

**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**Thursday, 20 September 2018**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>2018/19 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Strategic Commissioner for Environment</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report provides the 2018/19 Quarter 1 (April - June 2018) performance report for the Wirral Plan pledges under the remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report, which is included as Appendix 1, provides a description of the progress in Quarter 1 and available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

**Quarter One Wirral Plan Performance Summary**

- 128 events were held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces in quarter 1 (April to June 2018) which is an improvement on the 103 events held for the same period last year.
- Wirral has now received 30 national quality awards for Wirral's parks, coastal sites and open spaces, 1 more than the previous year and 8 more than the start of the Wirral Plan.
- There has been a reduction in admission episodes for alcohol related conditions in the latest data release (2016-17) at 889 compared 901 in the previous year. Work is underway delivering Wirral's Alcohol Strategy to continue to reduce alcohol consumption to improve public health outcomes.
- After a period with a substantial reduction of people smoking across Wirral, smoking prevalence has increased slightly from 15.7% 2015 to 15.9% in the latest (2017) Annual Population Survey. Although smoking prevalence across Wirral has improved significantly since the start of the plan we still have areas of the borough with smoking rates above 30%, it is these areas that activity is focused on. The Smoke Free Wirral Strategy sets out an action plan for the borough to tackle smoking prevalence including the local stop smoking service provider direct working with GPs and practice nurses to improve referral pathways for their services.
- National results show that excess weight in Adults has worsened from 59.6% in 2015-16 to 63.3% in 2016-17. Wirral is in line with the rest of the North West and slightly above the National average. Work continues to address this

and the number of people helped to lose weight increased by 79 in Quarter 1 this year compared to the same period last year (604 compared to 525).

- In Quarter 1 955 empty properties have been brought back into use which is performing on target and we envisaged that the pledge target of 1,250 empty properties brought back into use by 2020 will be met.
- The new Homeless Reduction Act has led to additional duties and actions required of the local authority. Due to new demands, staff levels are being increased to work on further service options to increase prevention and 246 preventions have been delivered in Quarter 1.
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported to the police in the first quarter of 2018-19 are 22% less than the same quarter of 2017-18 (2,466). During this quarter there have been a number of successful targeted initiatives and campaigns working with residents and finding informal and formal resolution with all powers available.
- The total number of crimes within Wirral during the first quarter of 2018-19 is 21% more than the same quarter last year (5,550). However when benchmarked against similar areas, Wirral is ranked favourably at 3rd as other areas have also seen an increase in crimes. Nationally Police recorded crime data has changed over time, with improvements in recording practices increasing the number of recorded crimes.
- The rate of re-offending shows a reduction of 9.9% when compared to July 2014 -June 2015 rate of 49.6%. Wirral's Youth Offending Service (YOS) is the only Merseyside YOS to reduce the re-offending rate in this period.
- Local Environmental Quality in key gateway and shopping areas continues to exceed the target score of 93.3% albeit with a slight decrease in performance on the previous quarter.
- There has been a decrease in the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued for both litter and dog fouling offences. There is indicative evidence to suggest that a degree of behavioural change has been engendered amongst the public and that the enforcement programme, coupled with the publicity and intensive communications is having the desired effect.
- For recycling, there has been an increase in both the number of garden waste subscriptions and the kerbside (green and grey bin) recycling rate for the ten lowest performing rounds

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

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 18 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 during the year. As a result of this, not all Pledges will have results each quarterly reporting period. Some indicators can be reported quarterly and some only on an annual basis. Annual figures are reported in the quarter they become available against the 2018/19 year end column.
- 3.4 For each of the indicators, a trend is shown (better, same or worse). In most cases, this is determined by comparing the latest data with the previous reporting period i.e. 2017/18 year end. In some cases, i.e. where data accumulates during the year or is subject to seasonal fluctuations, the trend is shown against the same time the previous year. This is indicated in the key at the end of the report.
- 3.5 For some indicators, targets have been set. Where this is the case, 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.
- 3.6 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 on all activities set out in the supporting strategy action plans. The link to this web page is: <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/council-performance>

3.7 Each of the Wirral Plan Pledges has a Lead Commissioner responsible for overseeing effective delivery. The Lead Commissioners for the Pledges in the report at Appendix 1 are as follows:

- Leisure and culture opportunities for all – Mark Smith
- Wirral residents live healthier lives – Julie Webster
- Community services are joined up and accessible – Julie Webster
- 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>

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## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix 1: Wirral Plan Environment Committee 2018-19 Quarter 1 Pledge Reports**

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>21 September 2016</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>30 November 2016</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>28 March 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>4 July 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>21 September 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>30 November 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>28 March 2018</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>5 July 2018</b>