



LGA Wirral Improvement Board

Key Messages

Public Q&A Session

The questions raised by the public were responded to by the Board. Responses to public questions will be published alongside the key messages.

The Chair provided an update on the outcome of the Peer Challenge. The Chair also explained the agenda for the Improvement Board for today particularly the focus on the strategic outcomes the Board wishes to see as a result of the Improvement Plan.

Private Session

The Board considered outstanding actions and key messages from the last meeting.

Improvement Plan update

Cllr McLachlan updated the Board on work to develop strategic outcomes to measure progress. Cllr McLachlan also reported on the new format for Council, which had been positive, the Annual Governance Statement and the progress on Constituency Committees.

Operational update

The Chief Executive updated the Board on the budget delivery for this year which is currently ahead of forecast as at the end of May. He also reported on progress towards dealing with the budget deficit within departments that are progressing well with the Council's overall budget in line with forecast.

The Chief Executive reported that budget options are currently being developed for 2014/15 with consultations due to commence in September. The Transformation Programme is now in place with appropriate systems and management working well.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Wirral and Cheshire West and Chester has now been signed with significant shared service proposals now progressing. A number of other authorities have also expressing an interest in the approach. The Chief Executive also reported on progress being made within the Liverpool City Region to form a combined authority with a clear focus in regeneration across the region. A number of bids have been submitted to Government that exemplify the Council's new outward looking focus.

The Chief Executive gave a detailed report regarding the new style Council meeting and also discussed the Council's performance framework. He also updated the Board on progress made towards a more permanent structure for the Council.

Members of the Board asked about the role of Councillors in the monitoring process and were provided with the Cabinet and Scrutiny timetable.

The Chief Executive provided an update on the appraisal process for senior officers and will provide the Board with a fuller update.

The Board congratulated Council on progress but stressed the need for:

- A clear vision
- A three-year rolling budget process not limited to year end.
- The importance of clearly defined roles between the Constituent Councils and the combined authority and a clear understanding of the role of the LEP.
- The importance of allowing sufficient time to evaluate Constitutional changes – as a result, the review will be delayed for a couple of months to allow more time to reflect.

Annual Governance Statement

The Board considered Wirral's draft Annual Governance Statement. The District Auditor confirmed that the statement was open and transparent about the issues Wirral faced. The Board endorsed the approach of submitting the final statement with a detailed action plan to address areas for improvement, to the Audit & Risk Management Committee in September.

Adult Services

The Director of Adult Social Services gave a presentation detailing progress to date and the strategic vision for the future of Adult Social Care in Wirral. A copy of the presentation may be found at the end of these Key Messages.

The Chair welcomed the presentation and the progress made to date and sought to explore:-

- How the transition needed with regard to relatively expensive services for people with learning disabilities will be managed

- How relatively low cost more general services will require careful planning for the future.
- Direct opportunities for closer working with the NHS on re-ablement and intermediate care in particular and also need for careful transition planning.

The Board highlighted the importance of maximizing income through charging as well as realigning costs and joint commissioning with Health through the Health & Wellbeing Board which is focused on the individual. The importance of demand management was also discussed.

The Board also sought reassurance that appropriate systems are now in place to manage historic debt and income moving forward.

Improvement Plan

The Director of Public Health outlined work undertaken to develop the Improvement Plan strategic outcomes.

- Effective Planning and delivery of the efficiencies
- Effective use of delegated powers
- An effective assurance framework

Key indicators will be linked to the Corporate Performance framework. All were in agreement that there needed to be further material on corporate Health including staff buy in to the culture change. The Board felt the approach was both constructive and helpful, the framework will be developed and re-issued and will form the basis of future Board discussions moving forward.

Constituency Committees

The Head of Neighbourhoods & Engagement delivered a presentation to the Board on the development of Constituency Committees. The Board asked that the added value of the Constituency Committees needed to be clearly articulated and form a part of the performance framework. A copy of the presentation may be found at the end of these Key Messages.

Presentations:

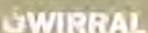
Adult Social Services

IT'S YOUR LIFE. IT'S YOUR CHOICE. 

**Presentation to
Wirral/LGA Improvement Board**

22 July 2013

Graham Hodgkinson
Director of Adult Social Services

IT'S YOUR LIFE. IT'S YOUR CHOICE. 

Improvement Journey

- 2010 CQC “adequate” in safeguarding and learning disability services
- Improvement Programme 2010-2013 to address safeguarding and personalisation issues
- May 2012 Safeguarding Peer Challenge undertaken
- June 2012 Adult Social Care Peer Review undertaken
- January 2013 Towards Excellence in Adult Social Care (TEASC) Board
- The Board endorsed the assessments of progress made to date
- “Wirral’s willingness to access peer support and rigorous peer challenge has been evident”

Current Priorities

- Embed new structure to deliver greater transparency and professional accountability care and health system
- Continue to improve monitoring, and improvement of commissioned services
- Clear targeted integrated commissioning focus in relation to gaps i.e. shift the focus into supporting people more effectively locally
- Continue to make progress in safeguarding with LGA support
- Robust transformation programme in place to deliver in year savings (up to £9m including replacing one-off support) and progress on savings for next 3 years
- Target total for three years up to £22m

So what will be different by 2015

- 25% Reduced budget = lean highly business focussed organisation
- Fully commissioned services
 - All direct delivery services during 2014
 - Social work delivery integrated Trust with NHS 2015
 - Strategic commissioning and quality assurance at Council level
 - Integrated 'team around the adult'

Progress so far

- Improved culture and transparent leadership
- Self-awareness, self assessment and openness to external challenges
- Support from external bodies including LGA, ADASS, AQUA, Kings Fund
- Improved commissioning capacity and plans
- Increasingly personalised approaches and a workforce up for change
- Safeguarding people more effectively across organisations
- Commitment to improve services together in health and social care – Pioneer bid submitted

Constituency Committees

Constituency Committees



Introduction

- Constituency committees made up of Elected Members and community representatives, reporting annually to Council
- Develop a constituency plan and commission activity (£200k)
- Constituency teams working alongside Police Neighbourhood Partnership Team in each area
- Further place based services to be co-located in hubs
- Supported by a Council Strategic Director linked to each constituency



Progress to date:

- Constituency managers in post
- Each constituency manager has scheduled/attended introductory meetings with their relevant MPs
- Ongoing engagement with the Public Service Board
- Partners are progressing their organisational realignment to match constituencies (e.g. Merseyside Police have named 4 x neighbourhood inspectors)



Progress to date:

- Four constituency committee consultation workshops completed with Elected Members
- High attendance at all workshops (average attendance of 73%)

Main Agenda Items:

- Audit of current community partners
- Priorities
- Community representatives
- Governance



Public Service Transformation Network / Community Budgets:

- Wirral Council has been announced as the only North West council to be allocated government support and funding to transform the way services are delivered at a local level
- The network will help Wirral as it delivers key programmes of work on health and social care integration and neighbourhood working
- Community Budgets are about putting control of budgets in the hands of those who are best placed to shape public services around the needs of local people



Next Steps:

- Sunderland Visit to explore approach and learning from service / budget devolution
- Multi-agency workshop to explore establishment of Local Public Service Boards
- Intelligence gathering / profiling ("setting the scene per constituency")
- Constituency engagement programmes over the Summer
- Preparation for constituency committee meetings for remainder of 2013/4 (including identification of community representatives and selection of Chairs)