



## Constituency Committee - Birkenhead

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 19 January 2017</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Birkenhead Town Hall</b>

**Contact Officer:** Lyndzay Roberts  
**Tel:** 0151 691 8262  
**e-mail:** [lyndzayroberts@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:lyndzayroberts@wirral.gov.uk)  
**Website:** <http://wirral.gov.uk>

---

## AGENDA

### 1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests in connection with any item(s) on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)

The Committee be requested to approve the accuracy of minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2016.

### 4. CELEBRATION OF BIRKENHEAD IN BLOOM - VERBAL UPDATE

### 5. CELEBRATION OF FOOD HUB AND CHRISTMAS HAMPERS PROJECT - VERBAL UPDATE

### 6. CELEBRATION OF KEEPING BIRKENHEAD CLEAN - VERBAL UPDATE

### 7. CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S REPORT (Pages 11 - 52)

### 8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

This page is intentionally left blank

## CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Thursday, 3 November 2016

Present:

Councillor G Davies (Chair)

Councillors	A Brighouse	B Kenny
	P Cleary	AR McLachlan
	A Davies	C Meaden
	P Doughty	D Realey
	S Foulkes	D Roberts
	S Kelly	

Apologies

Councillors	P Davies	T Norbury
	WJ Davies	J Stapleton
	M McLaughlin	

### 10 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Steve Foulkes, declared a personal interest in all items contained within the agenda by virtue of any reference being made to Magenta Living, of which he is a Board Member.

### 11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor P Davies  
Councillor B Davies  
Councillor M McLaughlin  
Councillor J McManus  
Councillor T Norbury  
Councillor J Stapleton

### 12 MINUTES

**RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2016 be agreed as a correct record.**

### 13 WEED CONTROL

The Committee considered an update from representatives from Wirral Council's Environmental Team on the recent concerns raised by Members and members of the public in relation to the increasing problem of weeds in and around the Upton bypass area.

Ms M Worrall, Senior Manager Parks and Countryside addressed the concerns and explained that legislation was passed in 2011 in relation to killing of weeds, whereby local councils were no longer authorised to use residual weed killer due to potential dangers to streams and rivers. Following this a decision was taken nationally to cease the use of such products.

Mr S Henderson, Manager, Grounds Maintenance & Technical Support explained that the residual weed killer previously would kill weeds for approximately a 12 week period.

He highlighted the current procedure and explained that spraying could not take place during certain weather conditions such as heavy wind and rain as it was too dangerous; this year alone there were 90 days where spraying could not be undertaken. Due to the heavy rain which affected the products effectiveness. He reiterated that the effectiveness of the spraying could not be evidence straight away and may take up to 3-4 weeks to show.

He indicated that he had sourced further products that could possibly be used but he was awaiting further information from the manufacturer as to its suitability for use.

He commented on the on-going intelligence received from Members which had proved invaluable and assisted officers in identifying problem areas and hotspots. The department was currently in the process of splitting up Wards into constituency areas and compiling a list of those areas sprayed this was then to be placed on the Council website for public consumption giving them access to what had been done so far and if not done reasons as to why. A Member suggested that this information be advertised within the Council's publication newspaper.

In response to a Member, Mr Henderson confirmed that spraying had been undertaken in Oxton, with the first and second sprays now completed. There was a bit of slippage in the programme and that was due to the weather so had lost days.

**RESOLVED:**

**Ms Worrall and Mr Henderson be thanked for their attendance and informative update.**

## 14 **PRESENTATION - FLOOD INVESTIGATION REPORT**

The Committee considered a presentation introduced by Mr M Camborne, Head of Corporate & Community Safety, led by Ms R Goodhall, AECOM.

Mr M Camborne indicated that in relation to incidents reported, Birkenhead had not suffered as much as other areas and the majority of incidents were primarily surface water/road flooding. He highlighted the excellent response received from the Environment Agency and the Fire & Rescue Service. He reported that since the latest bout of flooding, officers had worked alongside Sefton Council to jointly procure a large quantity of 'Flood Sacks' (modern sandbags) which would be distributed to flood affected properties with a stock kept by the Council for future use.

The Council had applied to the Environment Agency for funding via its Local Flood Levy Fund; if successful this funding would be used to deploy specialist surveyors out to flood affected properties to see what could be done to protect them and provide additional advice and guidance to residents as appropriate.

In response to a Member, Neil Thomas, Team leader, Highways Assets indicated that the flooding that had occurred in the area of the North Cheshire Trading Estate had been caused by the amount of water in the Prenton Brook and the surface water.

A Member suggested that a designated floodline be set up, staffed with immediate effect upon any reports of such incidents, Mr Camborne in response indicated that it was evident that given the amount of calls previously received the Council's call centre could not cope with the amount of the calls received in the event of an incident of this scale. He explained that in conjunction with the Environment Agency and in the event of further flooding incidents; all calls received would be diverted to the Environment Agency via the Council's own phone lines.

The presentation updated Members on the findings of the Flood and Water Management Act, Section 19 Flood investigation which covered the flood events from 22 August 2015 to 2 September 2015.

Members were advised that a significant amount of data had been collected through consultation with multiple organisations, stakeholders and members of the public. Members were then informed that the data was used to identify 'hotspots', where clusters of reports could indicate a common problem or flooding mechanism for example: main river flooding, sewer blockages or capacity issues, surface water ponding; and, combined flooding mechanisms. Maps were provided to demonstrate hotspots in Wirral.

The Flood Risk Consultant set out key these identified as follows:

- Limited warning
- Rapid onset of flooding over a very large area
- Information about the scale and severity of the flooding was slow to reach key decision makers
- Lines of communication with the public were challenged
- The authority response was impacted by the gradual exchange of information and limited resources.

Members were informed that the Section 19 Flood Investigation made multiple recommendations, including:

- Developing a Multi- Agency Severe Weather Plan for Wirral
- Developing integrated catchment models
- Developing information capture and rapid sharing capability
- Promoting and fostering community resilience to repeat events through the provision of resources and partnership working with local communities.

Ms Goodhall stressed the importance of community resilience and highlighted the details of the flood survey.

Ms Goodhall concluded, indicating that the Section 19 Flood Investigation had made recommendations to improve communications and resilience of the communities at risk. She also informed that a full report is available on the Wirral Council website.

Mr Barry Cropper and Mr Peter Talboys from United Utilities as representatives of the other Risk Management Authorities referred to in the report were in attendance at the meeting and answered a series of questions from members of the public.

Members expressed concerns surrounding the River Fender and Prenton Brook. It was explained that United Utilities had looked into this and in relation to Prenton Brook this would be maintained in future.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the contents of the report be noted and officers be thanked for their attendance.**

15 **PRESENTATION - BIRKENHEAD STREET DRINKERS PROJECT**

The Committee considered a verbal update from Gary Rickwood, Senior Public Health Manager updating on the Street Drinkers Project.

Mr Rickwood referred to the Town Centre Forum which had been established and included the as part of its membership, the Birkenhead Constituency Manager, representatives from Merseyside Police, Business Improvement District, Licensing and Trading Standards, ARCH, the Council's Homeless team.

He explained the catalyst behind the Forum's Street Drinkers project which was largely complaints received from Shopmobility, Birkenhead, particularly during the summer months where they had experienced a high number of street drinkers outside of their property causing anti-social behaviour and generally making staff and shoppers feel uneasy.

The Forum gave all services the opportunity to come together to share experiences, information and knowledge and as a result appropriate action had been taken, which had resulted in reduction in reported incidents received from Shopmobility.

The group had met four times and had had widened its remit to involve representatives support and treatment services and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) team.

As a result of action taken by the ASB Team, one male had been prosecuted and brought before the Courts and has now subsequently engaged with treatment services which has had a positive effect on other street drinkers in the area.

Mr Rickwood highlighted the great work undertaken by the project encouraging retailers to sign up to the reduced strength alcohol campaign with most retailers within the Birkenhead area now signed up to this. It was hoped that this could be applied in other areas of Wirral.

He further gave details of a custodian scheme whereby retailers if appropriate could refer customers to drug and alcohol services.

Arrangements had also been made for identified hot spots to be cleared of drug use paraphernalia and alcohol litter to be undertaken by local agencies, retailers and Police and He would be looking into the installation of alleygates for these areas.

Mr Rickwood indicated that due to the increasing number of reported on-street beggars within the town centre, the Forum members were working alongside outreach teams to raise public awareness so as not to give them money but encourage them to engage with treatment services available to them. A similar project of this nature was currently running in Liverpool.

In response to a Members question, Mr Rickwood indicated that those retailers that had not signed up to the reduced strength alcohol sales had

been challenged and the majority of them had signed up to the scheme. Further work would continue to encourage the smaller retailers to sign up also.

**RESOLVED:**

**That Mr Rickwood be thanked for his informative presentation.**

16 **CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Constituency Manager provided an update on progress of projects funded by budgets devolved to the Birkenhead Constituency Committee. A finance summary sheet for the Birkenhead Constituency Committee budget and expenditure was attached to the report as an appendix.

Also attached to the report were appendices which the Constituency Manager presented to the Committee in relation to updates on Clean-ups, the Food hubs, improving life chances strategy community pilots and the Birkenhead Neighbourhood Engagement.

The Constituency Manager provided further information to the Committee on the following:

**Keeping Birkenhead Clean**

**Birkenhead in Bloom**

The Constituency Manager reported that this had been a very successful day with 42 community members, partners and Councillors attending the ceremony; planning would now start for next year's competition. In total 16 awards were given to Birkenhead with Oxton receiving a trophy.

An in Bloom judge from the competition would be returning to provide feedback and giving communities advice on improvements that could be made in readiness for next year's competition.

Members praised the work undertaken for the competition and commented that money should be allocated to fund next year's event to allow for further improvement and keep it going.

**Skip Funds**

The Constituency Manager advised that over £8,000 had been used to hire 67 skips for clean ups in a number of areas throughout Birkenhead and that an estimated 70,000 tonnes of rubbish had been removed as a result of the clean-up days.



The Constituency Manager advised that the 'Community Pay Back' team had done a lot of work involving cleaning, weeding and painting and that this work would continue in the future.

Skips days had been undertaken following intelligence received from the Fire and Rescue Service and officers were currently reviewing whether to do a further day prior to Bonfire Night.

**RESOLVED: That**

- (1) the awards that had been won for Birkenhead in Bloom be noted and all those involved be congratulated on their achievements and thanked for all their hard work;**
- (2) the partnership work for clean-up days for the skip fund and the contribution of probation to Birkenhead clean ups and the Committees thanks to all involved be noted.**

**Bonfire Night**

The Constituency Manager indicated that two coaches to the River of Light Festival had been arranged from Beechwood and St James and Gautby Road Community Centres and spaces were still available for any young person wishing to attend.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the update on activities to tackle ASB in the area be noted.**

**Feeding Birkenhead**

**Food Hubs**

The Constituency Manager reported on the activities undertaken at the Beechwood and Beaconsfield Food Hubs.

The Constituency Manager reported on the Christmas Hamper project with 3000 families receiving hampers following referrals to the food hubs. Fareshare and His Church provided the food and Park group provided boxes and cellophane. She asked that if Members or the public present knew of any families in need to inform the Constituency Team who would forward the information on to the appropriate food hub.

**RESOLVED: That**

- (1) the progress of the Birkenhead food hubs; and**

**(2) the Christmas hamper update be noted.**

**Improving Life Chances**

the Committee were updated on a project undertaken in relation to those children in receipt of free school meals and the activities he had undertaken during the school holidays he had put a bid in for further funding to operate during the Easter holiday period. He had been using a sports mobile unit for the activities but he explained that he would like a van to enable him to provide food to those children in attendance during the activities.

**RESOLVED:**

**That the updates on Improving Life Chances pilot projects be noted.**

**17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The Constituency Manager informed Members that no questions had been received by the public prior to the meeting.

**18 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair indicated that he had agreed for the following two items of urgent business to be raised as follows:

- Request from NCS
- Request from the Viking Centre

**19 NCS SCHEME**

Julie Smith, NCS addressed the Committee and asked if it would agree to young people being given a regular slot on the agenda giving them the opportunity to ask questions and be part of the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

**The Committee noted the request.**

**20 VIKING CENTRE**

A representative from the Viking Centre addressed the Committee and asked if the Committee could assist in funding the centre to avoid potential closure in 2017.

He commented that he would be applying for funding through the Birkenhead Community Fund.

**RESOLVED:**

**The Committee noted the request.**

**21 RENEWAL WORK TO THE MERSEYRAIL WIRRAL LOOP LINE**

Councillor Foulkes informed the Committee of the major track renewal work Network Rail was carrying out to the Merseyrail Wirral loop line and under river track. This work was to be undertaken between 3 January and June 2017, in three phases.

During this time, the biggest changes would be to cross river services but there would also be temporary changes to all Wirral line services. Anyone travelling in the city region, either by train, bus, ferry or in a car, were encouraged to bear in mind what was happening and the potential impact the works may have on their journeys so they could plan ahead.

Lots of information and travel options were available

visit [Merseyrail](#), follow #trackrenewal on Twitter or pick up a booklet from any Merseyrail station.

This page is intentionally left blank



Constituency Committee - Birkenhead  
Thursday, 19 January 2017

REPORT TITLE:	Constituency Manager's Report
REPORT OF:	Managing Director for Delivery

## REPORT SUMMARY

Section 3 and 4 of this report provides an update on progress in relation to agreed schemes of work from the budget devolved to the Constituency Committee to date.

A finance summary sheet for the Constituency Committee budget and expenditure can be found in Appendix 1.

## RECOMMENDATION/S

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

**Note the North West in Bloom awards that have been won by Birkenhead in Bloom projects**

**Note the partnership work undertaken for clean-up days funded by the skip fund**

**Note the contribution of probation to Birkenhead clean-ups**

**Note the updates from the food hubs**

**Note the Christmas Hamper project update**

**Note the holiday food provision projects funded**

**Note the updates regarding the Improving Life Chances community pilots**

**Note the updates regarding tackling ASB**

**Note Birkenhead projects and engagement update**

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

Please see section 3.0 background information for details

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Please see section 3.0 background information for details

## **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **3.1 Keeping Birkenhead Clean**

#### **North West In Bloom**

Birkenhead in Bloom swept the board this year at the RHS North West in Bloom awards. The following projects received an award in Southport on 27th October 2016:

- All things Bright and Beautiful – planters and hanging baskets in Borough
- Road and YMCA garden
- Beechwood in Bloom, Ballantyne and Bidston Village in Bloom
- Gautby in Bloom
- Livingstone Street in Bloom
- Bidston Rise in Bloom/Blue wood/Jamesbrook Close
- Oxtan in Bloom
- Williamson in Bloom
- Rock Ferry in Bloom
- Beaconsfield in Bloom
- Prenton in Bloom
- Claughton in Bloom
- Epworth Grange in Bloom

42 community members, partners and Councillors attended the ceremony and we have started planning the delivery of next year's Birkenhead in Bloom projects already.

The projects were a great example of agencies putting in time and funds, working with schools and residents to improve their areas. Big Local, Magenta and Tesco made valuable contributions with time and funds. Schools, Environmental Team, Involve North West, probation and residents gave time and resources to the project.

In Bloom projects have a number of positive outcomes:

- Makes retail areas more inviting so encourages local economic growth
- Provides volunteering opportunities
- Draws in external funds to Birkenhead and in kind contributions from other sectors
- Improves the environment through better landscaping
- Probation and Biffa cleanse, remove flytipping and paint areas

- Involves schools in teaching about recycling and growing
- Supports numerous Wirral pledges
- Provides an excellent platform for partnership working and a support network for volunteer groups in different areas to exchange ideas
- Provides a target to work towards – judging day - and an event to celebrate the good work done at the awards ceremony in Southport.

We would like to thank all the partners, community groups and residents for their hard work in this project last year. The judge kindly visited us in December with feedback and recommendations around how we could improve our projects for next year. We are looking forward to an expanded and developed Birkenhead in Bloom 2017.

### **Environmental Task Group**

In 2016-17 the constituency committee had £20,000 environmental funds which was devolved to the Environmental Task Group to allocate. The Environmental Task Group met on 5th August 2016 and allocated the funds as follows:

- £5K allocated to skip funds
- £7K allocated to 'In Bloom' 2016-17
- £8K allocated to a grotspot improvement/fly tipping project

The Council's Waste & Environment Team has awarded a graffiti and fly-posting removal contract to Continental Landscapes Ltd. The contract will also enable the Council to support the work of the Environmental Enforcement Team in managing and improving local grotspots and privately owned neglected land.

### **Community Partnership days and Clean-ups**

#### **Skip Funds**

£10K was been allocated for skips in 2015-16 and further £5K was allocated in 2016-17. The 77 skips have been used for the following clean ups and over 100 tonnes of rubbish removed:

#### **2015**

Rodney Street 15th October – 4 skips  
 Rock Park – 2 skips  
 Beaconsfield Court 15th November – 2 skips

#### **2016**

Harrowby Street 16th January -2 skips  
 Police action day North End 16th February – 6 skips  
 Clifton residents 17th February – 2 skips  
 Rock Park- 20th March – 1 skip  
 Seymour Street clean up 16th February - 2 skip  
 Elmswood 16th February – 2 skip  
 Beechwood 2nd March - 5 skips  
 Beechwood 27th April - 3 skips  
 Ribble Street 13th May - 2 skips

Raffles Road 26th May – 2 skips  
 Patterson Street 14th June – 3 skips  
 Woodlands 16th June - 3 skips  
 Beechwood 22nd June – 3 skips  
 Birkenhead Town Centre - 13th July – 4 skips  
 Victoria Road – 15th September – 1 skips  
 Beaconsfield Community Centre – 3rd October -1 skip  
 Harrowby Road 18th November – 5 skips ordered  
 Crossways, Avenues 26th October and 4th November - 12 skips  
 Rock parkers – 10th December 1 skip  
 Noctorum community partnership clean up 7th December – 5 skips  
 Townsend Street, Gautby Road, Challis Street community partnership clean up 9th December – 3 skips

Over £9200 has been used to hire 77 skips in Birkenhead so far and at least 100 tonnes of rubbish has been removed as a result of the clean-up days.

The Police, Fire Service, Biffa, Involve North West, residents, Councillors and the Environmental Team have worked together to achieve the clean-ups above.

The 'Community Pay Back' team have delivered a programme of alleyway weed clearing for Birkenhead 'In Bloom' for clean ups and a range of other cleansing too, as outlined below.

- 63 Woodlands clean up
- Weeds in entries in Claughton
- Oxtan Road painting the railings
- Gautby Road painting the front of the community centre and the railings
- Beechwood hub – painting the shutters on the shops
- 268 Claughton Road lady trapped in the house because alley way was tipped
- so cleared alleyway
- Hoylake Road entry removed flytipping
- Woodchurch Road entry removed flytipping
- Inglemore/Fieldway Rock Ferry cleared alleyways
- Bedford Place fly tipping removal
- Bedford Road/Byrne Ave flytipping removal
- Rock Ferry underpass flytipping removal
- Conway Street fence lanes flytipping removal
- Borough Road hoardings flytipping removal and cleanse
- Rendle Street off Cleveland Street flytipping removal and cleanse
- Devaney Medical Centre Oxtan Road painting the railings
- Rear Chestnut Grove flytipping removal and cleanse
- Underbridge Chamberlain Street flytipping removal and cleanse
- Harrowby Road alleyways cleanse
- Challis Street and Hoylake Road alleyway cleanse
- Noctorum estate alleyway cleanse

Please see Appendix 2 for further details of the Birkenhead Constituency's environmental works to date.



Recommendations:

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

**Note the awards that have been won for Birkenhead in Bloom**  
**Note the partnership work for clean-up days for the skip fund**  
**Note the contribution of probation to Birkenhead clean ups**

### **3.2 Feeding Birkenhead**

The Food Task group met on 14th September in order to allocate funds £35K to food projects in the area.

So far the task group has allocated:

- £1K – Tranmere Community Project – holiday food provision
- £6K – allocated to four Birkenhead areas to deliver food hampers and promote services Beechwood, St James & Gautby, Rock Ferry and Birkenhead & Tranmere.

### **Holiday Food Provision**

In October 2016 the Birkenhead Constituency Committee agreed a funding stream of £28,000 for local organisations to apply for funding for food related projects.

17 applications were received requesting a total of £60,974. The Food Task Group had the difficult task of assessing all the excellent applications.

Below are the projects that the Task Group recommended for funding:

- Wirral Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted - £2500
- Neo Café - £4000
- North Birkenhead Development Trust - £3990
- St Pauls Primary School - £5000 for 2 applications for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
- The Green Community Shop - £1500
- Wirral Play Council - £4000
- Tranmere Methodist Church - £2500
- Wirral Christian Centre - £3836

## **Total amount awarded: £27,676**

Please see Appendix 3 for further details of what the holiday food project will provide.

### **Updates from the Food Hubs**

#### **Beechwood Food Hub**

Despite significant delays in the asset transfer of the Beechwood Play and Community Centre, from Wirral Council to residents of the Beechwood (Beechwood Centre Ltd.), a food chain to vulnerable residents has been maintained.

Financial Support from Big Local and Birkenhead Constituency Panel has enabled an average of 4 Food pallets every six weeks providing dry packaged and tinned foods to be acquired by residents making a donation for the food items. Two pop up shops per month have taken place at Beechwood Community Association offices (since May 2016) in addition to food cleaning, toiletries and pet food have also been on offer. The delivery of all this has been totally reliant on volunteers.

Big Local has funded a 100 food family sized hampers supplied by KIND (a Liverpool charity), in addition to this, funding from Birkenhead Constituency (and further funding from Big Local), a further 100 quality hampers are being delivered in the week preceding Christmas Day. These hampers have been designed to not only provide quality food but base the hamper contents around simple, easy meal whilst also providing further items to offer for the personal/hygiene wellbeing of the hamper recipient. To assist with reaching those really in need in the Beechwood area, an authorised paper based referral system has been set up, offering 10 local organisations who work with hard-to-reach groups to refer residents for who they believe would really benefit from a hamper – this has proved very popular with all 200 hamper referrals used up within 3 weeks of the scheme going live.

Big Local also funded a programme involving single mums from Beechwood delivered by national charity Gingerbread. Since their creation, they have organised a family fun day and a children's Christmas Party held Beechwood Social Club on Sunday 18th December 2016. 135 children attended receiving a present, goodie bag, a visit from Father Christmas and a children's entertainer. The event provided a tremendous amount of community spirit and goodwill. A surplus of £590 was made and will be used for another children's event for children in the New Year.

Beechwood Centre Ltd has donated £100 to Beechwood Social Club who are providing a FREE Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day for families living on the estate who are in need. No one will be turned away. It is estimated 150 meals will be served.

The refurbishment of the Beechwood Centre will be completed mid-April 2017 complete with a new kitchen and catering facilities. The real work will begin then.

If you are interested in volunteering on the Beechwood please contact [georgethomas@beechwoodtrust.org](mailto:georgethomas@beechwoodtrust.org)

## **Rock Ferry Food Hub – Neo at The Beaconsfield Centre**

Summer and Autumn holiday provision went well and Neo worked with Birkenhead boys club throughout.

Neo have been working closely with the Labour party, Tranmere Rovers FC, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Business in the Community and local businesses and residents to source food, pack and deliver 1684 Christmas hampers, gifts and cleaning sets. This is a huge project which required support from many volunteers. The hampers contain food, cleansing materials and toys and will help families in food poverty over Christmas. Referrals have been received many agencies. A total of £21,841.48 retail value of food, toiletries and toys were put out in hampers and this came at a cost of £1850, which has resulted in an average cost of 8.4% of the retail cost going out with each delivery.

The Council have been making repairs to the Beaconsfield Centre building which is looking very good. There have been roof leaks, broken windows repaired and new wifi installed which makes the building able to draw in funds from hirers. The business plan is being developed to explore moving towards asset transfer which hopefully will take place within the next year.

Lots of help has been given to the project by the Community Pay Back team, including painting of the centre, gardening, clearing of rubbish, supporting the stocking of food days, and making up 600+ boxes, the team of workers have saved the project on average £10,000 in work time, and materials none of the work managed would have been possible without their support.

The social supermarket is running throughout the week and crisis hampers are still going out every week.

Neo are delivering a community dinner every Monday and were working with LIPA to give a community a voice on a Wednesdays. The LIPA play with the youth club took place in the first week in December and was well attended. The young people then performed in front of Councillors and the Director of Public Health. It was a good way of highlighting the issues of young people in the area.

Adult learning courses begin next week at the Beaconsfield Centre and half term provision, unfunded, will run for 3 days. A Christmas table decoration making event was successful. A range of life long learning will take place in the centre next year.

‘Wednesday advice day’ has begun and is very popular with environmental advice, money management, debt advice and cookery.

Foundation Years Trust has now moved into and lots of provision to begin for 0-5 year olds. Neo are doing well with fundraising for next year’s building costs and have 50% for next year. Neo are very proud of welcoming Jeremy Corbyn to visit the centre and sample activities – that was a highlight in 2016.

We are also very pleased that it has been agreed that we can take an internal wall down and develop our social supermarket training space, which we hope to have

open in February, offering more work experience opportunities with NVQs and other work based training qualifications.

### **St James Food Hub**

St James Centre Christmas programme runs throughout December and is packed with fun activities for everyone.

St James is running a number of events involving food (some fee paying) including:

- Sing Me Merseyside Choir and festive lunch (£2)
- Christmas bingo and festive lunch (£3.50)
- 3 Children's parties (for under 3s, 3-10yrs and 10yrs and over) all including a meal
- 2 coffee mornings (library and St James Opp Shop)
- Foodbank during December has provided additional fresh food for all attending
- Hot Food Hub Friday 23rd (2 course hot meal) & hamper distribution to those without fixed abode
- St James has been supported by Magenta Living, MDI Insurance, Money4yourmotors, The Bidston Pub, McEwan Wallace, CPL training and Tesco Bidston with the Hamper and Hot Food Hub appeal. They are also working with other Birkenhead Food Hub partners to distribute hampers to local families in need this Christmas.

St James were delighted to be able to work with a leading Carvery House and provide 8 families (29 adults and children) with a Christmas lunch and gift on Saturday 10th December. They worked with Homestart, Social Services, Family Intervention Service and Foodbank to target the most vulnerable families for this festive event.

St James Centre is planning events for the week commencing 3rd January for children and young people and will be re-enrolling in our accredited learning courses (L2 Food Hygiene, L2 Nutrition and allergy awareness). They have a one day Food Hygiene course planned for Saturday 28th January. Volunteers working with Food Partners are welcome to attend. £10 per person. They will also be supporting the Beat the Blues library week (16-20th January) with a soup making session.

Birkenhead Food Hub and ILC partners were successful in applying to NEA Warm Homes campaign. St James will be delivering an event on Friday 13th January 2017 at the St James Centre to inform residents about the support available to tackle fuel and food poverty. The event will run from 11.30am-3pm. Please help promote publicity for the event and come along to find out about the work that partners are doing to tackle the above issues.

St James Centre are very grateful for the support of the Birkenhead Constituency in funding the activities we have undertaken this year. Without this support, we would not have been able to produce the varied programme we have. The funding you have pledged is vital to ensure this work continues into 2017 and beyond.

## Gautby Road Community Centre

Gautby Road Community Centre has been offering a discounted supermarket weekly to local residents since January 2016. They subscribe to Fareshare, His Church and get surplus food from Tesco's through the icloud app.

Gautby is ordering pallets from His Church and negotiated a good price from Fareshare for pallets for the Christmas hamper project. They worked in partnership with St James to deliver 800 hampers. The hampers include a wide range of promotional material and will offer other services to families in need Eg. Winter warm pack, fire service smoke alarm fitting. The hamper project has levered in £500 from Magenta and £400 from local businesses. Park Group has contributed 1000 boxes and cellophane worth over £300. The police, ASB team, fire service and others will promote their work and help deliver the hampers.

The centre has recently refurbished the kitchen in order to offer holiday food to local children. They have ordered His Church rice krispies and corn flakes and contacted every primary school to offer breakfast cereals at discounted prices. They are working with local children to grow and cook their own vegetables as part of Gautby in Bloom 2017.

Every year Gautby has a Christmas grotto; this year Winter wonderland attracted over 300 people. Gautby is using events such as these to promote the food hub and other services. Gautby Road has close links with Holy Cross School and works together on a number of initiatives.

Gautby is part of a North End Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour project and will provide a food element to young people from January 2017.

### **Christmas Hampers**

Over 2,500 Hampers of holiday food provision will be targeting residents in need in Birkenhead and Seacombe.

The hampers project has received a small amount of pump priming funding through Birkenhead Constituency Committee, £1,500 for each of the four areas. Each area has then drawn down further funding and donations and developed their own referral systems.

The food hubs are co-ordinating the making and delivering of hampers in the Beechwood, the North end, Tranmere, Rock Ferry and Seacombe over the next week.

Referrals have been made from schools, children centres, doctors, social workers, health visitors, Birkenhead Priory Parish, YMCA, Methodist Housing, Wirral Elders, Wirral Ways to Recovery, Wirral Holistics, Wirral Change, SCIA, Liberty Centre, Salvation Army, ward Councillors, Wired etc.

Many organisations are providing food, funds and volunteering in this cross Birkenhead project including Magenta Living, Rotary, BID team, local businesses, TCP, Park Hampers, Gautby Road Play and community centre, Neo café, St James

Centre, Wirral Bee, Wirral Christian Centre, Seacombe Community Centre, Community Spirit, Wirral Ways to Recovery, Business in the community and supported by Birkenhead constituency team.

Food is being sourced from His Church and Fareshare which distribute discounted food that would otherwise go to landfill.

Hampers also contain an information pack with details of services available to residents. This project supports Public Health's Improving Life Chances strategy.

## **Recommendations:**

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

**Note the updates on the food hubs**

**Note the Christmas hamper update**

## **3.3 Improving Life Chances**

### **Update for Improving Life Chances Community Pilots**

The Improving Life Chances Steering Group is working towards the following aims across Wirral:

- a. Improving life chances for children
- b. Supporting families to be financial resilient
- c. Tackling the immediate impacts of poverty
- d. Supporting parent into sustainable employment

Task groups in two wards have been set up to target specific areas experiencing high child poverty: Bidston and St James ward, and Seacombe ward. The areas have had their first and second meetings and have developed their respective action plans for the next year. Completed actions include the development of a directory of services leaflet which can be found in Appendix 4.

There has been a lot of enthusiasm of the ILC community pilots so far which is encouraging. People coming to the meetings include residents, GP, community group representatives, Councillors and agencies.

Some generic aims have been established across the areas:

Improve partnership working  
Improve sustainability of the food projects  
Improve joint work eg. energy week, loan shark awareness week  
Establish joint data to establish evidence base and increased evaluation  
Raise profile of food hubs and community centre  
Strengthen referrals to food hubs and community centre  
Promote other wider services as part of food project  
Increase volunteering and befriending in to services

Already some good outputs have been completed:

Christmas holiday food hamper project across Birkenhead and in each community pilot, working together in partnership. Deliver over 2500 hampers across the Birkenhead area. The food hampers are an opportunity to promote services through an info pack inside each hamper.

The project has galvanised partnership working. Information in food hampers includes reporting ASB/Crimestoppers, energy advice, magenta news, Fairforyou, credit unions, school uniform swaps etc.

A supplementary sheets has been developed which is tailored to each area and particular themes which can be distributed at the food hubs, in hampers, Halloween events etc.

Beechwood and the North End have jointly bussed young people to the River of Light festival on bonfire night as part of Operation Banger

St James has successfully secured funding for a joint Warm Home awareness event

Christmas grotto in Gautby Road 17-18th December and in Beechwood on 20th December

Christmas table decorations taken place in each pilot area delivered by Life Long Learning.

Beechwood has developed St Paul's School community hub and Will offer a breakfast food club, possibly in partnership with Fareshare

ILC Actions for next year:

Beechwood has identified a need for a handyman service for the elderly – this is being explored through 'unltd' funding

A volunteering/befriending project is being explored in Beechwood which has the potential to be replicated across other areas (hopefully with a portfolio for the volunteer that will lead to training or jobs)

Invite agencies like Job Centre Plus/Remploy/Reach Out/Health Connectors to discounted supermarkets to promote services in each area

Joint training and e-learning will be offered eg. child poverty e-learning, Energy Projects Plus training, Food Hygiene training

Sharing of initiatives and learning across the areas

In bloom projects to be delivered in each area

Look at joint funding applications to fund increased activity

Implementing data collation and evaluation tool

Applications to the community funds

**Recommendations:**

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

**Note the updates on Improving Life Chances pilot projects**

**3.4 Tackling ASB**

This 2015-16 the Constituency Committee had in total £54,000 to allocate to ASB projects. Details of this 2015-16 allocations are set out in the finance summary sheet in Appendix 1.

£3,779 YMCA to deliver their Summer activities

£7,064 The LADS project which will be delivered by the Youth Services.

£1700 Boxing project

£7956 Sports development

£2000 Youth sports

£1500 Ridgeway bonfire night

**Total spent: £23,999**

**£30,034 remaining was agreed by the ASB task group and committee to go to the Integrated Approach where it would be allocated through the Police and the**

**ASB team, who have allocated funds as follows:**

Youth Sport nights until March 2017	£4,850
Youth outreach in North end around Bonfire Night	£500
Youth outreach in the North end	£500
Child Sexual Exploitation Training	£1000
North end ASB project	£6,000
Minibus hire to 6th Form college	£100
Youth Sports nights	£4,830
Ridgeway bonfire night 2016	£1,500

**Sub Total: £19,280**

**Total spent: £43,279**

**The Police and the ASB team have £10,721 left to allocate.**

Merseyside Police coordinate a series of plays about Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Rt. Hon Baroness Helen Newlove, the Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales, visited the drama theatre at Birkenhead Sixth Form College in Claughton Village, to give a lecture on anti-social behaviour in November.



Baroness Newlove was introduced to drama students by College Principal Kathryn Podmore, along with Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner Jane Kennedy and local Neighbourhood officers, who will watch student rehearsals in the theatre.

Students from the college have rehearsed a play to highlight the consequences of anti-social behaviour, which they have developed in close partnership with Neighbourhood Officers from Merseyside Police. The play took place in December and secondary schools students from across Wirral came to the 6th Form College to view the play.

#### North End Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Partnership Project

The Police, Birkenhead Constituency team, Youth Offending team, the fire service, sports development team, Magenta, St James and Gautby Road have developed a project to address ASB in the North End.

The project has accessed £9K to offer young people in the area a range of diversionary activities at times when ASB reporting has been high in the past (week nights particularly Monday, Fridays, Saturday and Sunday 6-10PM). Funding is through the Birkenhead Constituency ASB fund and through Magenta Living.

The project will offer a range of activity based on consultation with young people and includes:

- 'Sitting off' and playing FIFA 17, table tennis and pool in Gautby Road
- Football at Ilchester Square and The Tennis Centre
- Trampolining
- Boxing training
- DJing and rapping
- Climbing wall
- National youth theatre activities
- Food element to all activities
- Mountain biking
- Hype sessions
- Eden Bus sessions (bus has x boxes and climbing wall trailer)
- 1-1s with the youth offending team

There will be at least 4 additional sessions per week in the North end of Birkenhead and the multi-agency team is looking at developing a community role model element as part of the project. The underpinning principles are frequent, consistent and committed engagement with young people into the project.

The project is intensive and will be funded for 6 months and will hopefully be extended in June 2017, if other funds are secured. The ASB constituency fund has pump primed this project along with Magenta and it is anticipated that outcomes will include a significant reduction in ASB and as a result a cost saving within the partnership.

## **Theatre for Democracy**

The Neighbourhoods and Engagement team co-ordinated an eight week module which involved Community Drama students from LIPA meeting regularly with community groups in a number of areas across Wirral to research and create a series of performances, with a focus on identifying ideas and solutions for sustainable change and improvement. The performances took place last week and a brief summary is provided below so that you are aware of the issues that have been raised in particular localities and will be covered in the presentations by students.

The performance at the Neo Café, Beaconsfield Community House, Rock Ferry explored:

What it's like to live in the area and to be part of the Beaconsfield House community;  
The capacity of community groups and how they can encourage more volunteering to sustain their work with individuals and families;  
Beaconsfield House needing the physical space to contain day to day activities and the growing Birkenhead Food Hubs initiative.

The performance at the St James Centre, Bidston explored:

- How local people feel about the St James Centre as a safe space and community hub;
- The impact of anti-social behaviour in Ilchester Park and criminal damage to the Centre on young people and the wider community;
- The need to come together to look at solutions for addressing these issues and to improve outcomes.

LIPA and the young people reported the themes highlighted in the performances to a panel made up of Councillors and Council Officers to raise the profile of their issues in their areas and a number of follow up actions were agreed.

## **Recommendations:**

**The Constituency Committee is requested to:**

**Note the updates on activities to tackle ASB in the area**

### **3.5 New Birkenhead Projects**

Better Food Innovation Fund is delivered by Public Health and provides support of up to £1000 to food projects. This year it has funded the following projects to be delivered across the Birkenhead area:

- FareShare Merseyside – support for volunteers to provide surplus food
- Green Community Shop – support of food and training to young people
- North Birkenhead development Trust - has secured £900 to produce a North End Cook Book which will celebrate local recipes, share tips and hints on using left overs and via community food celebrations, come together to taste entries for the recipe book

- Wirral Holistic Care Services – development of a cookery book and awareness and cookery sessions tailored to people with cancer
- BEE Wirral – improving cookery facilities in their centre for community cooking
- Family Tree - Healthy eating guide for the carers of people with mental health difficulties taking medications which effect their appetite

### **Community Connectors Project**

The commission for community connectors is a joint commission between the Public Health and Investment teams from Wirral Council and was awarded to Involve North West for a period of two years, commencing the 1st February 2017. There will be 13 community connectors employed across the east and north of the borough with 7 of the 13 connectors based within the Birkenhead Parliamentary Constituency.

The following wards will be covered by the contract based on insight research, worklessness and health inequality data; New Brighton, Moreton West and Saughall Massie, Leasowe and Moreton East, Wallasey, Liscard, Seacombe, Bromborough, Eastham, Bidston and St James, Claughton, Oxton, Prenton, Birkenhead and Tranmere and Rock Ferry.

The connectors role will provide support for individuals to access local community activity to improve their wellbeing and as appropriate their readiness for employment. Interventions will include providing them with up to date information regarding local opportunities available in relation to community activity as well as signposting/referring participants to mainstream services as appropriate. They will be tasked with building on the asset mapping exercise that has already been undertaken ensuring that it is kept up to date and provide a platform to identify gaps in community provision. They will act as enablers for people providing individuals with “hand holding” to community activities/groups or mainstream services and supporting participants to build/extend their individual personal networks and friendship groups and neighbourhood. Examples of this could include organising days out, environmental and/or community participation projects.

The project has a target to engage with 1,885 across the specified wards, it is expected that 1,015 of the participants:

Are at least 18 years old and of working age;

In receipt of employment support allowance with priority given to those in the employment support allowance work related activity group (owing to the continued expansion of DWP’s Universal Credit payment system this eligibility may be subject to future expansion with prior agreement and at the absolute discretion of the commissioner), and

A minimum of 75% reside in the parliamentary constituency of Birkenhead (this figure can be subject to flexibility in consultation with and at the absolute discretion of the Commissioner).

### **3.6 Birkenhead Assets update**

#### **The Beechwood Centre**

The Beechwood Centre signed the lease to take on the former Beechwood Community Centre as an asset transfer on 9th December.

The Directors of the Beechwood Centre formerly, members of the Joint Management Committee, have worked relentlessly for the past few years to develop a business plan, secure funds and run the building as a community interest company.

The building is currently being refurbished and will provide food hub, community café, soft play area, sports hall, community room, play scheme and much more for the local community.

#### **Beaconsfield Centre, Rock Ferry**

The Beaconsfield Centre is being operated by Neo café. They are providing office space for the Early Years Trust. They have a food hub, youth club, residents association, Bingo, advice and guidance, community garden and much more. They are developing their business plan and accessing funding whilst working towards asset transfer in the near future.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications.

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

There are no staffing implications.

### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

There are no relevant risks.

### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Please note the community engagement update can be found in Appendix 5.

### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no equality implications.

#### **REPORT AUTHOR:**

**Jo Burrell**

**Constituency Manager**

**0151 666 3897**

**email: [joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:joannaburrell@wirral.gov.uk)**

## **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1: Finance Table**

**Appendix 2: Environmental Update**

**Appendix 3: Details around Food Holiday Provision Projects**

**Appendix 4: Improving Life Chances Strategy Leaflet**

**Appendix 5: Engagement Update**

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

**Council Meeting Date**

This page is intentionally left blank

APPENDIX 1 2016-2017- Birkenhead Constituency financial allocations

Areas of funding	Budget 2016/17	Spend 2016/17	Funding available in 2017/18	Source	Funding available in 2017-2018 Committed against	Carried forward to 2017/2018	Committed value	Balance unallocated	% Allocated from original resource (£268,083)
<b>Core budget 2016/17</b> <b>Previously allocated in 2014-15, but not used:</b> TK Limited Data analysis Community researchers Merseyside fire-football project Rodney Street Parking Parking Scheme maintenance	£50,000 £10,000 £2,000 £2,000	   £2,000 £2,000	£60,000	Funding within Wirral Council reserves	<b>Core budget carry forward</b> Rodney St parking (TBC) skip fund in bloom 2017 grotspots/flytipping TCP food provision Christmas hampers holiday food provision (task group to confirm)	£60,000	£5,000 £5,000 £7,000 £8,000 £1,000 £6,000 £28,000	TBC £0	
<b>Core Budget Sub-total</b>	<b>£64,000</b>	<b>£4,000</b>	<b>£60,000</b>		<b>Core Budget Sub-total</b>	£60,000	£60,000	£0	<b>100%</b>
<b>Integrated transport block capital programme (16/17):</b>	£32,500		£32,500	Capital funding still available to be utilised	<b>Integrated transport block capital programme carry forward</b>	£32,500		£32,500	
<b>Improving Road Safety Sub-total</b>	<b>£32,500</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£32,500</b>		<b>Improving Road Safety Sub-total</b>	<b>£32,500</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£32,500</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Your Wirral:</b> <b>b/f from 15/16</b> Social Supermarket Scheme* <i>*nb: proposed by Frank Field, agreed by Magenta on the condition the additional funding required can be raised.</i>	£0 £69,450	 £69,450	£0		<b>Your Wirral carry forward</b>	£0		£0	
<b>Your Wirral Sub-total</b>	<b>£69,450</b>	<b>£69,450</b>	<b>£0</b>		<b>Your Wirral Sub-total</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Birkenhead ASB 2016/17</b> <b>b/f from 15/16</b> Transfer to ASB integrated approach team	£0 £30,034	 £30,034	£0		<b>Core budget Carry forward</b>	£0		£0	
<b>Birkenhead ASB sub-total</b>	<b>£30,034</b>	<b>£30,034</b>	<b>£0</b>			<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>£195,984</b>	<b>£103,484</b>	<b>£92,500</b>
--------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------

<b>Total</b>	<b>£92,500</b>	<b>£60,000</b>	<b>£32,500</b>	<b>17%</b>
--------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	------------

This page is intentionally left blank



---

## APPENDIX 3: BIRKENHEAD CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

---



### Community Clear Ups

---

#### Rodney Street

---

- Date 15<sup>th</sup> October
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

The environmental day was organised by the Rodney Street Resident Association with the support of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Involve Northwest and Wirral Council Apprentices.

The resident association also involved the children who lived in the road by organising a litter picking competition.



---

#### Beaconsfield Court

---

- Date 15<sup>th</sup> November
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Chris Meaden ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents herself.

---

#### Harrowby Road

---

- Date January 16
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

---

#### Police Action Day (North End)

---

- Date February 16

-Household waste removed: 6 skips = 3 tonnes  
9 x 7.5 Biffa Lorries = 9 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 the police organised a day of action around the North End and Harrowby Road, Tranmere.

The purpose of the community action day was to allow vulnerable residents to dispose of household waste while giving the police the opportunity to engage with the residents at the same time.

The police requested support from the Birkenhead Constituency Committee, both in terms of proving the skips and by organising additional support from Biffa and Involve Northwest.

Skips were placed at:

- Harrowby Road, Tranmere
- Hurrell Road, North End
- Norman Street, North End
- Connaught Close, North End



Hurrell Road required extra support from Involve Northwest and Biffa due to the amount of household waste placed at the site of the skips. Biffa assisted and 9 extra lorry loads was needed to remove the waste.

It is always difficult to estimate how much waste will be deposited at the location of the skips and in the case of Hurrell Road the amount of waste was far too much for the capacity of the skips.

Without the additional support of Biffa and Involve Northwest it would have been extremely difficult to remove the waste that couldn't fit into the skips.

---

### **Seymour Street**

---

-Date February 16  
-Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

---

## Elmswood Road

---

- Date February 16
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

### **-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

---

## Clifton Park

---

- Date: February 2016
- Household waste removed: 2 skips – 1 tonne

### **-Partner Involvement:**

Even though Clifton Park only had 2 skips on the Community Clear Up Day itself a lot of work was undertaken previously to identify issues the area was facing.

A walk about of the area was conducted by officers from the councils ASB Team, Waste and Recycling, ward councillors, Merseyside Police and representatives from Registered Social Landlords.

Below are the actions that were identified and actioned following the walk about.

1. Hollybank, gate 663 – serious fly tipping – Lisa to action - put on CRM and let the enforcement team know alley gate fly tipping dumped bath/sofa cushions/black bags.
2. Street light permanently on 46 Hollybank Road column 10
3. 37A The Woodlands bins - x3 green contaminated bins on footpath possible abandoned multiple bin bags have been left out - send enforcement letter out Front 37a
4. 45 The woodlands – Ian Gordon/Alan Lipscombe will investigate to see if it is an empty property and report back.
5. 47 The Woodlands - front driveway contaminated with over 30 black bin bags/x3 wheelie bins contaminated/x1 burnt out bin.
6. Street light out in Brookland Road
7. Borough Road opposite Pyramids – 3 bin bags to be shifted –Lisa to action with the neighbourhood.
8. Borough Road opposite TJ Hughes – alleyway to be cleansed and also grotspot outside of alleyway
9. 14 Circular Road- alley gate 677, wall is falling down
10. 12 Circular Road – A number of household items in the front garden
11. Side 22 Circular Road Birkenhead entry between the houses full of weeds
12. Rear 3 Lowwood Road Birkenhead Barn's estate agents Grange Road West landlord burning rubbish at rear

13. Dog fouling in the play area reported to Dog Fouling and Wirral Anti-social Behaviour Team.
14. 3 x Wheelie bin fires on The Woodlands to MFRS and Wirral Anti-social Behaviour Team
15. 5 The Woodlands reported to MFRS to assess any fire risk.
16. Cllr Jean Stapleton requested Mike from Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team contacted Environmental Health regarding fly tipping on Oxton Estate, Halcyon Road.

---

### **Police Action Day (Beechwood)**

---

- Date 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Household waste removed: 5 skips = 2.5 tonnes

#### **-Partner Involvement:**

Led by Merseyside Police, a day of action was organised on the Beechwood Estate on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The day consisted of a few elements including

- 5 skips situated around the estate to allow residents to dispose of household waste.
- Unused garages were searched for signs of illegal activity.
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal of a pole outside the shops on Fender Way for safety reasons.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

---

### **Police Action Day (Beechwood)**

---

- Date: 27<sup>th</sup> April
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 3 tonnes

#### **-Partner Involvement:**

Designed as a follow up engagement day from the event on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March the Police requested 3 skips be placed at various locations on the estate for residents to dispose of household items.

The day also included litter picking with the local primary school, engagement with local residents around anti-social behaviour and promoting the police presence on the estate.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

---

## **Ribble Street**

---

- Date: 13<sup>th</sup> May
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

### **-Partner Involvement:**

The Birkenhead Constituency Team liaised directly with local residents and Cllr Brian Kenny to organise for 2 skips to be placed on Ribble Street which allowed elderly residents in the road to dispose of household items.

---

## **Clear up of Rock Ferry Shore and Esplanade.**

---



- Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne

### **-Partner Involvement:**

The Birkenhead Constituency Team has extensively worked with the Rock Park Proprietors on the maintenance of Rock Ferry Shore and Esplanade.

This has included assisting the group with skips, litter picks and liaising with Biffa on the groups behalf to arrange a regular time the group can leave waste for Biffa to collect. The local residents and Councillors have done a great job of frequent beach clean-ups, with support from the Refreshment Rooms too. A regular collection by Biffa of waste has also been established.

---

## **Raffles Road**

---

- Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May
- Household waste removed: 2 skips = 1 tonne

### **-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

---

### **Patterson Street**

---

- Date: 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 ½ tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

The Birkenhead Constituency Team worked in partnership with the Councils Waste and Recycling Department on the Patterson Street Action Day. This allowed residents in the street to discard household items and unwanted goods.

---

### **The Woodlands**

---

- Date: 16th June
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 ½ tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

Following on from the successful community clear up day in February 3 skips were placed around the Woodlands and Clifton Park estate for residents to dispose of any unwanted household items. It is hoped that this will lead to a reduction in fly tipping and litter on the estate as well as allowing residents who may not have access to a vehicle to take items to waste recycling centre to dispose of any goods they want to dispose.

---

### **Police Action Day (Beechwood)**

---

- Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Household waste removed: 3 skips = 1 1/2 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

Police requested 3 skips be placed at various locations on the estate for residents to dispose of household items.

The day also included litter picking with the local primary school, engagement with local residents around anti-social behaviour and promoting the police's presence on the estate.

A number of different organisations supported the day with Merseyside Police, Birkenhead Constituency Committee, Jigsaw (Liverpool Housing Trusts internal waste removal team) and the Councils Waste and Recycling and ASB Teams

---

### **Birkenhead Town Centre**

---

- Date: 13<sup>th</sup> July
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

The Constituency Committee Team worked with colleagues from Birkenhead First and Merseyside Police on an environmental day for Eastbourne Road, Oxton Road North, Tetbury Street and Quarrybank.

The day allowed for resident in these streets and surrounding areas to discard of any unwanted items which will hopefully reduce fly tipping in the future.

---

### **Victoria Road**

---

- Date: 15<sup>th</sup> Sep
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

Cllr Pat Cleary ordered the skips with the Birkenhead Constituency Committee and liaised with the residents himself.

---

### **Beaconsfield Community Centre**

---

- Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct
- Household waste removed: 1 skip = 1/2 tonne

**-Partner Involvement:**

The community clear up was arranged by Neo Café and took place around the Beaconsfield Community Centre, full estate clean up including litter picks, garden clearance of fly tipping and a clear up of the ally along with some other bits from the community house.

---

### **Harrowby Road Community Action Day**

---

- Date: 18<sup>th</sup> November
- Household waste removed: 4 skips = 2 tonnes

**-Partner Involvement:**

The action was organised in partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and the Council's Healthy Homes Team. Harrowby Road is a selective licensing area and the action day provided an ideal opportunity for the Healthy Homes Officers to engage with the local residents in the road.

The day was also supported by organisations such as Merseyside Police, Mersey Fire and Rescue Service, Wirral Change, Biffa, Energy Project Plus as well as council colleagues from the Waste and Recycling Team.

---

### **Noctorum Community Action Day**

---

-Date: 5<sup>th</sup> December

-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 2 tonnes

#### **-Partner Involvement:**

The Noctorum Action Day saw a wide range of organisations work together to benefit the estate. The idea of the day was proposed by the newly formed Noctorum Community Association to combat environmental issues and fly tipping on the estate and saw a number of skips placed to allow residents whom may have difficulties accessing the waste and recycling centres to discard unwanted household items.

Partnership working also saw organisations such as Magenta Housing, Merseyside Police, Probation Service, Council's Waste and Recycling Team and Biffa all supporting the day and engaging with local residents.

School children from St Peters and Hillside Primary Schools also took part in litter picking and with the fantastic support from the community association litter picked the majority of the estate.

It is hoped that the action day was the first of a lasting partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and Noctorum Community Association.

---

### **Townsend Street Community Action Day**

---

-Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December

-Household waste removed: 3 skips = 2 tonnes

#### **-Partner Involvement:**

Following a number of issues of anti-social behaviour in Townsend Street a community action day was coordinated in partnership between the Birkenhead Constituency Team and Merseyside Police.

Merseyside Police attended with the mobile police station and conducted an exercise of 'door knocking' and engaging with residents.

Fly tipping and environmental issues were addressed in partnership with Biffa, Probation Service, the Council Waste and Recycling Team and Mersey Fire and Rescue Service.

Gautby Road Community Centre and North Birkenhead Development Trust also took the opportunity to engage with residents in the area.



### **Total Waste Removed**

In total the Birkenhead Constituency Committee has provided and planned (see next section) 77 skips and given officer support at various Community Clear Ups and Action Days at the cost of circa **£9200** from the skip fund budget.

While it is difficult to calculate exactly how much waste the constituency team has removed, a rough estimate based on information from the skip hire company and Biffa, **We estimate that it equates to at least 76 tonnes removed.**

The skip days bring local residents, Councillors, partner agencies like the police together. They improve the environment and provide a platform for closer working.

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Feeding Birkenhead up-date report: North Birkenhead Development Trust**

### **1. School holiday activities**

Food and fun activities were delivered over the following school holidays:

February – total of 39 children attended @ cost of £4.44 per child.

April – total of 64 individual children attended (111 meals provided) @ cost of 84p per child

May – total of 31 individual children attended @ cost of £2.03 per child

Food was sourced from Aldi, Tesco and Fareshare for all half terms.

Sessions delivered included free breakfast club (generally low take up), art and craft in the library, story-telling picnic, rocket making, drop in playscheme and lunch, family cookery, create a town, youth club, meal share, football and the café has offered buy and adult meal kids eat free.

Activities where food has been provided have been very successful. Families have appreciated the offer of toast during the morning sessions and the opportunity for children to make their own lunch and sit to eat it as a community.

The family cooking has been an ongoing success. We run these sessions throughout the year and have welcomed 27 families since October 2015.

### St James Centre Summer Programme Feedback

Total number of meals provided: 903

Total number of sessions offered: 36 (excluding 5 days a week open access café for breakfast and lunch)

Total number of participants: 387 (children only)\*

\* please note: this excludes the 6 excursions provided. Over 250 individuals engaged accessing 325 places visiting Knowsley Safari Park, Gulliver's World, Monkey World, Apple Jack's Farm, The Story Barn (Reader Org) and Blackpool.

Sessions offered:

4 library craft & breakfast

5 Monday playschemes and lunch (pasta, hot dogs, soup with homemade bread, wraps wedges, sandwiches)

5 Youth clubs and hot tea (pasta, home made KFC chicken, pizza, wraps & wedges ,homemade burgers and wedges)

5 Park play and cold tea (sandwiches)

Glitz and Glam party

5 family cooking sessions (various meals made with a 'food from around the world theme' including burgers, pasta, curry, fajitas and a pudding)

5 junior chef school sessions (fish cakes, spag bol, burgers, curry, popcorn chicken and puddings including muffins, crumble, cold deserts)

4 sessions with Can Cook Studios

2 autism friendly library sessions with snack

Glitz and Glam party (organised by Youth Volunteers for children aged 8 and under, disco, face painting, nail painting and party food)

145 hot and cold breakfasts provided by the Open Door Café (cereal, toast, sausage, egg or beans on toast)

50 lunches provided by the Open Door Café (toasties, sandwiches, pasta dishes)

Some highlights of feedback collected this summer:

*"lots of activities for children and families; cooking club and summer trips are fantastic"*

*"When there's too much month before pay day and no money I rely on the cheap activities that include a meal for my kids. The staff who run this centre are truly dedicated to making our area a little better for our kids and our community. It would be a tremendous loss if these activities and the library weren't available."*

*"It's a brilliant centre full of useful resources, information and a brilliant café".*

*"free breakfast for the kids has been a god send through the summer"*

*"the trips have been amazing"*

*"They area always offering cheap activities that are great."*

*"Great because it's very convenient and not expensive".*

Funding for the trips this summer was received from Prince of Wales Charitable Trust (£1000) and Youth Trips from Community Foundation for Merseyside. We fund raise all year round too.

We have a full programme of activities planned for October half term, including freaky family cooking, spooky stories, Halloween parties for under 3s, under 9s and over 10s, youth trip to a scare fest and providing support to My Child Can Halloween Event in Birkenhead Park.

We will be celebrating the festive season with a Christmas market and family grotto on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

## 2. His Church

We have now ordered and received 7 beauty and household supplies from HIS Church. We have distributed these through our library coffee morning, Summer finale event, Macmillan coffee morning and at our Community Celebrations (bingo & Queen's birthday lunch) and Community Market days and using the St James Opp Shop as an outlet.

The delivery of His Church pallets has been coordinated by George from Beechwood Development trust and Luke from Gautby Road. This co-ordination of deliveries has worked very well. Pallets have cost on average £180 each (last delivery slightly higher @ £200) and we have generated a small surplus from each one.

## 3. Food poverty and welfare

We continue to be a part of the Wirral Foodbank (Trussel Trust) as a distribution point on a Monday evening. We welcome the support of Involve NorthWest benefit advisors at these sessions and together we have been able to address individual and family challenges around welfare blockages and budgeting. We have supported 4 families accessing foodbank with whitegoods through the Birkenhead Relief in Sickness Grant.

We work closely with Wirral Ways to Recovery and the Secondary to provide a hot meal once a month to those in need. These include rough sleepers, sofa surfers and hostel sleepers. To date we

have provided 8 hot food hubs, providing an average of 40 2 course, hot, nutritious meals per session (320 meals). The ingredients for this have been provided by Fareshare and donated by Tesco Bidston Moss with some additional purchases from Aldi.

We are working with MDI insurance, Money for your Motors and CPL to provide Christmas hampers for the homeless as well as Gautby Road to provide hampers for our local community. We will be distributing hampers for the homeless at our hot food hub on 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

We are working alongside Gautby Road to support the ILC initiative in North Birkenhead, sharing resources and information as well as planning a number of initiatives to add value to our existing to

### **Education & training**

Working with Lifelong Learning, from September we are utilising the teaching kitchen for adult cookery classes with an optional qualification in Food Hygiene (L2), Nutrition and Allergy Awareness (at L1). This programme will enrol in January and April. This will be featured in the new Wirral Council publication due in October.

Anna Barnish

Trust Manager

North Birkenhead Development Trust

0151 670 9974

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Background: Improving Life Chances (ILC) Community Pilots**

At the Improving Life Chances (ILC) steering group meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016, a draft action plan was tabled and agreed which set out actions that would take forward the ILC strategy, which is underpinned by the Wirral Plan 2020.

The ILC strategy and action plan strongly supports the Wirral Plan's People Priorities: Reducing child and family poverty, making sure children are ready for school, ensuring young people are ready for work and adulthood and ensuring vulnerable children reach their full potential.

### **Priority Areas of the ILC action plan and community pilots**

One element of the ILC steering action plan that was tabled and agreed at the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016, proposed that two community pilot projects be established in two areas in Wirral.

The aim of the pilots would be to target, over an 18 month period, the engagement of 500 families into services and initiatives that promote ILC.

The themes that the pilots will focus on include:

- Priority 1 Supporting parents into sustainable employment
- Priority 2 Improve Life Chances
- Priority 3 Support families to become financially resilient
- Priority 4 Tackle the immediate effects of poverty
- Cross cutting theme - Deliver annual child poverty conference
- Cross cutting theme - Provide e-learning training
- Cross cutting theme - Collate performance data and evaluate.

### **Where will the community pilots take place?**

After much discussion at the ILC steering group, it was agreed that the pilot areas would be set up in Seacombe and Bidston and St James wards. The two wards experience high levels of deprivation according to the English Indices of Deprivation 2015 and therefore would benefit from a more intensive approach to improving life chances than other areas in Wirral.

#### **Bidston and St James ward**

Bidston and St James ward is part of the Birkenhead constituency. Life expectancy in Birkenhead is the lowest of the four Constituencies in Wirral. Child poverty is highest in Birkenhead compared to the other three Constituencies and particularly acute in Bidston and St. James ward. The number of young people 'Not in Employment Education or Training' (NEET) is one in five in Bidston & St James, the highest level in Birkenhead. The rate of looked after children in Birkenhead is double that found in the other three Constituencies. The rate of teenage conceptions in Birkenhead constituency is more than double the rate in West and South Wirral constituencies. The rate of mothers smoking in pregnancy is double the Wirral average. Less than half of all new mothers initiate breastfeeding in Birkenhead 47% compared to 74% in England. These factors have been shown to have a disadvantaging effect on people's life chances.

In the areas of Beechwood and St James, it has been reported in the ESRO study findings, which was supported by public health workshop December 2015, that there are many services and supportive initiatives available in the area. However anecdotally there are challenges in engaging people into the services particularly in Beechwood and also in St James area.

There is a strong infrastructure of community groups who would welcome the opportunity to shape their offer and explore ways to engage more people. The groups already collate data around evidencing improving life chances and they meet together as a Beechwood Big Local partnership. The ILC steering group felt that working with the existing partnership would be a good way of implementing and evaluating a community pilot. There are many local events hosted by the community groups and services and they will provide a useful vehicle for promoting the goals of the ILC community pilot.

Beechwood has a range of organisations which include:

- Beechwood Community Trust – advice and guidance, training, nursery and computer suite
- Beechwood Community Association - food hub
- Currently transferring Beechwood Community Centre and Beechwood playscheme
- St Paul's Roman Catholic Primary School community hub – support to parents and children
- Big Local partnership in place for a further 8 years has £100K to allocate to Beechwood projects per year
- Beechwood chapel- youth groups, isolation groups
- Jigsaw/Liverpool Housing Trust- environmental and community projects
- Council Community Worker from Assets team
- Beechwood Library
- Beechwood Recreation Centre

The St James area is similar to Beechwood in that there is a strong community infrastructure that works closely with the Beechwood community. They have similar issues and are currently working together on food and child poverty projects. The community pilots will include the following key groups:

- Gautby Road play and community centre food hub and playscheme, Womens enterprising breakthrough
- St James Centre
- Livingstone Street family support centre and Utopia alternative curriculum
- Magenta Living
- Brassey Gardens Children's Centre
- Wirral change/WMO

### **Seacombe ward**

After further discussion, the ILC steering group agreed the other community pilot area should be Seacombe. Seacombe experiences similar levels of deprivation in terms of child and food poverty to Bidston and St James.

Life expectancy in Wallasey constituency is 78.4 years. The gap between the ward with the highest Wallasey and the lowest life expectancy Seacombe is 5.3 years. Over a quarter (26.4%) of all children in Wallasey Constituency live in poverty, slightly higher than the Wirral average with 23.8%.Children



achieving level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 is slightly below the Wirral average. One in every ten 16-18 year olds are not in education, employment or training (NEET), slightly higher than the Wirral average. The rate of Looked after Children in the constituency is 90.6 per 10,000 children, slightly less than the Wirral average with 101.3 per 10,000 children. Seacombe ward has almost half the number of Looked After Children in the constituency, with a rate of 174 per 10,000 children. The under 18 teenage conception rate for Wallasey constituency is 43 per 1000 girls aged 15-17 years. This is a fifth more than the Wirral average. Immunisation uptake for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) in Seacombe ward is 91%, below the target uptake of 95% needed to prevent outbreaks.

There are some great community groups who are working hard to engage the community and the community pilot is hoping to work with the groups and support Seacombe residents into appropriate services.

The Community groups that we will be working with in Seacombe include:

- Seacombe Community Centre and food hub
- Allandale Centre
- St Paul's Road Children's Centre
- St Paul's Church Hall
- Serpentine Road Family Church
- Seacombe Library

The contrast between Seacombe and Beechwood and St James will be a useful in terms of looking at the most effective approaches to improving life chances in areas with diverse provision and needs. There could also be opportunities of sharing learning between the two wards.

### **Implementation of the community pilots**

The local task group, which will be made up of key representatives in the area, will convene and develop their action plans following the key stages below. We will aim to complete the planning process by August and start the implementation stage of the projects in Autumn 2016.

### **Community Pilot Action plan**

1. Take a paper to respective Constituency Committee outlining the community pilot projects
2. Form a small task group on a local level which includes the key people for each priority area
3. The task group will develop an action plan to go back to Constituency Committee around September/October 2016
4. Map local provision
5. Agree priority areas for improvement
6. Identify barriers and make recommendations for reshaping offer for better engagement
7. Understand what are people's concerns and observations in the area
8. Understand better specific issues identified like why people aren't using services like eg. credit unions, what can we do to address issues?
9. Establish what information and resources are needed what complete the project in terms of support eg. funds for engagement events or in kind time for evaluation and marketing
10. Are there other potential members of the task group needed to work with them on their priority area eg. improving take up of credit unions – agree who to invite
11. Is our intervention enough currently or is there anything needed over and above

12. What interventions do we need to support
13. How does it fit into ABCD
14. How do we build communities
15. Agree key measures of success and milestones for the priority areas
16. What are the key activities that will take place
17. How will it link with other project eg. health and worklessness project £2M with community connectors
18. Looking at different and practical ways of bringing people into services eg. induction pack when you move into Beechwood, up to date inventory of services available, ABCD
19. Agree what data should be collated and who will collate data
20. Evaluate outputs/outcomes
21. 12 months to implement the project so we will need to include a series of events and an annual event to promote community pilot activities
22. Take project updates to next constituency committees
23. Evaluation of collated data and case studies by Public Health
24. Sharing of learning and possible replication in other areas

### **Community Pilot and ILC Priority Leads**

The ILC steering group also agreed at the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 who the priority area leads would be and they are set out as follows:

- Priority 1: Supporting parents into sustainable employment - Debbie Veevers – Job Centre Plus
- Priority 2: Improving Life Chances - Julia Hassall or Sue Talbot CYPD
- Priority 3: Support families to become financially resilient - Carol Johnson Eyre - CAB
- Priority 4: Tackle the immediate effects of poverty - Jo Burrell, Rose Boylan, Julie Graham – Wirral Council
- Child Poverty training - Bev Morgan - Homestart
- Intelligence and Performance - Public Health

The role of the leads is to ensure they are receiving information from each community pilot task group and that the action plan is being delivered as originally set out.

**Birkenhead Constituency Team Neighbourhood Engagement Update**  
**November 2016**

Neighbourhood engagement is a vital element of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee work.

There are a number of projects being developed in partnership with the local community, statutory organisations and community and voluntary groups that will benefit Birkenhead in the future.

Here is an update on how a number of these projects are progressing and the benefit they will bring to the community.

**Rock Ferry Community Garden**

When the Rock Ferry Community Garden was officially opened the council entered into a partnership agreement with a social enterprise called Grow Sow Well.

This lease has now been transferred to an organisation called the Utopia Project due to the director of Grow Sow Well immigrating to another country.

The Utopia Project is an organisation who worked with young people who have been excluded from school and will use the garden to teach alternative classes. They are also exploring the possibility of providing horticultural qualifications at the garden specifically for young people. If successful the garden will be one of the very few whom offer focused horticultural qualifications solely for young people in Wirral.

**Birkenhead Library Health, Reading and Well Being Park**

Since the launch of the health, reading and well-being park at the Birkenhead Library Site it has been used by numerous groups and residents who have taken advantage of the park the Birkenhead Constituency Team built in partnership with the library and Involve Northwest.

The funding agreement with the Department of Communities and Local Government requires the library to apply for a Community Green Flag Award. To gain the award the library will have to demonstrate how the park is managed, its sustainability and that it is a welcoming, safe and secure place for people to visit. If successful Birkenhead Library will be the only library in Wirral to have a Green Flag Award.

## **Make Birkenhead Brighter**

The Birkenhead Constituency Team has been working with colleagues from the Councils Waste and Recycling Department to support a newly formed voluntary group called 'Make Birkenhead Brighter'.

The group have aspirations to improve Birkenhead's environment, especially the main gateways into Birkenhead Town Centre and outside Birkenhead Library.

Starting with a litter pick and community clear up around the front of Birkenhead Library the next steps for the partnership with the Constituency Team and the Make Birkenhead Brighter group is to seek funding to brighten up the appearance at the front of the library and bring some colour to the area.

## **Claughton Village Irrigation System**

Improving Wirral's Environment is one of the key pledges of Wirral Council and the Birkenhead Constituency Team is contributing to this in a number of ways.

As well as the number of clean ups the team has been involved in and working in partnership with groups such as Rock Park Proprietors and Make Birkenhead Brighter, the Constituency Team is also working on an environmental scheme with businesses in Claughton Village.

The scheme would see the installation of an irrigation system and hanging baskets on every building in the village, dramatically improving the appearance and colour of the area, hopefully making it a more welcoming place for visitors.

## **Good Neighbour Scheme**

The Birkenhead Constituency Team have been working with colleagues from the Public Health Department on developing a 'Good Neighbour Scheme'.

Even though the scheme is in its infancy the idea is to highlight residents in Birkenhead who are a good neighbour, encourage others to do the same and hopefully create a good neighbourly movement that could potentially increase community spirit, reduce isolation and promote what it means to be a good neighbour.

## **Merseytravel Artwork Project**

A number of months ago the Birkenhead Constituency Team was approached by Merseytravel with a request for ideas on how to improve the appearance of Bidston and Upton Train Stations.

Following this request the team have been working in partnership with Ridgeway High School. Working with the art department the project will see glass artwork installed at Bidston and Wrexham Train Stations and the parapets painted at Upton Train Station.

The project is a great example of organisations coming together to work in partnership with the aim of improving a community facility.

**For information on any of these projects please contact.**

**Andy Brannan, Birkenhead Neighbourhood Engagement Officer.**

**Email: [andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:andrewbrannan@wirral.gov.uk) Phone: 0515 691 8391**

This page is intentionally left blank