processes, one for Primary and one for Secondary.

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





For Secondary aged children, if you are moving into Halton, or wish to transfer a child from one school to a Halton school outside of the normal admission round (often referred to as an In-Year Transfer), you **must** make your application **directly to the School Admissions Team** in the local authority who will write to you to inform you of the outcome of your application. Parents/carers of children who are not successful in gaining a place at any Halton school will be informed of their right of appeal and how to access it.

For Primary aged children, if you are moving into Halton, or wish to transfer a child from one school to a Halton school outside of the normal admission round (often referred to as an In-Year Transfer), you **must** make your application **directly to your preferred school (s)**. The school will then advise on their position with regards to availability of places and write to you to inform you of the outcome of your application. Parents/carers of children who are not successful in gaining a place at any Halton school will be informed of their right of appeal and how to access it.

In Halton, all schools **must** give priority to applications from the parents/carers of children in the care of the LA, or children who were previously in the care of the LA and immediately ceased to be so due to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. Details regarding this, and details about the criteria which schools will apply to applications if they are oversubscribed (receive more applications than places available), are available within Halton's composite prospectuses, and can be viewed online by visiting www.halton.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Child Place Planning Team, Rutland House, Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2GW	
Tel: 0151 511 7338/7271	E-mail: schooladmissions@halton.gov.uk

Halton Virtual School:

All professionals working with Children in Care and Care Leavers aged 0-25 placed in Halton have access to advice and guidance from Halton Virtual School. The focus of the Virtual School is to act as the main point of contact for professionals from other Local Authorities and their Virtual Headteachers and to support them in gaining admission to an education provision and access to any appropriate support the young person requires to promote their educational attainment and attendance.

<i>Contact details for the Headteacher of Halton Virtual School</i>	
Tel: 0151 511 7391	E-mail: Sharon.williams@halton.gcsx.gov.uk

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate
Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Careers Information, Advice and Guidance:

The 14-19 Programme Team offer guidance and support to young people who are 16 -19 years old, and 19 – 25 years old with a learning difficulty assessment or Education Health and Care Plan. Young People Case Workers are allocated to young people who are not in education, training or employment and will support them in accessing the right guidance or provision they need. The key focus of the service is to progress young people into post 16 education and training and ensuring that they gain the skills to enter sustainable employment.

<i>14-19 Team, 2nd Floor, Rutland House, Halton Lea, Runcorn WA7 2GW</i>	
Website: www.halton.gov.uk/yourfuture www.facebook.com/HPSyourfuture	Email: 14-19Team@halton.gov.uk

Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND):

Halton’s SEND service helps schools to support pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, by offering a range of services to make sure those pupils can access the curriculum.

The service includes a team of specialist teachers who can give advice, training. The Specialist Teacher services include:

- Outreach services for pupils with behavioural or emotional difficulties
- Blocks of specialist 1-1 teaching
- Individual consultation and observation of pupils in schools and settings
- Literacy assessments for individual pupils

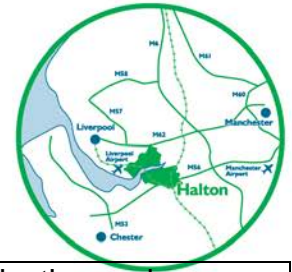
The SEND Service is a free service which supports pupils in all primary, secondary schools and colleges who are 0-25. For the specialist teacher services, schools send a request form which is then allocated to individual teachers/ advisors. If schools apply for outreach, blocks of teaching, or literacy assessments they need to be agreed at panel. Schools must show that they have used their SEN delegated budget, before they can apply for additional support for enhanced provision, outreach, blocks of teaching, or literacy assessments.

<i>To speak to the Halton SEND Service please use the contact numbers below:</i>		
We have a team of specialist teachers and advisors who can give advice in the following areas		
• Julie Beacham	0151 511 7068	Specialist Teacher for Vision Impaired
• Cre Dyas	0151 511 6068	Physical and Medical
• Paula Edwards	0151 511 7268	14-19 Programme Manager
• Anne Garcia	0151 511 7448	Autism Spectrum Condition
• Lyndsey Hignett	0151 511 7449	Specialist Teacher for Hearing Impairment

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate
Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





• Stacey Holleran	0151 511 6061	Specialist Advisor for Communication and Interaction
• Judith Hughes	0151 511 6955	Learning Difficulties and Progression
• Ami McNamee	0151 511 8571	Lead for Specialist Teaching/Advisory and ASC
• Julie Metcalf	0151 511 7065	Lead Teacher for Hearing Impairment

Halton's **Local Offer website** provides a user-friendly one-stop shop for children and young people with a Special Educational Need and/or Disability, their parents and professionals to quickly find out about information, support and advice available across education, health and social care from ages 0 to 25 and how to access it.

<i>Contact: Tracy Ryan</i>	
Tel: 0151 5118661 Email: tracy.ryan@halton.gov.uk	Halton SEND Local Offer Website: www.halton.gov.uk/localoffer

Halton SEND Partnership IASS provides independent impartial information, advice and support about the law surrounding Special Educational Needs and Disability and Halton Borough Council's policies and procedures and the policy and practice in schools and other settings. By being impartial it aims to help parents/carers, children and young people to have clear, accurate and relevant information. All services are available to anyone who lives within the borough, if required the caregiver (be it at a children home, a foster carers ETC) can contact the service for information, advice and support, as could the young person aged 16 – 25.

<i>Contact: Sharon Spruce</i>	
Tel: 0151 511 7733	Email: SENDpartnership@halton.gov.uk

Early Years, Childcare and Nursery Provision:

Halton Families Information Service (FIS) is your one stop service providing free and detailed information regarding local childcare and activities for young people aged 0-19 and their families. Halton FIS can provide personalised information that meets individual need on childminders, nurseries, pre-schools, out of school clubs and holidays schemes, including vacancies, school pick-ups, their charges and opening times. Halton FIS can provide information for families of children with a disability/additional needs and therefore could be used, for example, to identify local childcare providers who have experience of your child's particular needs.

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





We also hold information about leisure activities suitable for young people up to the age of 19 and most of this information is available via our Facebook page. Halton FIS can also help if you're looking to become an Ofsted registered Childminder – we will provide you with training, information and support in your journey towards your new career.

You can ask us about Free Early Years Entitlement funding for your 3 and 4 year old and/or whether your 2 year old child would be eligible to access funded childcare.

<i>Halton Family Information Service, Child Place Planning Team, Rutland House, Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2GW</i>	
<i>Tel: 0151 511 7375</i>	<i>Email: haltonfis@halton.gov.uk</i>
<i>Website: www.halton.gov.uk/fis</i>	
<i>Facebook: www.facebook.com/haltonfis</i>	

Children's Centres

There are eight Children's Centres based across Halton, providing a range of services, working closely with schools, health visitors, G.P's and other local service providers to ensure continuous support to children and their families. Children's centres provide many different children and family services including activities for parents, parents-to-be, their babies, toddlers, young children and the rest of the family. Details of the centres, including the weekly activities can be found at:

<i>Website:</i> http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/EducationandFamilies/FamiliesInformationService/ChildrensCentres.aspx
--

Health

The Children in Care (CiC) Health team has a robust notification process for children placed in Halton from other local authorities. This includes a generic notification process agreed nationally across all NHS CIC health teams, information sharing and liaison with Halton Borough Council iCART team and positive relationships with the residential providers in Halton. This aims to ensure that we are notified about all children and young people who are placed into Halton from other local authorities in order to provide them with a consistent and seamless CIC health service. There is a dedicated Child in Care Team which consists of one Specialist CIC nurse and two CIC administrators who are based within the Safeguarding Nursing team in Halton.

Once notified of a placement in Halton the CIC health team will ensure that all of the children and young people are entered onto our electronic patient's records system (SystemOne) and if appropriate under responsible commissioner guidance allocated a health practitioner in Halton.

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





The CIC team will request and await health information from the previous placing authority (either electronic or paper). This information will be used to inform an assessment of the child or young person's general health and wellbeing. The allocated health practitioner will have a role in care planning arrangement and will liaise with the child or young person's social worker in the placing authority. The CIC specialist nurse will have oversight of care and respond to any specific and/or significant issues or concerns should they arise.

Initial and Review Health Assessments will be undertaken on request from the placing authority. If a child requires an Initial Health Assessment, this will be undertaken by a Bridgewater Community Paediatrician. If at all possible the Community Paediatrician would expect the social worker from the placing authority to attend the Initial Health Assessment appointment along with the birth parent if appropriate. The Community Paediatricians will also undertake follow up health assessments for children with disabilities. Adoption medicals will be undertaken by the community paediatricians on request.

Review Health Assessments will be undertaken upon request from the placing authority. They will be allocated dependent on age and school attended to either a member of the 0-19 service or to the CIC Specialist Nurse. The review health assessment will include an emotional health and wellbeing assessment using the nationally recognised SDQ screening tool.

All Care Leavers upon request from their placing authority will be offered a final health assessment with the CIC Specialist Nurse and will be provided with a Care Leavers Health Passport (health summary) on leaving care.

The child or young person's health plan will be quality assured to ensure it meets the nationally agreed RCN standards for Looked after Children and Children's outcomes will be monitored to ensure their health needs are being met.

The placing authority will be invoiced for all completed Initial and Review health assessments at the appropriate tariff in line with all commissioning guidance.

Universal Health Services – Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust provides a wide range of services for Children in Care. Universal services are available to all children and their Carers and this includes the 0-19 Healthy Child Service delivered by Health Visitors and School Nurses who offer universal delivery of the Healthy Child Programme through a schedule of health and development assessments and reviews, immunisations, parenting support and health promotion advice which is available to all children and families. Other services include Family Nurse Partnership, Paediatric Continence service and Children's Hearing Screening service.

The Child Development Team is a community based team of experienced health professionals with the knowledge and skills to provide highly specialist assessment, advice, support and treatment for pre-school children with developmental difficulties and support for their families/carers, working in partnership with other agencies. The team includes Paediatric

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists, Audiologists, Community Paediatricians and Specialist Nurses. Their role is to assess and support children and young people with additional health needs to ensure they reach their maximum potential.

The Children's Community Nurse Team provides support to children and young people with complex health needs requiring follow-up care or treatment in the community delivered by a registered children's nurse. This includes children and young people who are reliant on medical technology.

Family Nurse Partnership is a preventative parenting programme for first time teenage mothers up to 19yrs of age. It offers intensive and structured home visiting delivered by specially trained nurses, from early pregnancy until the child is two. Father/partner involvement is encouraged in the programme. The programme is voluntary however the family nurses work incredibly hard to try and engage CIC and care leavers in the programme recognising the vulnerability of this cohort and the benefits the programme offers.

The Children's Integrated Behaviour Support Team works in close collaboration with Families and Carers to manage behaviour issues for children and young people, with learning disabilities, aged 0-19 years, in the home environment.

Support is offered to carers by health professionals and carers are welcome to attend training sessions on a variety of health issues delivered by the CIC Nurse.

Children in Care Specialist Nurse; Anne Birrell
<i>Email:</i> ALWCH.haltoncichealthteam@nhs.net
<i>Tel:</i> 01928 593054

Emotional Health & Mental Wellbeing:

NHS Halton CCG currently commissions a tiered Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) from 5 Boroughs NHS Foundation Trust which is available to Children in Care and their carers. The team delivers specialist assessment, consultation, diagnosis, formulation and treatment in a range of settings, including community and locality settings, which meet children and young people's needs for timely and efficient service delivery. There is also provision of inpatient services for young people which provides assessment, intervention and in-patient treatment providing the intensive support needed in times of crisis. All initial assessments are carried out by the CAMHS Assessment and Response Team and sign posted to the appropriate service. The service also provides lower level support to young people via face to face consultation and also via an on line resource called KOOOTH.com, which provides online counselling and self-help.

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate
Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Tel: 01928 568162 CAMHS

01925 579405 CAMHS Assessment and Response Team

<https://kooth.com>

Go4ward offers an emotional health and wellbeing service for children and young people in the care of Halton Borough Council. We work with ages 5-18 (and up to 25 with additional needs) as well as post adoption (again 5-18 yrs and up to 25yrs with additional needs) and care leavers (up to 25yrs). Go4ward also works alongside carers and other professionals as part of a supportive team response, tailored to the individual needs and circumstances of each child and young person. We predominantly offer counselling to children and young people in the form of play,

creative arts and expressive, solution focussed and CBT techniques; person centred counselling and integrative counselling. Referrals are usually accepted via the EHWB Panel although referrals can be discussed and submitted directly to the service.

Tel: 01744 818930

Youth Justice Services

Youth Justice Services ; incorporating Cheshire East, Cheshire West, Halton & Warrington work with children and young people (between 10 and 18 years old) who come to the attention of the police and courts because of their involvement in crime or anti-social behaviour. Youth Justice Services will provide “caretaking arrangements” for young people who are cared for by other local authority areas, and living in the Halton area, in line with the YJB National Protocol for Case Responsibility, where they are on Court Orders, or have been diverted to the Youth Justice Service through an out of court disposal following arrest.

Tel: 0345 145 0055

Secure email: grpcwhw-yos@cwwhyos.org.uk.cjism.net

Participation

Halton has a Children in Care Council for Juniors aged 7 – 12 and the Children in Care Council for Seniors 13+. Children in care and care leavers are involved in a variety of meetings on a local, regional and national level. Representatives assist in interviewing for new members of staff and in training staff, teachers and carers. For any advice on participation for Children in Care please contact Sarah Jones, Children in Care Participation and Inclusion Officer:

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





<i>Tel:</i> 0151 511 6091	<i>Email:</i> sarah.jones@halton.gov.uk
Website: www.haltoncicc.co.uk	

Advocacy

National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) are the local provider of advocacy services for children in Halton.

They offer information, advice, advocacy and representation to children and young people up to the age of 25, through a network of advocates throughout England and Wales. NYAS delivers Children's Rights, Advocacy, and Independent Visitor Services to Halton children and young people up to the age of 25. The services are for children and young people who are Children in Care, Children in Need, Children on Child Protection Plan or Children with disabilities. NYAS can be contacted for advice in the following ways:

<i>Tel:</i> 0808 808 1001	<i>Website:</i> www.nyas.net
<i>Email:</i> help@nyas.net	

Missing Children

Halton is part of a Pan-Cheshire Protocol for children missing from home or care with other Cheshire local authorities and Cheshire Constabulary. Missing children or those that could be at immediate risk should be reported without delay to Cheshire Police on 999, as well as making contact with Children's Services on 0151 907 8305 (Out of hours Emergency Duty Team 0345 050 0148). Safe and well checks are carried out by the Police when children are found and independent return interviews are offered to all children once found through Young Addaction. Please contact us and let us know if you would prefer to undertake the independent return interview for any child you have placed in Halton.

<i>Tel:</i> Young Addaction 01928 240406	<i>Email:</i> halton@addaction.cjism.net
---	--

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Child Sexual Exploitation

A Pan-Cheshire multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy is in place. Partner LSCB's have adopted the following definition of sexual exploitation that is set out in statutory guidance to build the Strategy around:

“Sexual exploitation is child abuse and children and young people who become involved face huge risks to their physical, emotional and psychological health and well-being.”

The purpose of the strategy is to ensure a robust, coordinated multi-agency response to CSE by taking a proactive approach focused on early identification and intervention can only be achieved through an integrated approach, with effective joint working and a shared understanding of the problem.

By secure email: contactandreferralteam@halton.gcsx.gov.uk

If you need to contact Halton Children's Services please call iCART on 0151 907 8305 or for emergencies outside office hours call 03450500148. This includes if you are unsure if a placement is based in Halton.

Local Safeguarding Children Board

To access the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Pan-Cheshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Children Procedures (of which Halton is a part), please visit: <http://www.proceduresonline.com/pancheshire/halton/index.html>

For specific information on the Halton Safeguarding Children Board please visit www.haltonsafeguarding.co.uk

Halton Youth provision

Halton's universal provision means work with a wide range of statutory, voluntary, community, and corporate partners in providing an innovative and exciting universal / open access youth service which provides all young people aged 10-19 and up to 25 for young people with additional needs with things to do, places to go and the support they need to reach their potential – whilst working in partnership with internal and external partners.

Tel: 01928 240 406

Email: HaltonAdmin@addaction.org.uk or d.wells@addaction.org.uk

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk





Young Addaction – Specialist Youth Support and Treatment

The primary purpose of the Specialist Service is to support young people to change their risk taking behaviour and to enable them to be active citizens, playing a full and meaningful part in the community. This cannot be achieved without a personalised, holistic approach which looks further than their risk behaviour and addresses any underlying causes or contributory factors. Young Addaction offers a number of open access youth clubs for young people aged 10 -19 and up to 25 years with additional needs along with a street wise outreach team.

Tel: 01928 240 406	Email: HaltonAdmin@addaction.org.uk or d.wells@addaction.org.uk
--------------------	---

Further information about general services in Halton can also be found on the Council's website at www.halton.gov.uk.

We hope that this information is useful to professional colleagues from outside our area who are working with children placed in Halton.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Milorad Vasic
Strategic Director – People

It's all happening IN HALTON

People Directorate
Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF
Telephone: 0303 333 4300 www.halton.gov.uk

