

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 5 July 2017

REPORT TITLE:	2016/17 QUARTER 4 AND YEAR END WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE - ENVIRONMENT THEME
REPORT OF:	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR STRATEGY

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2016/17 Quarter 4 (January - March 2017) performance report for Wirral Plan pledges under the Environment theme and the closedown of 2016-17 at Year End. The Quarter 4 report is included as Appendix 1, and provides a description of the progress in Quarter 4 including providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

The Year End closedown report is included as Appendix 2 and provides a summary analysis of improvement of performance against measures and delivery of Pledge strategy actions at year end.

Quarter Four Wirral Plan Performance Summary

The key performance highlights for Quarter 4 include:

- The Hive opened in Birkenhead and within three and half weeks had over 3,000 members able to access the wealth of sports and creative facilities.
- Wirral now has more green flag awards for its parks than any other local authority area in the North West with four new awards.
- The new “Move on Up” service started on the 1st February 2017 to support people who are workless as a result of mental health conditions. This will improve their readiness for employment and move them towards more mainstream services, specifically employment support programmes.
- A Community Connectors programme across targeted areas of Wirral to help connect people with their communities to improve health and well-being has been launched. A network of 13 Community Connectors started work on 1st February 2017 with an aim to encourage people who are socially isolated to engage with community activity to improve their wellbeing and readiness for work.
- The Council has launched a new information and advice service 'Ask us Wirral' to provide a single, seamless comprehensive information and advice offer to local people. There is one phone number, improved digital access and delivery across a network of locations across the borough. 32,000 people will be supported in its first year of operation.
- We removed blight by bringing back 597 empty properties into use during 2016-17 making neighbourhoods more desirable places to live in.
- We continue to link and align our expectations with increased demands from Health and Social Care; our Disabled Adaptations Service has exceeded its

annual target of delivering adaptations into residents' homes; 3,000 home adaptations have been delivered during 2016-17 to disabled children and adults to help them to live independently at home.

- Our Homelessness and Housing Options Team has intervened to prevent 1,291 households from becoming homeless during 2016-17 by working with other relevant local agencies, leading to the early identification of households and individuals who are likely to be vulnerable to homelessness.
- The latest figures released this year show that population weight measures in Wirral have worsened following the national trend. There has been an increase in children age 4-5 classified as obese, excess weight in adults has increased and the healthy weight indicator for Wirral adults has reduced. There is continued focus in this area including a weight management referral service and a range of healthy eating initiatives.
- Wirral has the lowest crime rate per population in Merseyside and a continued focus on crime intervention has started to impact with the number of crimes recorded falling by 2% compared to the previous year. Incidents of anti-social behaviour being reported to the Police have fallen by 16% compared to 2014/15. This is helping to build stronger and more confident communities where people feel safe.
- Environmental enforcement remains a high priority for the Council to ensure people are experiencing a cleaner environment in which to live, work and enjoy their leisure time. End of year targets for penalty notices for littering and dog fouling offences were exceeded.

Year End Closedown Summary

The closedown report provides the committee with an overview of progress in 2016-17 to assist with scrutiny of the effectiveness of Wirral Plan delivery. It provides analysis in relation to progress measured through the suite of 37 performance indicators related to the Environment Pledges compared to the start of the Wirral Plan, with focus on the areas that did not improve in 2016-17. It also provides a summary of progress against delivery for each of the activities identified in the Pledge strategy action plans. For the Environment Pledges a programme of 181 actions were identified to deliver the Pledge outcomes and a summary of progress for each of these is shown with agreed actions put in place by the steering groups moving forward into 2017-18.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the content of the report and highlight any areas requiring further clarification or action.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure Members of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to scrutinise the performance of the Council and partners in relation to delivering the Wirral Plan.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This report has been developed in line with the approved performance management framework for the Wirral Plan. As such, no other options were considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Wirral Plan is an outcome-focussed, partnership plan which has 16 supporting strategies that set out how each of the 20 pledges will be delivered. For each pledge, a partnership group has been established to drive forward delivery of the action plans set out in each of the supporting strategies.

- 3.2 A Wirral Plan Performance Management Framework has been developed to ensure robust monitoring arrangements are in place. The Wirral Partnership has a robust approach to performance management to ensure all activity is regularly monitored and reviewed.

- 3.3 Data for the identified indicators is released at different times throughout the year as a result not all Pledges will have results each quarterly reporting period. Some indicators can be reported quarterly and some only on an annual basis with annual figures reported in the quarter they become available.

- 3.4 For the Quarter 4 report each of the indicators a RAGB (red, amber, green, blue) rating is provided against the target and tolerance levels set at the start of the reporting period, with blue indicating performance targets being exceeded. There is also a trend key which shows whether performance has improved, remained static or deteriorated since the start of the Wirral Plan.

- 3.5 All Wirral Plan performance reports are published on the performance page of the Council's website. This includes the high level Wirral Plan overview report and the detailed pledge reports which include updates on progress and all activities set out in supporting strategy action plans.

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/council-performance>

- 3.6 Each of the Wirral Plan Pledges has a Pledge Sponsor. The Pledge Sponsors under the People theme are as follows:
- Leisure and culture opportunities for all – Mark Smith
 - Wirral residents live healthier lives – Fiona Johnstone
 - Community services are joined up and accessible – Mark Smith

- Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents – Graham Hodgkinson
- Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe – Mark Smith
- Attractive Local Environment for Wirral residents – Mark Smith

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 The performance management framework is aligned to the Council's risk management strategy and both are regularly reviewed as part of corporate management processes.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The priorities in the Wirral Plan pledges were informed by a range of consultations carried out in 2015 and 2016 including the Wirral resident survey.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Wirral Plan equality impact assessment can be found at:
<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2014-15/chief>

REPORT AUTHOR: **Nancy Clarkson**
Head of Intelligence
 telephone: (0151) 691 8258
 email: nancyclarkson@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Wirral Plan Environment Theme 2016-17 Quarter 4 Pledge Reports
 Appendix 2: Wirral Plan Environment Theme 2016-17 Year End Closedown Report

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	21 September 2016
Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	30 November 2016
Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee	28 March 2017