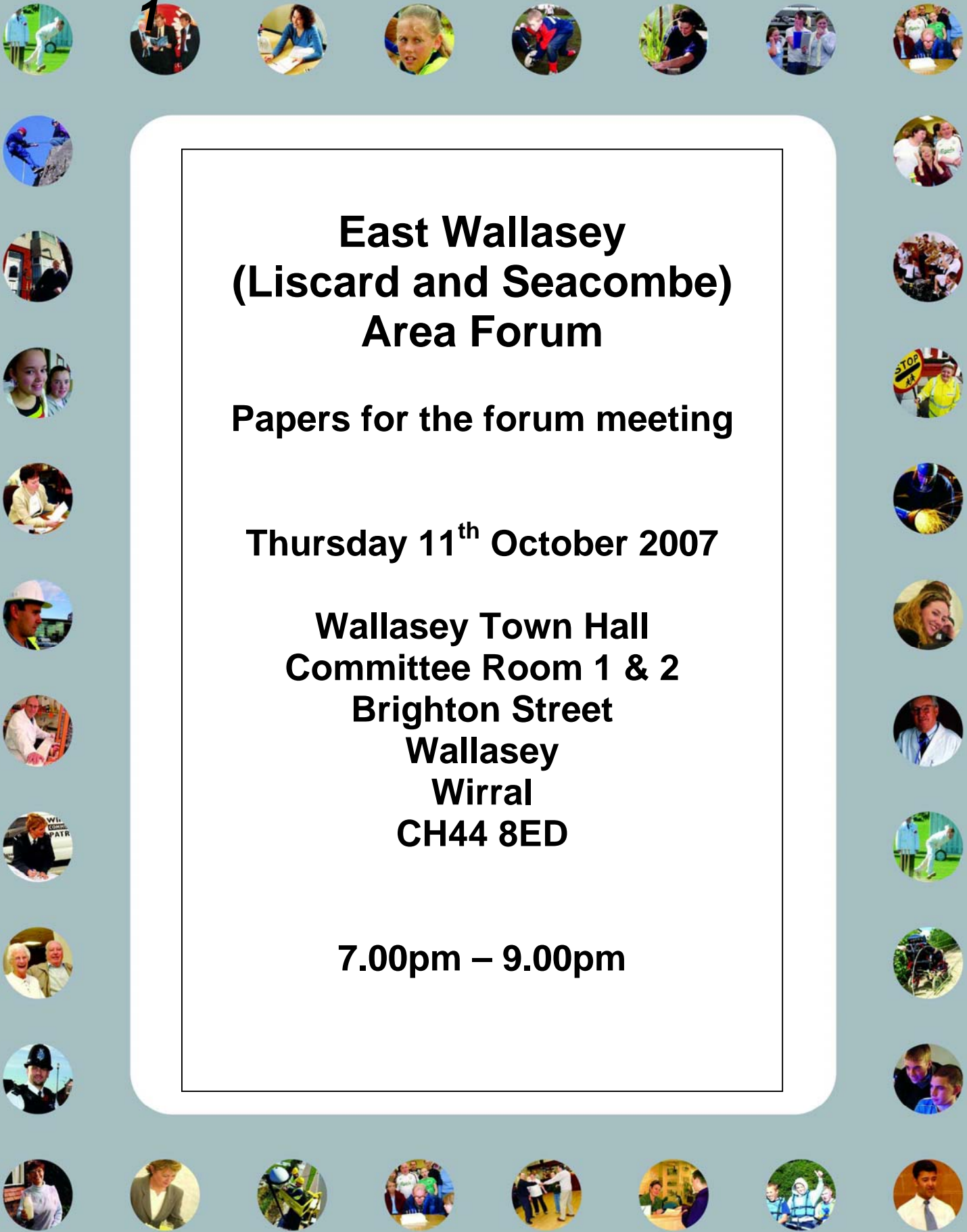


**YOUR SAY** 

 **WIRRAL**



**East Wallasey  
(Liscard and Seacombe)  
Area Forum**

**Papers for the forum meeting**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

**Wallasey Town Hall  
Committee Room 1 & 2  
Brighton Street  
Wallasey  
Wirral  
CH44 8ED**

**7.00pm – 9.00pm**

**East Wallasey Area Forum**  
**Area Co-ordinator's Report**  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

**Name Michelle Gray**

**Area Co-ordinator**

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**Community Engagement Team**

**Corporate Services, Town Hall**

**Brighton Street, Wallasey,**

**Wirral CH44 8ED**

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# **Section One**

Minutes from last meeting and any  
matters arising from last forum

## Minutes - East Wallasey Area Forum (Liscard/Seacombe) - 18 June 2007

Present	
Chair	Cllr Dave Hawkins
Ward Councillors	Karen Hayes , Adrian Jones , John Salter
Community Representatives	Margaret Allen (Seacombe Community Representative) , John Drew (Seacombe LCP) , Jo McCourt (Wallasey YMCA) , Fr. Leon Ostaszewski , Carole Thomas (Liscard Community Representative)
Lead Officer	Mark Camborne (Health & Safety & Resilience Operations Manager)
Area Service Co-ordinator	Michelle Gray
Street Scene Manager	Mark Traynor
Wirral Primary Care Trust	Ian Stewart
Merseyside Police	Inspector Paul Farrar
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service	Tony Mooney
Wirral Hospital Trust	Graham Hewitt
Council Officers	Tara Dumas (Recycling Officer) , Christina Jones (Education & Cultural Services) , Howard Mortimer (Special Initiatives Team)
Apologies	Cllr Leah Fraser , Chris Jones (Area Streetscene Manager) , Cllr Denis Knowles , Diane Ledder

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Minute 5 - Public question time

Minute 6 - Older Peoples Parliament

Minute 7 - Wirral Hospital Trust – engagement strategy

Minute 8 - Partner updates - Merseyside Police - Merseyside Fire & Rescue service - Wirral Primary Care Trust

Minute 9 - Date of next meeting Thursday 11th October 2007, Wallasey Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral

Minute 10 - Any other business

### Minute 1 - Welcome, introductions & apologies

The Chair, Councillor D Hawkins, welcomed forum members and 40 members of the public and 2 young people to the meeting of the East Wallasey [Liscard/Seacombe] Area Forum in Wallasey Town Hall. Dave Hawkins introduced Councillor Karen Hayes, and welcomed her to her first meeting of the Forum as a newly Elected Member.

### Minute 2 - Liscard Hall

The Chair introduced Howard Mortimer, Special Initiatives Officer, Corporate Services Department, who had been invited to give a presentation on proposals for Liscard Hall.

Howard Mortimer stated that members of the local community had been concerned that for more than five years Liscard Hall has become increasingly dilapidated and subject to vandalism. Wirral Council recognises the importance of securing a sustainable future for this listed buildings and is willing to consider a range of compatible uses that will achieve that objective. The Council is seeking a development partner that has the vision, matched with the ability and the resources, who can identify the best solution to bringing the Hall complex back into active use. To achieve this the Council is seeking expressions of interest

from private parties or consortia. A design brief will be sent to potential investors throughout Europe within the next three days. Bidders will be invited to submit bids in two stages.

Stage 1 will form an Expression of Interest, when the proposals received will be evaluated against a pre-determined set of criteria. The closing date for expressions of interest will be 10 August 2007. At this stage the submissions received will be carefully evaluated and by the end of the summer the relevant details will be taken to the co-ordinating group, the membership of which includes Diane Ledder and several members of the public. A shortlist of about four bidders will be drawn up and they will be invited to develop proposals for stage 2.

As part of any agreement, the Council wishes to retain ownership of the Rose Garden in front of the Hall but seeks improvements to the area. The Walled Garden must remain accessible to the general public and the Park Rangers office will remain as an operational building within the Park. The Council's Local Parks Maintenance Unit will be relocated to a new site at Leasowe and bidders will be required to state how they would propose to work with the Council to accomplish this re-location.

Howard Mortimer undertook to attend the next meeting of the Area Forum to report on the level of interest received. This would precede a period of consultation with local people in January/February 2008.

In responding to questions from members of the public, Howard Mortimer stated –

- the successful bidder will be responsible for restoring the damage to the building structure caused by vandalism and fire. There has been some serious damage caused, but it is not beyond repair. The restoration work will be expected to be of the highest standards.
- the Council is not aware of any large holes or gaps in the building. Colleagues in Estate Management, working with the Police and other bodies, will ensure that the building is safeguarded as much as it reasonably can be to prevent further damage from vandalism.
- the agreement will contain a detailed specification of the features to be retained and restored in order to preserve the character of the building, and to comply with the buildings Grade 11 listed building status.
- it is highly unlikely at the present time that funding would be available from Heritage Lottery Funding to restore the building and the park for community use, or for other alternative uses - there was a need to involve the private sector in order to achieve this. There may be some community benefits – the provision of new public toilets for example – and the Council will seek every opportunity to achieve that. [Dave Hanlon suggested that the building is converted for use as Youth Centre to complement the Allandale Youth Club and the YMCA.]
- the restoration and refurbishment costs have been estimated between £2/3 million. [Two members of the audience suggested that a figure between £7/8 million would be more realistic].
- the Council will look at traffic and pedestrian movement in terms of egress and ingress into Central Park and will re-assess traffic in the surrounding roads as part of the redevelopment.

Minute Decision : Resolved: That Howard Mortimer be thanked for the presentation.

### **Minute 3 - Minutes & matters arising from previous February forum**

Matters arising:

Bandstand Minute 3: Father Leon asked if any progress had been made on his suggestion that the bandstand removed from Europa Square could be relocated in Wallasey Central Park.

Mark Camborne apologised to Father Leon for the fact that he had not been contacted. He would take up the matter again with David Ball.

Dave Hallon pointed out that his name had been quoted incorrectly in minute 3. He suggested that David Hale had made the comment about the new bin collection service.

Minute Decision :

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Area Forum of 14 February 2007 be accepted, with the amendment proposed by Dave Hallon.

#### **Minute 4 - Area Co-ordinators report • Area plan update**

The Area Co-ordinator presented her report to the Area Forum. Section 1 contained the minutes of the previous meeting; Section 2 contained updates on Safer and Stronger Communities, Healthier Communities and Older People, Children and Young People, Economic Development and Enterprise, and cross cutting themes on changes to Wirral's waste and recycling collection, and the new services available at local one stop shops; Section 3 contained an update on the Community Initiatives Fund; Section 4, Local Area plan; Section 5 Streetscene and Waste; and Section 6 as a new section for all 11 area forums covering the equalities and diversity agenda.

The Area Co-ordinator expanded on the key features of her report -

- The availability of grants from the Community Initiatives Fund in the current financial year had been widely advertised and the closing date for applications for the current round of funding has now closed.

- Wirral Council would particularly welcome comments, ideas or items that any member of the public would like to see included in the Equality and Diversity report.

- The new look area plans are in three main sections – an introduction; statistical information; local priority action plan. The document will be produced electronically in future and will 'go live' on the Internet on 4 July 2007.

All, or part, of the Area Co-ordinator's report can be downloaded from the Internet at [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk); alternatively, a paper version will be sent on request to any member of the public who wishes to attend a future meeting.

The Area Co-ordinator drew attention to the flyer – Pride in Our Proms – Proposals for Seacombe-Egremont, copies of which had been distributed at the meeting. Parts of the proposals had been displayed on the notice board at the meeting and focused on three main areas – The Seacombe gateway, the Seacombe embankments and Vale Park.

Members of the public who wished to comment on the proposals should contact John Hayes, on 237 3524.

In response to a query from Father Leon, the Area Co-ordinator explained that the three-year term of office for Community Representatives on all Area Forums in Wirral would end in October 2007. An advertising campaign will be launched in late summer inviting nominations for community representatives to serve on Area Forums.

Minute Decision : Resolved: To thank the Area Co-ordinator for the report.

#### **Minute 5 - Public question time**

Carole Thomas raised the issues

Litter is not being removed from the back of the shops at Liscard, and rats have been seen in the area; rats have been seen coming from a house in Mill Lane; rubbish is left for months in Liscard before collection, and a fridge-freezer has been left in Seaview Road since before Christmas.

Tara Dumas offered to discuss the issues with Carole at the end of the meeting.

Members of the public raised the issues –

Businesses have not been issued with grey bins. Will local businesses be fined for placing paper in the green bin? There are one or two local businesses on Liscard Road, including Wallasey CVS, that generate a lot of paper. Some businesses do not pay rates because they are registered charities but their green bins have always been emptied.

Tara Dumas – The Council has responsibility for the free disposal of waste, but is not responsible for collecting waste free of charge. There is new legislation which suggests that Councils should make a charge for collection and a policy is being developed on this.

Margie Allen asked how many prosecutions there have been against private landlords for failing to apply for a licence for their properties.

Mark Camborne stated that he would provide an answer through the minutes.

(answer received after the meeting see below)

"In regard to the uptake of Unlicensed landlords contacting the Council there have been 34 licenses granted up until the end of March 2007. The cut off date for contacting the council has now passed and the HMO Team are attempting to process some 30 or so other landlords that they know about.

The HMO Team urge any individuals who have information regarding landlords who are suspected as not being licensed to contact HMO Licensing on 0151 691 8665.

As a local businessman, I had a green wheelie bin which I left outside and paid an industrial waste company to empty it weekly. The Charities that undertake collections say they do not collect from businesses and left the bin. My Council tax booklet states that the removal of domestic waste is a legal responsibility. I also pay domestic rates for domestic waste to be removed.

Tara offered to speak to the person and clarify the issue at the end of the meeting.

The printed literature that is provided with grey bins is confusing – it does not specify the type of plastic that can be recycled.

Tara – We follow national guidelines in the main on the information we issue. The grey bin should be used for 'dry' recyclables such as plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, clean, dry paper and cardboard, tins and cans. Incorrect use causes contamination of recycling materials and can lead to lots of problems. Shredded paper and waste food should not be placed in the grey bin.

Karen Hayes had suggested to Tara that some people may prefer a visual demonstration of the types of materials that should be placed in which bin, rather than just reading a leaflet.



Tara - Recycling Champions have been appointed to advise residents on the materials they can and cannot recycle. Any Wirral resident can request a visit from a recycling champion by calling Streetscene on 0151 606 2004.

The Chair pointed out that the colours green and grey are indistinguishable to anyone with a colour vision problems, therefore all the collection dates appear the same to anyone who is colour blind.

Tara confirmed that in the next round of calendar distribution anyone with a visual problem will receive a special version on which the dates are clearly differentiated.

Tara stated that reports that the separating machines are not working are not true. The machines have been operating very well since phase 1 of the scheme started in October. The results being achieved are proving that this is the case.

Father Leon raised the issues –

- The need to re-time the traffic lights before 6 am, on the route from Duke Street through Wallasey.

- The pedestrian light at Seaview Road by Edinburgh Road is not functioning properly.

- The sign 'Poulton' when approaching Liscard from Clare Mount Road via St Hilary Brow, has been removed and needs to be replaced, preferably on a lamppost nearby where it is not so accessible to vandalism.

- All dock signs leading from the A54 should state Wirral docks, to avoid confusion for drivers who wish to access the docks on the Liverpool side.

- The lights along the footpaths in Wallasey Central Park have been damaged and not repaired. If they were positioned on higher stems it would be more difficult to damage them.

Answer received after the meeting (to be included within these minutes) The lighting scheme which was installed last year as part of a Big Lottery Scheme has unfortunately suffered from several incidents of determined vandalism. Although the lighting was intended to be as vandal resistant as possible the columns will be slightly modified and more robust lamps fitted within the next 3 to 4 weeks. Hopefully this will reduce further the likelihood of damage by vandalism and continue to improve the level of safety in the park.

Whether the CCTV camera has been put back into use.

(answer received after the meeting to be included in these minutes - The CCTV is working after it was repaired sometime ago).

A resident stated that Kenilworth Road has been resurfaced and new road safety humps have been installed. The level of the road surface has been raised to the same level of the pavement – increasing the tendency for motorists to park on the pavement. A lorry persistently parked on the pavement has broken about 8/9 of the new flags that have been laid.

Streetscene Manager – The height of the carriageway was increased to enable the road humps to be installed. It had not been possible to reinstate the footway in Kenilworth Road at the same time due to financial constraints, but the area will be looked at favourably in next year's improvement programme.

It is understood that a recharge has been made in the case where the flagstones have

been persistently broken.

Parking on pavements is a problem across Wirral and sometimes happens because the road infrastructure is too narrow to allow vehicles to pass through when cars are parked on both sides of the road.

The Proprietor of Wirral Press reported recurrent problems with youths who damage his property, use bad language and threaten female members of staff. His property had been damaged on the same evening damage was caused to Wallasey Town Hall. He has noticed CSOs walking in twos and threes along Brighton Street in school hours. He suggested that it would be more effective for the CSOs to patrol at times when children aged 8 to 15 are not in school.

Inspector Farrar – Three arrests have been made in connection with the damage to the Town Hall and the case is progressing through the court. Additional patrols were deployed to the area in the aftermath of the incident at the Town Hall, and the number of incidents of anti social behaviour had fallen as a result. The additional patrols will be reinstated in Brighton Street and the surrounding area to deal with the current issues.

Cars are parking increasingly on green space areas and churning up all the grass. Streetscene told a member of the public to take people's car registration numbers, but it is not down to members of the public to do that.

Street scene Manager – This is a problem across all areas of Wirral. We have three inspectors for each area and they actively encourage people to park on the carriageways. We also send out letters asking people to refrain from parking on grassed areas.

The bus stop in Liscard serving the 433 route between Birkenhead and Liverpool has been removed, without consultation. Petitions have been sent to Arriva and to Merseytravel.

Streetscene Manager – Following a risk assessment with the drivers, the bus stop will be reinstated in the same area – 50 yards from its previous location.

#### **Minute 6 - Older Peoples Parliament**

The Area Co-ordinator reported that Older People's Parliament had held its inaugural meeting in Wallasey Town Hall in January. Representatives elected to represent this Area Forum will be attending Forum meetings in future to give updates on the Parliament. The Parliament would be pleased to receive the views, ideas, suggestions from people in the age group 50+. Lesley Howells [666 2220] will be pleased to provide more information about the Older People's Parliament. Alternatively, more information can be obtained by logging on to [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) or [www.ageconcernwirral.org](http://www.ageconcernwirral.org). Copies of the three Newsletters produced by the Parliament were available at the meeting.

#### **Minute 7 - Wirral Hospital Trust – engagement strategy**

Graham Hewitt gave a presentation on Wirral Hospital Trust Engagement Strategy. The development of the Engagement Strategy marks the second phase of the Trust's commitment to engage more closely with the communities it serves.

The first phase in February 2006 involved a major consultation programme, A Change for the Better, in relation to the Trust's application for Foundation Trust Status. The consultation laid out service plans for the following five years. The trust is halfway through its application for Trust status and it was felt that now is the right time to engage again with communities.

In the coming months the Trust will be talking – and listening – to Area Forums and community groups throughout Wirral on ways in which hospital services are changing.

The focus of the presentation this evening would be on Who we are, Why we are changing,

and How we are changing. The responses from the consultation will be feed into the strategy.

Unlike current NHS trusts, Foundation Trusts have Members and Governors. Members elect Governors to represent them and to set direction for the organisation. The membership and Assembly of Governors is a key part of the engagement strategy. The Trust is aiming to have 13,000 public members – currently it has 6,000.

The Trust values the contribution made by members and encourages members of the public to become public members or attend Assembly meetings – application forms were available at the meeting. Further information can be obtained from [www.whnt.nhs.uk](http://www.whnt.nhs.uk). Read your hospital.

Graham Hewitt responded as follows to questions asked by members of the Forum and members on the public on the topics –

The Trust's policy on single sex wards – Most areas of Arrowe Park Hospital have single sex bays between the wards. It is difficult to deal with emergency admissions as it is not always possible to plan how many beds and wards are needed at any given time – in emergency care the priority is to ensure that people receive the treatment need, when they need it. The Trust has invested in improving facilities generally and, for example, has made sure that all the appropriate toilet facilities are available for both sexes.

Actually achieving a reduction in waiting times to 18 weeks from GP referral to treatment will be very difficult. - At the moment, the average wait is up to 26 weeks. The Trust has invested in orthopaedic services in particular, but there are very few experts in foot surgery, for example who are available to work in the NHS. The Trust is confident it can achieve its aims.

#### **Minute 8 - Partner updates - Merseyside Police - Merseyside Fire & Rescue service - Wirral Primary Care Trust**

Merseyside Police [Inspector Paul Farrar, Neighbourhood Inspector for East Wallasey] -

The neighbourhood team met all its targets last year and continues to remain on target for this year. Levels of crime have fallen in car thefts, thefts from cars, house burglary, robbery, and violence. In this area, which serves a population of 68,000 people, during the period 1 to 18 June there were four car thefts, seven house burglaries, and 12 thefts from cars. The only increase was in criminal damage.

Criminal damage and anti-social behaviour is a large problem in many communities. Seacombe suffers from high levels of anti-social behaviour, which is both youth and adult related. The number of incidents decreased when there was a Section 30 order in place in Seacombe, but increased when the Order expired. There will be a second Section 30 Exclusion Order in Seacombe for six months from the end of June. In addition, ASBOs and CRASBOs and low-level intervention will be used to discourage anti-social behaviour. Acceptable behaviour contracts have been put in place resulting in several young people facing custodial sentences.

At the last Forum meeting, it was reported that a case was proceeding through the court involving £1 million damage to gravestones in Rake Lane Cemetery. The case has now run its course and the three youths involved have each received twelve month prison sentences. A community group, Friends of Rake Lane, has been set up, CSOs patrol the cemetery at frequent intervals, and the Youth Service is engaging young people in some distraction activities. No further problems have been reported following the introduction of these strategies.

Regular news items appear in the local Press, and updates are posted on the Merseyside

Police website.

In response to questions from members of the public, Inspector Farrar stated that –

The mobile police station is currently located in St Paul's Road and will remain there for six weeks. Community police officers and community support officers man the station and members of the public can report there as they would to any police station.

The mobile police station is a resource for the whole of Wirral and certain criteria have to be met in determining its location. Priority is given to areas of high crime.

A Police Forum was held for a specific purpose at Liscard Primary School recently but the Police tend to use Area Forum meetings to communicate with the public, because members of the public can speak to the Police and other agencies at the same venue.

On behalf of the residents of Liscard, Carol Ann Thomas congratulated the Police on their success in dealing with issues in Liscard – the area has quietened down considerably and residents are full of praise for the Police.

Councillor Jones commented that the basic command unit in Wirral is constantly exceeding its targets, month-by-month, area-by-area - it is a brand leader across the whole of Merseyside.

There is a high rate of crime detection in Wirral, partly because of first class Police Officers, but also because they use the powers they have and the new techniques, [eg forensic evidence and DNA] to great effect. Even though the statistics give another impression, crime, particularly violent crime and physical assaults, have reduced in Wirral. That is good news and very commendable.

The Chair congratulated the Police on their success in tackling drug-related issues in Wallasey and thanked them for their meetings with local residents.

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service – Tony Mooney – Fire crews have carried out over 700 home risk assessments since the last Area Forum meeting. In Seacombe, there had been eleven domestic fires. In some instances, the cause of the fire had been linked to the life style of the occupants [ie, alcohol or drugs or smoking in bed etc]. One of the key objectives for all Wirral stations is to access the 'hard to reach' members of the community to undertake home fire safety checks. Fires tend to occur in properties and buildings that have multiple occupation. Crews visit frequently and offer advice on fire prevention to residents in blocks of flats and residential homes, especially where there is a high turnover of tenants.

Another key objective for the Fire and Rescue Service is to work with partner agencies to reduce the number of road traffic collisions.

The number of anti-social behaviour fires has reduced from 85 to 54 in the current quarter. This success is seen as a reflection of the work undertaken with colleagues from the Council and the Police.

Merseyside Police has been working in partnership with Wirral Partnership Homes, Wirral Social Services and the Primary Care Trust to set up a new technology-based service that will help disabled and older people to live at home more safely. A 'Smart House', based on the Woodchurch Estate, will showcase equipment to support people who have difficulty in carrying out everyday tasks due to age or disability.

The long periods of dry weather last year resulted in some serious grass fires in open land and woodland. Special efforts are being made this year to locate equipment in areas where

fires are more likely to occur and to visit schools and educate children on the dangers of fire and the damage they cause to the environment, wildlife and their habitats.

On behalf of the Seacombe community, Margie Allen thanked the crews from Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service who have been carrying out home fire safety checks in the local neighbourhood. Margie had received glowing reports and had heard nothing but praise from local residents.

Tara reported that Streetscene has been working in Liscard with the Fire & Rescue Service on a campaign to promote Smoke free England. Information and portable ashtrays have been distributed to raise awareness of the new legislation. Smart bins have been located in Liscard town centre to reduce the amount of cigarette litter deposited on the ground.

Wirral PCT – Ian Stewart [who has responsibility for health services provided for GPs, Community Nurses and Health Visitors in Wallasey ] reported –

Plans to create a new three-surgery PCT centre on site at Victoria Central Hospital are on target for completion by the scheduled date in 2009. The old physio-therapy block has been demolished and all asbestos has been removed from the site. The physio-therapy service will be relocated to another part of the hospital that is vacant. The large admin block will be demolished by the end of next week.

In response to concerns raised about the old fever hospital, Ian Stewart stated that it is almost two years since the development began and in that time the contractor has undertaken a comprehensive on-site risk analysis. Everything is in place to ensure that when the admin block is knocked down no infectious diseases will be released into Liscard. He gave an assurance that contrary to rumours there were no bodies or body parts buried under the admin. block.

Dr Mukherjee had given an assurance some time ago that the memorials sited around the hospital will be given provenance. Discussions are ongoing on the arrangements to remove the memorials and to relocate them once work on site has been completed.

Minute Decision : Resolved: That Graham Hewitt, Tony Mooney and Ian Stewart be thanked for their presentations.

**Minute 9 - Date of next meeting Thursday 11th October 2007, Wallasey Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral**

Minute Decision : Resolved: That the next meeting be held on 11 OCTOBER 2007 at Wallasey Town Hall.

**Minute 10 - Any other business**

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members of the public for a good turnout and for their contribution to the discussion. He closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

**Matters arising and updates from previous forum in June 2007:**

- **Supermarkets:** - there is a lack of supermarkets within the Seacombe area. Since the sad demise of both Kwik save and the withdrawing of Tesco Express from

the Dale site project, local people without cars, complain about the lack of facilities within their area.

**Update:** it was announced in the Daily Post recently (Business Week) that Tesco has confirmed that it intends to open a Tesco 'Express' store as part of the new development of the former Dale Inn in Poulton Road. As the area co-ordinator I will provide you with more information as it becomes available.

- **Wallasey Central Park:** The lights along the footpaths in Wallasey Central Park have been damaged and not repaired. If they were positioned on higher stems it would be more difficult to damage them.

**Update:** The lighting scheme which was installed last year as part of a Big Lottery Scheme has unfortunately suffered from several incidents of determined vandalism. Although the lighting was intended to be as vandal resistant as possible the columns will be slightly modified and more robust lamps fitted within the next 3 to 4 weeks. Hopefully this will reduce further the likelihood of damage by vandalism and continue to improve the level of safety in the park. Also whether the CCTV camera has been put back into use. – (The CCTV is working after it was repaired sometime ago)

- **Private Landlords:** How many prosecutions there have been against private landlords for failing to apply for a licence for their properties.

**Update:** "In regard to the uptake of Unlicensed landlords contacting the Council there have been 34 licenses granted up until the end of March 2007. The cut off date for contacting the council has now passed and the HMO Team are attempting to process some 30 or so other landlords that they know about.

The HMO Team urge any individuals who have information regarding landlords who are suspected as not being licensed to contact HMO Licensing on 0151 691 8665.

- **Route 433:** The bus stop in Liscard serving the 433 route between Birkenhead and Liverpool has been removed, without consultation. Petitions have been sent to Arriva and to Merseytravel.

**Update:** Following a risk assessment with the drivers, the bus stop will be reinstated in the same area – 50 yards from its previous location, to date this is still in operation.

# **Section Two**

## **Local Updates**

Area forums provide an opportunity for people who live or work in Wirral to have a greater say on local issues and be more active in decision making and shaping local services. They involve local ward councillors, police, Wirral Primary Care Trust, fire safety representatives along with community representatives and officers from various departments of the council. Forums also provide information about current services, how they can be accessed and ultimately raise awareness of local council initiatives.

*This section covers relevant news under the Council's local area agreement themes of safer and stronger communities, healthier communities and older people, children and young people and economic development and enterprise.*

## Safer & Stronger Communities

### Alleygates crash through thousand barrier



The number of alleygates protecting Wirral properties from crimes such as burglary and vandalism is set to hit the thousand mark this month with the commencement of the latest installation phase.

Wirral's Joint Community Safety Team recently canvassed opinion from all residents in the Deveraux Road area of Wallasey ahead of the installation of 48 alleygates in that community and the response was overwhelmingly in favour of their

installation.

As a result of this public backing, the gates are beginning to be put in place in August. Once this phase is finished, the gates will bring a proven high level of protection against crime to some 619 more households.

The alleygating scheme began in Wirral in 2003 when the number of household burglaries was 210 a month on average, with some areas of Wirral suffering a burglary rate which was four times the national average.

By installing the alleygates in areas where burglary was at the highest, the number of break-ins is now down to below the national average and Wirral as a whole suffers less than three burglaries per day amongst its 144,043 households.

By April 2007, there had been a 49.9% drop in the domestic burglary rate or 1,267 fewer offences of domestic burglary compared to 2003 when alleygating began. They are justifiably very popular then and by March next year, there will be a total of 1,060 alleygates installed across Wirral.

Cllr. George Davies, who is the Cabinet member for Housing and Community Safety in Wirral, said: "Alleygates have proven how successful they can be in reducing burglary and the figures justify the investment Wirral has made in installing them so widely; investment that was only possible thanks to Neighbourhood Renewal funding."

Steve McGilvray, Manager of the Joint Community Safety Team, said: "Any burglary is unwanted and alleygates have substantially reduced the number being perpetrated in Wirral. However, it is important to remember at this time of year, when the weather is warmer, opportunist burglars will still take advantage of open windows or doors.

"With this in mind it is important to stress that everyone should still take care and check all windows and doors are securely locked before going out or going to bed."



## **Wirral Council would like to warn residents about bogus callers apparently posing as council workers.**

A group of men are reported to be randomly calling at homes in Birkenhead saying they are collecting unwanted bulky items, such as old washing machines, cookers and bikes.

The men are reported to be distracting residents by asking them to open their back gates so that bulky items can be removed, whilst one of the men steals money and valuables.

The gang appear to be wearing normal clothes, no uniform as such, and drive a large blue truck with a metal cage on the back.

Unless you have made an appointment with Wirral Council's Streetscene to have an unwanted bulky item collected from your home, (Eric Service) then no one should call. If you have booked a collection, we advise you to be cautious. Wirral Council's contractor Biffa will collect on the scheduled day booked in with Streetscene and will wear uniform.

If in any doubt, contact Streetscene on 0151 606 2004 to check if the staff are genuine before allowing them entry on to your property.

**Anyone who witnesses suspicious activities of this nature should contact Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111**

## **Agencies combine to tackle underage alcohol sales**

Agencies in Wirral are joining forces to try to reduce the risk of harm to young people from alcohol abuse.

Wirral Trading Standards, the Youth Service, police licensing and the Wirral Primary Care Trust are combining to provide new training, free of charge, to off licensees and their staff about underage sales.

The training is part of an ongoing drive to reduce incidents of alcohol-fuelled anti-social behaviour across the borough, as well as tackling related health issues.

John Malone, Trading Standards Manager said: "We want to work with businesses to prevent alcohol getting into the hands of young people. The new training we will be providing will look at the legal position for off licensees but a new element will also deal with the impact alcohol can have on young people's health and well being.

"It is essential that off licensees are aware of the health consequences of selling alcohol to young people. Hospital admissions for injuries caused when drunk, risky sexual behaviour and teenage pregnancy, involvement in crime, violence and anti-social behaviour, school truancy and road traffic accidents."

**If any off licensees and their staff want to attend the free training, which will take place at Wallasey Town Hall at 6pm on Wednesday 12th September, they can contact Nick Chesters of Trading Standards on 0151 691 8579.**

## Healthier Communities & Older People

Find out More log on to [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) Or [www.ageconcernwirral.org](http://www.ageconcernwirral.org)

# Wirral Older People's Parliament

Newsletter Issue Four June 2007 – Issue Number 4

**News Progress & Information** - Following comments at a recent parliament meeting any person receiving un-solicited letters (**Junk Mail**) or Telephone calls (**Silent Calls**) should make contact with the “**Mailing Preference Service**” and or “**Telephone Preference Service**” this is a very simple procedure via the web page, and registration of your address or telephone number should go a long way to clearing this sort of problem. You may still receive mail or telephone calls from companies you may have dealt with in the past, to eliminate this type of contact you will need to contact the organisation concerned and ask to be removed from their data base. Useful telephone numbers are “**OFCOM 020 7981 3000**” or “**Information Commissioners Office 01625 545745**” more detailed information is available at your local library, or CAB Office. Write to your local councillor and ask what provision is available for older people to learn about or even have access too Computers. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised at the volume of information available and the amount of help and support that is available to older people

**Regional Devolution** At the last Parliament Meeting a question was asked about reports that certain authorities are discussing banding together to draw up a Regional Devolution Plan, what effect this may have on Wirral Borough Council, at this moment true information seems to be sparse to say the least

**Transport and Free travel for the elderly** This subject has been under discussion for some considerable time and new legislation is to come into force in July of this year. It is yet to be seen if local authorities will all conform in a manner that is fitting for the needs of the elderly population. For instance in many locations even the so called rush hour busses are half empty, so why cannot we who are retired, use our passes on such routes it will not interrupt or compromise those going to work, but could boost the local economy.

**Express Your View** You have the opportunity to write or E-Mail to parliament if you are unable to get along to one of the meetings held throughout 11 local forum areas. Items directly affecting older people will be addressed by the Older Peoples Parliament Officers. You also have the opportunity to assist on one or more of the committee meetings held to assess the various items involved. People in the age group 50+ are a major influential body in the total population of Wirral Borough Council 22 different ward areas, it is important that their wishes are reflected in the decision making process “ **Do you have something to say**” ?

**Computer Use** There are a number of places that encourage computer access and usage for the older generation. Most of the Library's have the required equipment, plus in some community centres there are opportunities for basic tuition.

Ring **Leasowe 630 3486, Rock Ferry 643 1215** or **New Brighton 639 1386** For up to date information, you may also check with your local School or Night School many of them run courses on basic internet access, **you are never too old to learn.**

**To learn about your local forum - Tracey Smith 0151 691 8026 ([traceysmith@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:traceysmith@wirral.gov.uk))**  
**To learn more about “the Older Peoples Parliament” - Lesley Howells 0151 666 2220**

# Wirral Older People's Parliament

## Newsletter Issue Five September 2007

**News & Progress** Talking to a number of the people attending this “**Later Life Convention**” it became quite obvious that some had not realised that so many organisations existed with the means to assist and advise the older populations. One issue that arose time and time again was the fact that Insurance Premiums had risen dramatically both in terms of **House and Car Insurance**, this was explained away because of the recent heavy flooding in some parts of the country, most companies had taken quite a lot of claims and consequently premiums had risen accordingly. This was not received very well for people who had not been involved in any of the flooded areas.

Many of the changes and proposed changes worried some, the closing of local GP practices and the movement of doctors to **PCT Community Practice locations** involved longer journeys and sometimes difficulties in public transport to get to the doctors, plus you were not always sure you would actually see your own doctor, maybe just the doctor who was on duty at the time, and maybe not familiar with your particular medical history.

A number of visitors were complaining to the local police stand that despite urgent telephone calls for assistance in many instances the police only turned up after a long delay and then seemed to actually do very little with clusters of youths causing anxiety to elderly resident's housing estates. This complaint was usually answered by claiming lack of manpower and or recourses from the police departments.

One stall that received a lot of interest was the “**Healthy Eating**” giving good advice on issues of healthier diets, together with mild exercise and promoting an active participation in local communities and or taking part in various allotment schemes.

Everybody attending this conference took away an abundance of information literature with them.

**Hulme Hall Port Sunlight (September)** The later life convention proved to be very popular with many of our senior citizens who happily toured round the 78 exhibitors covering all aspects and issues that have a direct bearing on the elderly, and much of their every day life. Abundant advice on subjects like Insurance, Fire Safety, Health & Well-Being, plus making life easy with numerous gadgets and modern equipment aiding mobility and comfort. From Pensions and Benefits available too Healthy Eating and Beneficial Exercise, including many specialists in areas like Alzheimer's, Stroke's, Parkinson's and Smoking or Alcohol Addictions, and experts in the fields of Care, and Active Aging plus Community Life. Wirral Council one stop shops and Independent Age activities for Volunteers, Cares, & Nursing Services.



*Jack, Joe, & Sandy assisted Lesley on the stall*

**To learn about your local forum ring Tracey Smith 691 8026 ([traceysmith@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:traceysmith@wirral.gov.uk))**

**For more about “the Older Peoples Parliament” ring Lesley Howells 666 2220 You can take an active part in the Parliament within your own district just ring and find out what can be achieved when the older people band together.**

## Children & Young People

### Wirral's students are celebrating

Wirral's students are celebrating after yet another year of improvement in A-Levels, AS Levels and Vocational Courses in the borough.

Today's results saw the average pupil's point score raise by 32.4 points – from 729 last year to 762 this year. Wirral also saw a rise of nearly 80 in the numbers of pupils sitting these exams.



Director of Children's Services Howard Cooper was very pleased with the results: "Once again, it looks as though our A-level, AS level and vocational training students in Wirral have surpassed themselves.

"I am extremely proud of all those students who put in so much hard work to achieve these results and I am also proud of the teachers and other school staff who helped and supported them in their studies.

"It is particularly encouraging to note that an increasing number of our youngsters are staying on at school to improve their chances of a better career and life. I wish all of them the best of luck in their chosen degree, college course or employment."

### Teenagers' challenge of a lifetime

Eight teenagers from Wirral are taking the challenge of a lifetime in a bid to turn their lives around from the risks involved with anti social behaviour, drink or drugs.

The group are canoeing 68 miles from Fort William to Inverness across Scotland's Caledonian Canal. Aged between 15 and 18, the young people were engaged through the Council's Response Service - a support service for at-risk young people. In total the group of seven young men and three young women will complete the six-day course carrying their own equipment and camping gear.

Called The Imagine Project, the expedition, which is jointly funded by the Youth Opportunities Fund and Wirral Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT ) will be supported by experienced instructors from Wirral Council's Oaklands Outdoor Education Centre and key staff from the Council's Response Service.

The trip will see the group work as a team developing better health and improved life chances. For many, it is their first experience of working within a group but they represent a growing number of young people determined to tackle substance abuse through making changes to their own lives. Individually the youngsters have already achieved a First Aid and Life Savers award and are aiming for the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award for Outward Bound Achievement.

Pat Rice, Head of Response, said: “These young people first came to Response with some challenging issues, with some of them having personal experience of drug and alcohol misuse. They were on the brink of becoming disillusioned, and disinterested in life. But now they are healthier, happier and looking forward to this challenge and a great life-changing experience. I’m really proud of what they have achieved so far and I know that they will become valued members of their communities and a really great example to their friends and families”.

Terry White, Young Persons Programme Manager said: “The DAAT is committed to reducing the harm caused by substance misuse throughout Wirral. Through this type of partnership work we are able to prevent today’s young people, especially the most vulnerable, from becoming tomorrow’s drug misusers, which is a key target within the Wirral Drug and Alcohol strategy. This project is an exciting initiative that will result in healthier, happier and more confident young people build resistance against substance misuse,” he added.

Jo Day, Outreach Team Leader for Response, said: “The project, which has been running since May, is about personal, emotional and social development and as a group they have built friendships and their confidence and self-esteem has grown during their time together”.

## **Wirral Youth Service**

Provides opportunities, which are open to all Wirral young people. Youth work helps young people learn about themselves, others and society, through informal educational activities which combine fun, challenge and learning.

The Service works with young people aged 13-19 years, and specifically targeted young people aged 20 until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday who have additional needs and need support with transition into adult life/services.

The Youth Service in Wirral works with many young people in a variety of different settings, these include:

Youth clubs, Street work projects, “Kontaktabuses”, “Wirral Youth Theatre” and Youth Arts, “Response” – Advice, support, advocacy and information service and Substance Misuse Service, International exchanges, Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, Outdoor activities and Projects in schools

The Service is flexible and able to respond to the needs of young people and offers opportunities that are both universal and targeted. Youth work on Wirral is delivered through joint working between the Local Authority, voluntary organisations and other agencies.

Youth workers work with young people in many different localities in Wirral. Having a variety of youth clubs and street work projects allows youth workers to work with young people in their neighbourhoods, meet their specific needs and respond to issues that are important to them.

Much of the work of the Youth Service takes place in one of sixteen open access youth clubs located across the Borough. Streetwork teams of youth workers make contact with young people who do not access the service elsewhere, build relationships with them and in negotiation with the young people, develop programmes which address their specific needs. This work is delivered on the streets, through project work and on mobile Kontaktabuses.

Response is a Borough wide Youth Service provision, providing counselling, support, advocacy and information for young people. Many of these young people have complex needs requiring intensive support from the service including homelessness, abuse, poor health and poverty.

The agency also has a team of specialist workers providing support to young people who have drug and alcohol problems. The team work with those individuals in a variety of settings including outreach street work and one to one work in their homes or wherever young people feel safe. The team also deliver educational programmes within schools and other youth settings on the risk, consequence and health implications of substance misuse. Partnership work plays an important role in targeting vulnerable, hard to reach groups of young people. Service level agreements and regular joint working ensures the needs of young people are met.

International Work - Each year the Youth Service runs a comprehensive programme of International Youth Exchanges. Young people from Wirral take part in a number of international opportunities including, Hong Kong, Italy, Germany and the Azores.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award - The Youth Service is the Licensed Operating Authority for the whole of Wirral. Awards can be gained through a variety of approved operating units and access organisations made up of a combination of youth centres, schools, an open award centre and a selection of voluntary groups. Young people in Wirral consistently gain over 450 awards per year at bronze, silver and gold levels.

The Award is available to all young people aged between 14 and 25 with the emphasis being the development of young people's leisure time. By taking part in the Award, participants are able to increase their own self confidence and self esteem, make new relationships and develop fresh skills.

During the summer holidays the Youth Service was able to offer an adventure activity programme to youth clubs and associated organisations. Over 160 young people took part in sailing, canoeing, rafting, climbing and adventure course activities which were delivered by both licensed operators and our own staff. Despite the inclement weather there was a 90% take up on the activities offered.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award staff continue to work with a group of Looked After Children in a bid to help them successfully complete their Bronze Awards. In August, most of this group attended a 3 day residential course at The Oaklands Centre where they engaged in a wide variety of outdoor activities. One young woman in particular was identified as having the potential to take a future lead role and will probably be invited back and given a work experience opportunity.

Wirral's D of E Open Award Centre is due to move premises again. Following a decision to vacate the Somerville Site at Gorse Lane we have entered into negotiations regarding the use of the Wirral Alternative Schools Programme new premises at Solar Campus.

In our drive to make the Award available to everyone and to diversify its delivery we are now helping several new units run the Award. This includes Meadowside Special School where we will adapt the Award for pupils with complex learning difficulties.

Wirral Youth Theatre/Youth Arts Wirral Youth Theatre operates across the Borough to enable young people to access a wide range of performing arts related activities. Art forms such as drama, dance, music, technical theatre and new media are used to help young people to develop personally and socially as well as developing theatre and media related skills

### **East Wallasey (Liscard and Seacombe)**

Allandale Youth Centre is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

Football Competition: Young People took second place at the football comp in the soccer dome on the 7<sup>th</sup> august, older group didn't get placed but enjoyed the event.

Barge trip: 7 Young People attended this trip it was funded by the Wirral wardens and crewed by the narrow boat trust. The girls enjoyed the 4 days travelling along the various canals and locks they all took a share of the daily chores and mucked in with the opening of the locks. We did the evaluation the following Thursday the girls came up with a map route drawn in the shape of the canal and attached photos to it, putting comments along the route, all positive-except for the beds being none to comfy. The following Thursday we held the presentation were the girls each received a photo, certificate, letter of achievement from the crew and a small gift (necklace) from the staff .the group showed individual skills and good team building was achieved.

Other Present and Future work:

Halloween party in the club, Dance Project, Music project, Competition being done to design cover of the CD, Some of the y/p are involved in the Seacombe community day d-j(ing) and mc(ing) also marshalling the event this is taking place on the 29<sup>th</sup> September

The Wallasey Young People's Project is working with Seacombe Library on a project to encourage greater participation of young people in their libraries. With the support of the BEST team, young people from Oldershaw School are training to become peer consultants to enable them to undertake the consultation of young people in the area. West Wirral.

### **Other surrounding areas that provide youth activities:**

#### **New Brighton and Wallasey**

St. Mary's Youth club: The period from Easter is a big expedition season for the club and at least one group per weekend are on expedition, from Bronze to Gold. Over 200 young people were involved in gaining community service and skills sections of DofE

The Tuesday club has enjoyed a wide range of activities, all organised by young volunteers.

The gold award group had fun taking part in bleep tests

Big fans of Ray Mears some groups have been learning survival skills and are hoping to test these out in the 'rough' terrain of Wales later in the year.

The youth club has a range of volunteers that are not only DofE but also include looked after children, and referrals from social services and school.

The volunteers took the Tuesday group bowling during the summer.

The Wallasey Young People's Project works with young people in a variety of public places in the area and the Kontactabus Bus is used as a point of contact with young people in some locations. WYPP organised a sand sculpture competition, with more than 100 entrants, at New Brighton.

### **Wallasey Area**

Belvidere Youth Club in Wallasey is open 4 nights each week, Monday to Thursday, and is an integrated club for young people with disabilities and their peers. Activities at the club include the usual club activities such as pool, quizzes, TV games, discussion groups etc. and the club also has a programme of visits and residentials including theatre trips and outdoor adventure weekends. The young people come from all areas of Wirral.

## **Economic Development & Enterprise**

A Wirral call centre has won a high profile contract with Woolworths because the famous high street retailer was impressed by their passionate approach and the available workforce in Birkenhead.

This exciting development means The Contact Company, based in Birkenhead is now recruiting for jobs to meet the demand of their increasing portfolio of clients.

The company is holding a recruitment open day at Wirral Museum, Birkenhead on 23rd August to recruit up to 100 staff to work on this prestigious contract. They want to recruit local people for jobs which offer flexible hours between 8am and 8pm, seven days a week.

People interested in applying for vacancies can meet staff from The Contact Company and find out more about this type of work on the day.

The Contact Company's Chief Executive, Asif Hamid said: "This contract is further evidence of our growing profile within the competitive contact centre industry and demonstrates the confidence that large blue chip companies have in us to deliver a high quality service.

"The Contact Company operates an added value service at the higher end of the contact centre market and this approach is proving fruitful as we win more contracts like this. We are looking forward to adding to our excellent 125 strong team and are excited to be working with Woolworths" he added.



Wirral Council's Head of Strategic Development, Kevin Adderley said: "The Contact Company has rapidly grown its team in the last year and is now recruiting even more staff to meet demand. This type of work appeals to people who need flexible working hours and is in an attractive location in central Birkenhead. This is a fantastic jobs boost for Wirral."

The Contact Company has been trading since July 2006 and has already won 'New Business of the year' at the Liverpool Daily Post Business Awards and was one of the host call centres for this year's Comic Relief when millions were raised for charity.

## **Wirral Council is the first authority in the northwest to launch online web casts of Planning Committee Meetings.**

All Planning decisions can now be viewed live from anywhere in the world via Wirral Council's website, [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk)

The new facility uses web cameras at council meetings to capture the live information and send it to a central server, which in turn sends it to anyone that would like to view the meeting via the internet.

The web cast facility also archives each meeting, meaning that recorded meetings can be viewed online at anytime of day, as many times as required. The use of the index points allow you to jump to a specific agenda point or speaker.

Chair of the Planning Committee, Councillor John Cocker, welcomes the move;

"This new facility is very good news for Wirral residents and developers. Now the meetings can be watched live, or at a time that suits you, from the comfort of your own arm chair or from the side of a swimming pool on holiday. Its also going to save many journeys across Wirral to watch the meetings in person, people can now log on and watch at home or at work, saving unnecessary car journeys"

To access the web cast facility, visit [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk) and click on 'Planning Webcasts' on the right hand menu, or simply [click here](#). The pilot scheme will be running until the end of the January 2008.

## **LICENSING ACT 2003**

The Licensing Act 2003 has been the responsibility of Wirral Borough Council since 24 November 2005.

In December 2004 a Statement of Licensing Policy was produced which sets out the principles the Council will generally apply to promote the licensing objectives when making decisions under the Act. It is a requirement of the Licensing Act 2003 that the Council reviews it's Statement of Licensing Policy every three years.

The Council welcomes the views of any interested parties and you should feel free to draw the attention of this document, which can be found at [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk), to others who may be interested in responding to the consultation.

Full consultation on this document is being undertaken with: -

- The Chief Officer of Police
- The Fire Authority
- Bodies representing local holders of premises licences
- Bodies representing local holders of club certificates
- Bodies representing local holders of personal licences
- Bodies representing businesses and residents
- Other interested parties

You may find it useful to consult the Statutory Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act when making comments to the Statement of Licensing Policy. The Statutory Guidance is available at [www.culture.gov.uk](http://www.culture.gov.uk).

Your views are important to the Council in reaching a fair and proportionate Licensing Policy that discharges the Licensing Objectives. Please ensure we receive your views no later than **17 November 2007**.

If you have any further enquiries about the Licensing Policy please contact Margaret O'Donnell on 0151 691 8606.

# **Section Three**

## **Partner Update**

Area forums also provide an opportunity to meet partners and organisations who are working to deliver a better, safer and cleaner Wirral.

Merseyside Police, Wirral Primary Care Trust, Wirral Community Safety Team and Mersey Fire and Rescue Service to name just a few, are active members of the forum. This section is to share partner information with forum members and the community.

## Community Safety

- Stealth software - the Joint Community Safety Team, working in conjunction with the IT Department of the Children and Young Person's Department, have a roll-out programme of software being loaded onto all computers belonging to the Authority e.g., schools, libraries, One Stop Shops, Community Centres. In the event of a computer being stolen, it notifies a central control point where the machine is being used. The police are alerted and procedures are in place for the machine to be recovered and, if appropriate, person(s) arrested.
- Smartwater Project - most schools now have their valuable equipment marked with Smartwater which identifies which school the property came from. All operational police officers on the Wirral have been equipped with special torches which identify Smartwater marked property. In addition, Trading Standards attend Car Boot Sales with police officers and check for Smartwater marked property.
- DVLA Project - whenever Parking Wardens, Community Support Officers, Police Officers see vehicles with items on display a letter is forwarded to the registered keeper to remind them of their responsibility and they should remove items on view in the future to ensure their vehicles are not going to be targeted by thieves. Most thefts from vehicles are committed by opportunists.
- 'Talking CCTV' launched 31/5/2007. Funding was secured from the government's Respect Task Force enabling broadcasting systems to be attached to existing CCTV cameras at key site. The systems enable operators in the Council's CCTV Control Room to prevent and challenge anti-social and criminal behaviour by broadcasting directly to members of the public and giving out key messages relating to crime and disorder.
- Reparation initiative launched on 13/6/2007. A partnership between Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Wirral Youth Offending Service (YOS), BT and Virgin Media using young people engaged with YOS through reparation to repaint streetboxes affected by graffiti and flyposting. Residents can report streetboxes requiring repainting to 'It's Your Call' on 606 2020 or at any One Stop Shop.
- Housing Associations / Registered Social Landlords signed-up to Respect Housing Management Standard on 26/6/2007 as part of a local Consortium. Eighteen RSLs in partnership with Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team signed-up to the Standard as part of a local Wirral RESPECT Consortium. The Standard is commitment to challenging unacceptable behaviour and promoting good behaviour. The Consortium now meets regularly to share intelligence and best practice and develop initiatives.
- Operation Safe Space launched 18/7/2007. A new partnership initiative, led by Merseyside Police, aiming to increase the use of parks and open spaces. This involved enforcement activities across hot-spot parks by the police and diversionary activities throughout the summer in multi-use games areas.
- Youth RESPECT Team appointed to Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team launched on 27/7/2007. The Team consists of youth workers and play workers with the focus of preventing and reducing ASB by young people. They are identifiable by their distinctive red jackets

**Bob Little Information, Communication & Evaluation Manager Wirral Council Wirral  
Joint Community Safety Team Telephone Number: 0044(0)151 606 5444 e-mail:  
[boblittle@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:boblittle@wirral.gov.uk)**

## Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service

### Young people dig it project



An exciting new community facility that has been designed and put together by young people at Bromborough Fire Station. Around 30 young people have put their heart and soul into a market garden which is now growing vegetables, fruit and plants and also contains a pond, wildlife area and borders.

The Dig It project was established last year after the Fire Service and South Wirral Young People's Project engaged with young people in the area to see what activities would be an alternative to hanging around the streets. They said they would like to develop a market garden where they could learn to grow vegetables and how to cook them.

Since then the young people have designed the garden, put together bids for funding and worked with contractors to develop their landscaping skills. They have also designed a community kitchen that has also been completed.

Station Manager Myles Platt said it had been fantastic to see how much the young people have developed as a result. He said: "I'm extremely impressed by them. Some of them have some challenging personal circumstances and this is a real outlet for them. It has given them a sense of responsibility and achievement. A couple have moved on and got employment and this project has helped them to do that by developing their practical and social skills."

The initiative has cost more than £50,000 and has received support from various funds and local companies. These include the Urban Green Land Initiative; Youth Opportunities Fund; Wirral Partnership Homes; Riverside Housing; Eastham Oil Refinery; Local Area Forums Community Initiatives Funds; BT It's Your Community Award; UniLever Green Machine; and Uniqema.

## Merseyside Police

### **'Total Policing' in East Wallasey**

My name is Julie Fletcher and I am proud to be the Neighbourhood Inspector for East Wallasey, which serves the communities of Seacombe, Liscard and New Brighton. I have 15 years police service all of which has been operational – out on the streets tackling the crime and disorder issues that effect the community.

Prior to being posted to this role I worked in East Wallasey as a Sergeant for two years so I am very familiar with both the area and the concerns of local people.

### **Total Policing**

The Neighbourhood has had great success in tackling many of the crime and disorder issues that undermine quality of life for local residents.

The Neighbourhood is committed to the Force's vision of 'Total Policing' – which very simply means listening to the needs of the person or group with the problem, supporting them and working in partnership with the Local Authority, The Wirral Community safety Team, Victim Support and other agencies to do something positive about the issue they have raised.

Our response could be anything from the timely arrest of the offender responsible to the creation of a multi-agency tactical plan aimed at resolving a long-standing problem caused by groups of disorderly youths.

Whatever the issue, the police will fully support the victim involved and update them fully on any progress that has been made.

Meeting the public's need for prompt police arrival times at emergency situations is important to us. My Constables and their Sergeants are committed to this role. The Neighbourhood also has a number of 'dedicated' Constables and Sergeants who have responsibility for solving more long-term issues in each ward.

Our six Community Support Officers continue to develop and strengthen the links they have made with our local residents and businesses. The new powers they have received recently has made them even more effective at dealing with low-level youth disorder whilst they are out and about on their wards. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers (members of the public who give up their own time to help the police) who help perform a vital role in the station's public enquiry office. If you would like to become a volunteer please get in touch.

## **Citizen Focus**

As part of the Home Office Citizen Focus agenda the Neighbourhood regularly conducts public surveys in order to find out exactly what issues are important to local residents. These issues are addressed and resolved by a joint agency committee made up of residents, the police and other agencies. The surveys tell us that youth disorder is the biggest issue for many residents. We have had great success this year in tackling anti-social behaviour. Please refer to the other articles on our website that detail some of the activity that has taken place.

We continue to run a number of initiatives aimed at reducing house-burglary, car crime and other quality of life issues. Much of the success we have had in targeting prolific offenders and sorting out our problem areas has been down to public willingness to provide us with information and a commitment to act as witnesses in cases that have resulted in substantial sentences at court.

I am glad that members of the community in East Wallasey feel they have the confidence to come forward in this way. I am committed to ensuring that any member of the public who needs our services receives our total support and reassurance.

Together we can make a difference!

## Wirral Primary Care Trust

### **Primary Care Trust (PCT) Small Grants Programme to support Community Initiatives Fund**

During 2007 the PCT will be supporting the Local Authorities Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) and will allocate 5K across East Wallasey (Liscard and Seacombe). The funding will be allocated to health promoting activity, which meets the needs of local people within the area.

Voluntary and Community sector groups are invited to submit applications through the current CIF application criteria. All proposals will need to meet funding limits and priorities, determined by each area forum.

The PCT Funding must address following health themes:

**Wirral taste for health** – improving access to healthy, affordable foods and helping people to develop shopping and cookery skills.

**Wirral active** – encouraging people to participate in activities that are enjoyable and health enhancing.

**Smoke free Wirral** – providing support for people to stop smoking and protecting children from second hand smoke.

**Damage Limitation** – providing diversionary activities for young people to reduce harm related to alcohol misuse.

If you feel you can support the delivery of some of the above health themes and wish to apply for funding please contact the Council Community Engagement Team on 0151 691 8650 or email : [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk)

### **Wirral Primary Care Trust Involvement Strategy 2007 - 2010**

The Primary Care Trust is currently developing its 'Involvement Strategy' which will set out its plans towards:

Involving patients: as consumers of health care services and using their views to influence Primary Care Trust commissioning and help shape current and future health services.

Involving citizens: to provide legitimacy and accountability for health policy and health care service provision decision making.

Winning hearts and minds: enabling people to take a more active role in their own health and wellbeing.

A summary version of the Involvement Strategy will be available for the public.



## **Wirral Primary Care Trust Commissioning Strategy 2007 – 2010**

The PCT is currently developing its commissioning strategy. Further information regarding the strategy will be provided at the Forum.

### **The PCT would like to invite you to “Have your say”; we want to know what you think of your health service?**

Wirral Primary Care Trust (PCT) is responsible for commissioning health services in Wirral. We want to know what you as a patient think of the services you have received, be it your family doctor, dentist, optician, pharmacist or community based service such as district nursing. We also want to know if you have any ideas for making services even better.

Your comments will be used to improve our services so that they continue to meet your needs and the needs of local people.

### **How can you submit comments to the PCT?**

We aim to give all our patients and members of the public an opportunity to contact us through a variety of methods. You can go to our public web-site by clicking on to the icon on the home page, or you can place your comments on our on-line form. The following is a list of approaches you can use when contacting us to ‘Have your Say’.

- You can call in person to our PALs office at Laurie’s Centre, 136 Claughton Road, Birkenhead, Wirral CH41 6EY
- Call us on our freephone 0800 085 1547
- Write to us at FREEPOST HAVE YOUR SAY
- e-mail us at <mailto:Haveyoursay@wirralpct.nhs.uk>
- Have Your Say on line form at [www.wirralpct.nhs.uk](http://www.wirralpct.nhs.uk) and go to home page and click on ‘Have Your Say’ document. Click on left hand side box ‘Have your say request form’ and you will then be guided through the ‘Have Your Say’ process.
- SMS text on 07781472493

### **What happens next?**

If you provide your contact details when submitting your comments you will receive acknowledgement and if appropriate, after 21 days you will receive a formal response to your comments.

# **Section Four**

## **Local Transport Update**

Local Transport Plan (LTP) sets out the transport strategy for Merseyside.

The LTP is a document prepared by the five local authorities and Merseytravel.

The second LTP covers the period between 2006/2007 and 2010/2011 and contains a five year programme and a comprehensive set of performance indicators and targets.

# Transport

## **Wrexham Bidston Electrification**

The Forum will be familiar with the Local Transport Plan which sets out the transport strategy for Merseyside. The LTP is a document prepared by the 5 local authorities and Merseytravel.

The second LTP covers the period between 2006/7 and 2010/11 and contains a five year programme and a comprehensive set of performance indicators and targets.

Included within the LTP is reference to the electrification of the Wrexham Bidston rail line to link it to the existing Mersey electrics network.

The electrification of the Wrexham Bidston (Borderlands) Line involves the extension of the electrified network to all or part of the line between Bidston and Wrexham.

It also included the construction of new stations at Deeside and Woodchurch.

In 2005 consultants First Class Partnerships and Mott Mac Donald had looked at the physical infrastructure and what was needed to electrify the line.

oth considered a number of options with the Mott Mac Donald report being more detailed but indicating greater costs.

During 2006 consultants Faber Maunsells had provide Benefit Cost Ratios for a number of options.

Earlier this year (Jan 07) Neil Scales, Director General of Merseytravel attended the Streetscene and Transport Services Overview Committee to update members on the scheme and indicated that the following actions need to be taken to progress the scheme;

- (1) Further discussions with the Welsh Assembly – Neil Scales has been discussing the issues with WAG.
- (2) Clear indication of the costs of the Project with Network Rail undertaking work which would give a clearer understanding of the work that had been carried out to date using the GRIP ( Guide to Rail Investment Projects) scale. They had been asked to provide an estimate of the cost of taking forward the design to a higher GRIP level. This study is currently underway.
- (3) Merseytravel would be considering this project along with other possible rail projects which would require funding through the Regional Funding Allocation process.
- (4) The development of greater costing detail was important to be able to provide a greater certainty of the Benefit Cost Ratio as the intention would be to include the

project in the Regional Funding Review which was likely to take place in the next two years. This would effectively cover the English element of the funding profile.

- (5) The overall capital funding of the project if approved would however come from a combination of English and Welsh Government finance. A separate application to the Welsh Assembly would be required.
- (6) Revenue funding was a separate issue. It was likely that a revenue funding gap would exist and a means of bridging the gap would need to be identified.

Future updates will be provided to the Forum as the project progresses. If any of the area forums want more information on any aspects of the capital programme we could come along at the next round of forums in February/June 2008 a presentation if the forums think that this would be useful.

**Julie Barnes, Principal Officer (Forward Planning & Strategy) Technical Services, traffic management Division, Forward Planning/travelwise.**

**Julie Barnes@wirral.gov.uk or 0151 606 2004**

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Following the announcement by the Department for Transport (DfT) in December 2006, approving a Local Transport Capital Expenditure Settlement for Wirral of £6,549,000 for 2007/08, this report sets out a draft transport capital programme in line with the Local Transport Plan (LTP) targets.

1.2 This report is identified in the Forward Plan.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members will be familiar with the Local Transport Plan (LTP) for Merseyside, which sets out the transport strategy for Merseyside. The second LTP (LTP2) covers the period between 2006/07 and 2010/11 and contains a 5-year programme and a comprehensive set of performance indicators and targets.

2.2 Future funding allocations will be dependent upon the successful delivery of the LTP targets over the coming years. Therefore, it is necessary for Wirral's transport capital schemes to deliver the outcomes necessary to help meet this aim.

3.0 PROGRAMME REVIEW

3.1 The second Merseyside LTP was submitted to the Government in March 2006. LTP2 contains 41 targets – some of which are mandatory. In order to ensure that these targets are managed effectively, they are delegated between the various Merseyside LTP sub-groups. As such, the sub-groups are responsible for the targets' monitoring and reporting.

3.2 For LTP2, the Government introduced four 'shared priority' areas: Congestion, Road Safety, Accessibility and Air Quality/ Environment. Each target, and indeed each transport scheme, is likely to contribute to the delivery of more than one of these 'shared priorities', however, there is generally one that can be identified as the 'main' priority.

3.3 Consequently, the LTP programme for 2007/08 (see Appendix) is presented differently to last year. Members will note that the main budget headings reflect the four shared priorities and that the sub-headings more closely reflect the LTP2 objectives and policies. To ensure effective monitoring, each is owned by the LTP sub-group that is responsible for the respective targets.

3.4 Whilst it is essential that each of the proposals help towards meeting the delivery of the various LTP2 targets, it is evident that some schemes contribute towards a greater number of targets than others. In order to inform the funding allocations for 2007/08 consideration has been given to target delivery, however, the relative significance of each target also has to be borne in mind, along with the highway responsibilities that the authority has in terms of statutory duties.

3.5 Therefore, to assist the continued development of future transport capital programmes, a further piece of work will be undertaken over the coming months to develop an improved appraisal framework. This framework will provide a transparent process and help further improve scheme prioritisation, whereby ensuring funding will be allocated to projects that have the most benefits for LTP2 delivery and/or statutory obligations.

3.6 This framework will also be applied to longer-term projects that might be introduced into the LTP process in the future. To justify future schemes, such as specific junction improvements, it will be necessary to have a clear framework upon which decisions are based. Consequently, should appraisal of a particular project, in terms of LTP delivery, not provide strong justification then the project may not receive funding prioritisation in the LTP programme and it might be necessary for alternative funding to be acquired for the project's implementation to be pursued.

3.7 Should Members, through the Area Forums, be aware of potential junction or transport projects that might be considered in this appraisal process, I would appreciate any suggested locations to be forwarded to me by the end of June 2007. As the success of any project will be dependent upon its appraisal against LTP criteria, I would appreciate if members would also include the reasoning for their nominations and what element(s) of the LTP strategy each project would help to deliver.

#### 4.0 SHARED PRIORITIES, TARGETS AND SCHEMES

##### 4.1 Congestion

4.1.1 This shared priority contains schemes and initiatives that are primarily focussed on reducing/managing levels of congestion and the negative impact of the motor vehicle, and/or promoting public transport and the effective movement of freight. This is particularly relevant in terms of the LTP Person Delay Indicator on part of the A552 corridor between Prenton and Birkenhead. This shared priority also has a supporting role to the authority's Network Management Duties under the Traffic Management Act 2004, which require highway authorities to manage and ensure the expeditious movement of traffic.

4.1.2 Measures might include:

- Strategic highway improvements
- Parking (demand) management
- Area traffic control
- Intelligent transport systems
- Bus priorities
- Park and ride schemes
- Strategic signing on freight routes.

4.1.3 The following table shows the respective LTP2 performance indicators and targets associated with congestion:

TARGET NO.	INDICATOR	LTP2 TARGET VALUE
LTP2	Change in area wide road traffic	9.2% cap on growth to 2010/11
LTP5	Bus punctuality	90% by 2012/13
LTP6	Changes in peak traffic flows to LCC (7-10a.m.)	7% cap on growth to 2010/11
LTP7	Congestion (Person Delay)	6.4% increase in traffic leading to a 4.3% increase in journey time over the life of the LTP2
BVPI 102	P.T. patronage (bus, rail)	Bus: 1% growth to 2010/11 Rail: 7.9% growth to 2010/11
BVPI 104	Satisfaction with local buses	65% by 2009/10
L1	Sustainable transport as the final mode for air passengers	12% - 2008/09, 14% - 2010/11
L2	HGV journey times on designated freight routes	Capped at 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of increase in traffic levels
L3	Limit current number of car parking spaces in LCC	16,500 public off-street cap
L4	% of network below threshold speeds during peak periods	Monitoring only
L5	Extent of peak spreading	Monitoring only
L6	Road works coverage	Monitoring only
L7	Park & Ride usage	35% increase by 2010/11

##### 4.2 Road Safety

4.2.1 This shared priority not only contains the more traditional types of scheme to reduce road accident casualties but also those to ensure a safe and well maintained highway asset. Road safety measures undertaken as part of the LTP strategy can also contribute to the Council's road safety stretched target.

4.2.2 Road safety schemes can be split into two principal types: Those that meet accident reduction criteria and those that are not required to meet such criteria. The former are essential Local Safety Schemes (LSS) to reduce road accident casualties and can comprise of speed reductions schemes and junction / route improvements. Non-criteria safety schemes include Safer Routes to School, street lighting and structural maintenance programmes. In order to enhance previous years' road safety programmes, a NEW budget heading of "Community Projects" has been included in the LTP capital programme for 2007/08 to fund initiatives such as "20 is Plenty" and recognise recent concerns raised by elected Members in this area.

4.2.3 The following table shows the respective LTP2 performance indicators and targets associated with road safety.

TARGET NO.	INDICATOR	LTP2 TARGET VALUE
PI 99 (X)	Total killed and seriously injured casualties	40% reduction by 2010
PI 99 (Y)	Child killed and seriously injured casualties	55% reduction by 2010
PI 99 (Z)	Total slight casualties	No change in absolute numbers to 2010
BVPI 187	Footway condition	Wirral – 18%
BVPI 223 (96)	Principle Road Condition	National survey data processing problems; DfT aware of issue & effects on target setting.
BVPI 224a (97a)	Non-Principle Classified Road Condition	Target to be set after June 2007
BVPI 224b (97b)	Unclassified Road Condition	Wirral – 4% by 2010

### 4.3 Accessibility

4.3.1 New to LTP2, the Access Plan sets out a strategy to ensure access health care, education and jobs and opportunities created through regeneration. It is anticipated that external funding will provide the main expenditure for this work therefore the LTP programme is relatively modest.

4.3.2 The LTP partners will:

- Pursue improved bus services
- Review the role of Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)
- Build upon the expertise of the Community Transport Sector
- Continue the TravelWise campaign
- Encourage the development of Travel Plans with businesses and schools

4.3.3 The following table shows the respective LTP2 performance indicators and targets associated with accessibility:

TARGET NO.	INDICATOR	LTP2 TARGET VALUE
LTP1	National Accessibility Indicators	Monitoring only
L8	No. of rural households within 800m of an hourly or better bus service	Minimum 95% standard to be maintained through LTP2 period
L9	No. of rail stations upgraded to meet preset standards for (a) facilities & (b) access	By 2010/11: (a) 15; (b) 5
L10	BVPI 165 (accessibility of pedestrian crossings)	Wirral – 96% by 2010/11
L11	Bus based physical access (a) % low floor vehicles (b) % near level boarding via access kerbs	(a) 88% by 2010/11 (base 35%) (b) 32% by 2010/11 (base 12%)
L12	Affordability – Index of transport usage costs	Monitoring only
L13	Accessibility – Economic impact: Accessibility of workless residents to employment locations	Average 1% per annum improvement (target developed with Job Centre Plus)
L14	Accessibility – Education: % NEET group to access post 16 establishment	Average 1% per annum improvement (target developed with Learning & Skills Centre)
L15	Crime / fear of crime on and around public transport: (a) No. of broken window incidents reported on PT (b) Proportion of people who are discouraged from PT use at night	Monitoring only

#### 4.4 Air Quality/Environment

4.4.1 The final shared priority is to improve air quality, the quality of life and the environment. The aim of this priority area is to support sustainable travel modes to provide alternatives to the private car, including walking and cycling, as well as works to improve local environmental conditions.

4.4.2 This shared priority contains:

- Local environmental works, e.g. Home Zones and relevant junction improvements
- Walking schemes, i.e. pedestrian signals, dropped crossings and pedestrian refuges and signing
- Cycleways and cycle storage facilities

4.4.3 The following table shows the respective LTP2 performance indicators and targets associated with air quality / environment:

TARGET NO.	INDICATOR	LTP2 TARGET VALUE
LTP3	Cycling – Index of usage	10% increase by 2010/11
LTP4	Mode share of journeys to school	Due 2007
LTP8	Pollutant concentrations within AQMAs	28%, 13% and 10% reductions in emissions at receptor sites in AQMAs
L16	Estimated transport related emissions (tonnes/year) of CO, nitrogen oxides & particulate matter	Monitoring only
L17	Vehicle mileage in the AQMA or area of exceedance	7% traffic growth cap (AQMA1) and 9.2% traffic growth cap (AQMA2)
L18	Environmental standard of bus fleet (Euro111 or equivalent)	70% of fleet to meet standard by 2011 (baseline 35%)
L19	Physical Activity Indicator	Monitoring only

#### 4.5 Transportation Planning

4.5.1 In addition to the four shared priorities above, the LTP programme contains an additional budget heading of transportation planning. Due to the constantly evolving range of demands linked to the LTP delivery, this funding stream ensures that effective forward planning can take place.

4.5.2 The type of projects under this heading include:

- Preliminary design of schemes and measures that are in the forward programme
- Acquisition of land
- Research to inform strategy development and identify future schemes.

#### 5.0 DRAFT 2007/08 TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

5.1 Wirral Council's total 2007/08 Local Transport Capital Expenditure Settlement of £6,549,000 is made up as follows:

• Maintenance Block	£2,515,000
• Bromborough Pool Bridge (PRN)	£ 500,000
• Integrated Transport Block	£3,534,000
	TOTAL £6,549,000

5.2 The Maintenance block includes road, footway and bridge structural maintenance works. The Integrated Transport block covers the remaining elements of the LTP programme, including walking and cycling, local safety schemes, highway and public transport improvements, and traffic management schemes.

5.3 The Appendix shows Wirral's draft 2007/08 programme set in the context of the LTP2 shared priorities and policy headings. For additional information, it also includes the comparable levels of funding that were approved for 2006/07.



5.4 Due to the necessary level of analysis required for some of the budget heads, I am, however, unable to provide a breakdown of all elements of the programme at this time. Therefore, I propose to bring a separate report to elected Members in the Committee cycle in May 2007 covering cycling, pedestrian improvements, road safety, school travel and structural maintenance. These block allocations are highlighted in the Appendix with an asterisk (\*) as being subject to a more detailed report.

#### 6.0 FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Future levels of LTP funding will be dependent upon the successful delivery of the LTP programme and successful progress towards meeting the LTP2 targets. Running parallel to this, the level of funding via the LTP process is expected to reduce nationally. In terms of Wirral, it is likely that the annual LTP allocations will reduce by over £600,000 between 2007/08 and 2010/11.

6.2 Staff from my Department will continue to provide Wirral's input to the LTP and its strategic development. However, delivery of the transport capital programme will continue to have an impact on staffing requirements, particularly in the areas of work that require detailed accident analyses and public consultation prior to the scheme identification and implementation. It may be necessary, therefore, to appoint consultants to undertake certain categories of work so that I have the required flexibility to deliver the proposed programme of works.

6.3 Revenue implications – There will be increased maintenance costs or, in some instances, savings arising from specific projects. Where these arise, they will be detailed when projects are brought to Members for approval. However, it is recognised that levels of revenue funding available to the authority are not comparable to the level of capital infrastructure that is being implemented as part of the transport strategy.

#### 7.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no specific ethnic minority, elderly persons or equal opportunities implications arising directly from this report. The transport strategy, which underpins the LTP, includes measures to assist the transport needs of all sections of the community.

7.2 In addition, the Accessibility Plan within LTP2 identifies current transport barriers to key destination across Wirral. This work will inform the identification of potential transport proposals to improve opportunities for all people.

7.3 Wirral's highway and transport proposals consider the needs of people with disabilities and impaired mobility, as set out in the Merseyside Code of Practice on Access and Mobility, which takes full account of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

#### 8.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

8.1 In accordance with DfT guidelines, the LTP2 is closely aligned with the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and other strategic and local policies, including the Regional Transport Strategy, Wirral's Tourism Strategy and local environmental, social and economic regeneration strategies.

8.2 The Merseyside authorities are currently developing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) regarding land use and transport, which will improve linkages within the planning approvals' process. It is intended that the SPD be approved and implemented in the near future and will be reported to Members separately in due course. Members will note that the SPD was particularly noted by the Government in the settlement letter as "indicative of forward thinking on the links between transport and planning".

#### 9.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Most of the schemes in the Transport Capital Programme have positive Community Safety Implications, either through improvements in road safety (e.g. introducing physical changes to the highway) or improvements in personal safety (e.g. installing better street lighting).
- 9.2 LTP2 directly addresses the Government's shared priority of road safety, which links closely with the council's Local Performance Service Agreement (LPSA) to reduce traffic accidents.
- 9.3 Furthermore, LTP2 complements the Housing Market Renewal Initiative by helping to improve the street environment.
- 9.4 The LTP2 complements the majority of the Council's corporate objectives, however, it is directly linked to that of 'Improving Transport'.

#### 10.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no specific human rights implications arising directly from this report.

#### 11.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Sustainability and LA21 issues are common threads running through all the transport policies.

#### 11.2 Specific elements of LTP2 include:

- Sustainable Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the strategy;
- Joint working with health authorities and the promotion of walking and cycling;
- Reduction of transport related pollution;
- Encouraging greater use of public transport and non-motorised modes of transport;
- Development of Travel Plans with schools and businesses; and
- Merseyside 'TravelWise' – the initiative that is specifically helping to make an important contribution to people's behaviour change and the promotion of alternative modes of travel to the private car.

#### 12.0 ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

- 12.1 No background papers have been used in the preparation of this report.

#### 13.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The LTP contains a Wirral-wide transport strategy and implementation plan.

#### 14.0 RECOMMENDATION That:

(1) the transport capital programme for 2007/08 be approved;

(2) Members inform the Director of Technical Services of potential future highway/transport schemes, for inclusion in the forthcoming appraisal framework, by the end of June 2007; and

(3) in view of the fact that the capital allocation is valid for only one year, the Director of Technical Services, in consultation with party spokespersons, be authorised to arrange the redistribution of funding between budget heads according to the changing demands of the programme.

DAVID GREEN, DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

# **Section Five**

## **Area Forum Funding Progress Report**

Every year each area forum has funding to give out to small community groups within their ward area. This funding is to help and support services that benefit the community. This section provides an update on how some of this money has been spent in this area.

## Applications granted for financial year 2007/2008

All applications were assessed by a panel (see below) membership decided and approved by each of the area forums against agreed and publicised criteria, and in making their recommendations the panels referred to any local priorities set by their particular area forum.

East Wallasey (Liscard and Seacombe)	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2007	Councillor Dave Hawkins and Councillor Adrian Jones Community representatives Jo McCourt, Margi Allen and Carol Thomas Advisory Officer Michelle Gray
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**Applications to Area Forums** The availability of the funding was publicised widely, including an advertisement in the Wirral Globe, publicity leaflets at Information points including leisure centres, One Stop Shops and libraries etc across all of the wards and through the area forums.

### Projects funded/not funded through East Wallasey (Liscard and Seacombe) forum only

Id		Organisation	Project Details	CIF Awarded	CS Awarded	LA21 Awarded	Total Awarded	Panel Recommendation
SA	16	8th Wallasey Scout Group	To carry out repairs and redecoration to the scout headquarters.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not fund this as would rather support a project that would benefit the scouts / service users. Panel suggested that the group could apply to Neighbourhood Renewal for funding, under the people & places theme. The Area Co-ordinator has forwarded a copy of this application form to Katrina Roberts, Partnership Co-ordinator, Regeneration Department, Endeavour (Partnership Support) requesting that she contact the Scout Group directly about this.
SA	18	Allandale Youth Works	To cover costs of running a five week school holiday programme.	£602.00	£3,000.00	£0.00	£3,602.00	Panel fully supported this project and are aware of the hard work put into this centre. Awarded £3,602.00 (£602.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund and £3,000.00 from the Community Safety Fund), as no other provision is made for the young people in this area.

SA	23	25th Wallasey (East) Girl Guides	To contribute towards the cost of an educational weekend trip to the Baden Powell Centre in London.	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	Panel fully supported this project and the continuous work of the guides in the local area, and agreed to award £500.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
SA	70	CBED	To put up Christmas lights at Liscard shopping centre.	£2,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,500.00	Panel supported this project as it involves all the local community in and around the Liscard area. However, due to the number of excellent bids received in this round, agreed to contribute £2,500.00 towards this, from the Community Initiatives Fund.
SA	83	Liverpool Victoria Rowing Club	To purchase and install a full closed circuit camera system.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but felt that this did not meet the criteria as closely as other applications received in this round.
SA	98	Central Liscard Area Residents Association	To help create neighbourhood groups.	£750.00	£0.00	£0.00	£750.00	Panel supported this project, as this is an active association in the area that is committed to its residents. Agreed to award £750.00, on the condition that evidence can be supplied on the development and work of the neighbourhood group and the benefit to all of the residents in the Liscard area.
SA	112	273 Wallasey Air Training Corps	To purchase computer equipment to help young people aged 13 - 20 to develop skills that will be useful in everyday life.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but felt that this did not meet the criteria as closely as other applications received in this round. Panel suggested that the applicants be advised that they could apply for funding through the Community Foundation for Merseyside Local Network Fund (contact details: Tina Southern e-mail: tina.southern@cfmerseyside.org.uk).
SA	131	Liscard and Egremont Partnership	To publish two newsletters to be distributed throughout the Liscard ward.	£1,200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,200.00	Panel supported this project as the newsletter is well received and informs local people of events, activities, and useful information about the various agencies and organisations operating in their area. Agreed to award £1,200.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
SA	132	Wallasey Multiple Sclerosis Group	To cover the cost of room hire for monthly group meetings.	£165.00	£0.00	£0.00	£165.00	Panel supported this application, as funding will enable the group to meet locally within the community. Agreed to award £165.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
SA	133	Wallasey YMCA	To purchase an industrial floor cleaner and cleaning detergents for the sports hall.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel did not support this as would rather fund a project that would benefit service users at the centre.

**Projects that put requests into more than one forum for funding, including East Wallasey (Liscard and Seacombe).**

Id		Organisation	CIF Awarded	CS Awarded	LA21 Awarded	Total Awarded
MA	3	Royal Army Service Corps & Royal Corps of Transport (RASC & RCT) Association	£706.03	£0.00	£0.00	£706.03
MA	15	Wirral Women and Children's Aid	£600.00	£1,300.00	£0.00	£1,900.00
MA	22	Marlowe Church 8 to 10 Ladies Club (Liscard)	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
MA	36	Families need Fathers (FNF) - Wirral	£2,750.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,750.00
MA	42	The Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (RASA)	£1,900.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,900.00
MA	43	Wirral Tuesday Club	£3,200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£3,200.00
MA	47	Sundowns	£1,950.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,950.00
MA	77	Wirral Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	£4,625.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,625.00
MA	114	Victim Support and Witness Service Merseyside	£150.00	£2,850.00	£243.00	£3,243.00
MA	121	Wirral Raynet	£0.00	£700.00	£0.00	£700.00
MA	122	PTFA Elleray Park School	£1,000.00	£0.00	£3,950.00	£4,950.00
MA	123	South Wirral Young Persons Project (Wirral Youth Service)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
MA	124	Grand Parents Carers Group	£500.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,500.00
MA	130	Friends of Rake Lane Cemetery	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00

## East Wallasey (Liscard / Seacombe) Area Forum Funding Progress Report

Received From	Project Details	Decision	Progress Report
Allandale Youth Works'	To cover staffing costs to run a four week school holiday programme, to purchase sports / arts equipment, to fund a day trip.	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the criteria and will benefit people within the area, and agreed to award £2,629.17 from the Community Initiatives Fund.	The project ran during the school summer holidays. In the four weeks 244 young people attended the scheme. The project helped benefit the local community by providing diversity activities and engaging young people.
Stage One 2000 Musical Youth Theatre	To contribute towards setting up a concert party that can be taken around to nursing homes etc.	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the funding criteria, and agreed to award £393.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.	<p>We have purchased royal blue t-shirts with gold stars, and the young people have been rehearsing a variety of songs and movements from films both old and up to date.</p> <p>We recently filmed these rehearsals and are hoping to be able to send copies of this to interested parties. We also performed Calamity Jane at the Floral Pavilion in February.</p>
Liscard Community Renaissance	To produce a newsletter.	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the funding criteria, and agreed to award £1,000.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.	Two editions of the newsletter have been published and distributed to all households in the Egremont Liscard ward.
Wallasey YMCA	To provide a four week summer holiday programme for young people.	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the criteria and will benefit local people, and agreed to award £2,865.85 from the Community Initiatives Fund.	We ran a four week summer playscheme for young people aged 8 - 12 years. The activities ranged from just talking in a relaxed atmosphere to playing pool, sports and arts activities.

# **Section Six**

## **Local Area Forum Plan Update**

The area forum plan is a useful tool for everyone who has an interest in improving the local area as it will not only provide area forum members with a work programme of actions to be addressed, but will also ensure that local people have a means of monitoring the impact and progress of the area forum and the difference it is making to quality of life in the area.

Area forum plans form part of a much wider agenda for improving local services across the whole of Wirral and will influence the work of the local strategic partnership and the ongoing development of Wirral's local area agreement.

This section provides an update on some of the issues that have been resolved for this area forum.



## CABINET – 20 JUNE 2007 REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

### ROAD SAFETY

The Local Transport Capital Programme, which was considered and approved by Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007, sets out project details relating to proposed schemes within the areas of road safety, school travel, structural road maintenance, walking and cycling.

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) for Merseyside, which sets out the transport strategy for Merseyside. The second LTP (LTP2) covers the period between 2006/07 and 2010/11 and contains a five year programme and a comprehensive set of performance indicators and targets

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007, Cabinet approved the report (Minute 310) on the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme described how, in accordance with Government guidance, the new LTP is constructed to relate to four “shared priorities” – Road Safety, Congestion, Accessibility and Air Quality/Environment.

Consequently, the LTP programme for 2007/08 has been revised to match these priorities and more effectively reflect LTP objectives and policy areas.

This shared priority contains the more traditional types of scheme to reduce road accident casualties as well as those to ensure a safe and well-maintained highway asset. Road safety measures undertaken as part of the LTP strategy can also contribute to the Council’s road safety stretched target

### WALKING AND CYCLING

The following programmes comprising of pedestrian signal controlled crossings, dropped kerb crossings, pedestrian refuges, pedestrian signing and public rights of way, are proposed to encourage walking through better environments where it safe and attractive to walking

The Walking Strategy deals with the following specific programmes and recommends works/allocations for each of the following headings:-

	<u>Allocation</u>
Pedestrian Signals	£140,000
Walking/Pedestrian Dropped Crossing	£26,000
Pedestrian Central Refuges	£26,000
Signing for Pedestrians	£10,000
Public Rights of Way	£15,000
	-----
	£217,000
	-----
Area Forum – Heswall, Pensby, & Thingwall	£16,300
Area Forum - Bromborough & Eastham	£16,300

Further details of this report will be included in the Area Forum Plan for 07/08. Please contact Michelle Gray or email [michellegray@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:michellegray@wirral.gov.uk) for more information.



# **Section Seven**

## **Streetscene Update**

Wirral Council's Streetscene department is the main point of contact for people wishing to report issues affecting their area such as recycling, condition of roads, street lighting etc.

This section provides a report on the recent activities carried by the Streetscene department.

**Residents Parking Zones** The Residents' Parking Zones consultations for seven pilot areas have been completed. The seven areas were:

- **Atherton Street area, New Brighton** – near to New Brighton train station and a small number of businesses.
- **Alexandra Road area, West Kirby** – Near to boating lake, beach, shops and Coronation Gardens.
- **Grasmere Drive area, Wallasey** – Just outside of Liscard resident parking scheme. Near to local shops.
- **Barnston Lane area, Moreton** – To the north of an existing small scheme. Within Moreton town centre where there is generally low provision for commercial off-street parking.
- **Probyn Road/Ponsonby Road, Wallasey Village** – Near to train station.
- **Acacia Grove area, West Kirby** – Mixed residential/commercial use, close to train station, shopping centre and leisure areas.
- **Brookfield Road/Brookfield Gardens, West Kirby** – primarily residential with displaced parking related to nearby businesses and train station.

The findings of the consultation were recently reported to Wirral Council's Cabinet. The resolution is that Residents' Parking WILL NOT be implemented in the 7 pilot areas as the majority of residents involved did not want the schemes. Wirral Council will now write to all those involved.

In future, people will refer to their Area Forum Coordinator to request a Residents' Parking Scheme. Area Forum Coordinators will be provided with information in time for the next meetings. (Not October's meetings)

**School children win road safety prize:** In conjunction with Merseyside Police and Radio City, Wirral Council have presented a £1000 prize to Rock Ferry High School for their outstanding entry in our Road Safety video competition. Pupils from Wallasey School, Park High School, Rock Ferry High School, and Woodchurch High School scripted, directed, filmed and edited videos, aimed at getting road safety messages across to other young people.

All of the films were excellent and we couldn't possibly pick the winner - so we gave the opportunity to Wirral's young people to vote online for their favourite video, and Wallasey were the clear winners. The videos can still be viewed online on Radio City's website [www.radiocity.co.uk/roadsafety](http://www.radiocity.co.uk/roadsafety)

**Traffic Safety Schemes – the following safety schemes have recently been completed:**

- St. Peters Way, Noctorum - 20mph/Traffic Calming Scheme
- Portsunlight Train Station to Clatterbridge Hospital - Cycle Route (including 3 Toucan Crossings :- Brimstage Road, Bebington, Church Road, Bebington, Bromborough Road, Bebington)
- Arrowse Park - Ambulance Priority Scheme (substantially complete)
- Hoylake Road nr. Danger Lane, Moreton- Puffin Crossing
- Townfield Lane, Oxton- Puffin Crossing (substantially complete)

**Puffin Crossings have been proposed at the following locations:**

- Hoylake Road / Stuart Avenue, Moreton - Conversion of existing zebra crossing, 13m West of its junction with Stuart Avenue
- Laird Street / Miriam Place, Brikenhead - 8m North-West of its junction with Miriam Place

- Irby Road / Fishers Lane, Pensby - Conversion of existing pedestrian refuge, 29m North of its junction with Fishers Lane
- Townfield Lane / Calverly Close, Oxton - 60m West of its junction with Calverly Close
- Eastham Rake / Plymyard Avenue, Eastham - 16m South-West of its junction with Plymyard Avenue

**Recycling update:** All Wirral Residents' should have recently seen a "Recycling Update" wrapped around the Wirral Globe Newspaper. To re-cap:

**Grey bins – recycling:** Since the roll out of the grey recycling bin across Wirral, the recycling rates for the borough have rocketed! The latest figures show that approximately 32% of Wirral's waste is being recycled, as opposed to 12% this time last year.

Grey bins have been rolled out gradually over the last 9 months and now 95% of properties are on the scheme. Those who live in flats or multiple occupancy housing will be joining the scheme soon. The grey bin is for plastic bottles, glass bottles, jars, cans and tins, paper and card and other dry recyclables. Whilst food waste, plastic bags, plastic containers, foil and textiles go in the green bin as normal, and garden waste goes in the brown bin.

Message from Director of Technical Services: "I would like to thank all the residents of Wirral for their support and participation so far. I am aware that there were teething problems to begin with, as all major changes take time to get used to, but now the system is working excellently and our latest recycling figures prove that."

Also, certain households who received their grey bins very early on in the scheme will be receiving literature very shortly, informing them that there has been a slight change in what they can put in their grey bin. As they were the first to get the bins, it was thought that the MRF recycling facility at Bidston would be able to process foil and certain plastic containers. However, foil and certain plastic containers such as yogurt pots are not able to be separated from the other materials very well. They tend to end up in the paper stream which increases the risk of the paper bails being rejected from the mill that finally recycle the paper. Therefore the only form of plastic that we can accept in the grey bin is all types of plastic bottles. All other kinds of plastic can not be recycled in your grey bin scheme. Neither can foil, or foil lids.

**Brown bins – garden waste:** 17,000 Wirral Households were taking part in a combined food and garden waste brown bin pilot. People on this pilot will have originally received a small brown kitchen caddy, along with their brown bin, and instructions about how food waste and garden waste could be put in the brown bin. These households will have recently received information telling them that the pilot scheme has now finished, and that brown bins will be for garden waste only from now on.

The pilot has concluded that it is better to collect garden waste only in our brown bins. This is because processing a combined collection of food and garden waste is a complicated and expensive way of collecting organic waste. If successful it could have helped reduce the amount of organic waste sent to landfill and increased Wirral's recycling rate. Unfortunately, due to a combination of the following factors, the scheme hasn't helped us to reach these targets:

- The composting units have struggled to maintain consistency with the biological reaction necessary for this type of enclosed composting.
- We've actually received very little food waste from residents as a whole, which meant the scheme was not cost-effective.

- Residents had concerns over putting food waste directly into a bin without wrapping.

Due to the above issues, the Council did not receive the benefit it expected in terms of weight of recycling, and now plans to reassess food recycling. There are many new options available, but these depend on facilities offered by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority, with whom we are working to research and develop the best options.

**Home Composters:** We are offering low cost composters to Wirral households, in conjunction with Recycle Now. Up to a third of an average household bin can be composted. Items such as fruit and veg peelings, shredded paper, teabags, flowers and cardboard egg boxes can be easily composted at home.

[www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost) 0845 077 0757

**Footway works completed:** Wakefield Drive, Leasowe, The Laund, Wallasey Derwent Drive, Liscard, Dalmorton Road (part) New Brighton (in progress), awarden Avenue, Liscard, Bassenthwaite Avenue, Claughton, Nursury Close, Oxton (in progress), Well Lane, Bebington, Riviera Drive, Rock Ferry.

**Future footway works planned:** Upton Road (part) Claughton, Grafton Street (part) Birkenhead, Burlingham Avenue, West Kirby, Fieldway, Bebington, Croxteth Avenue, Liscard, Sussex Close, Pensby & Thingwall, Hillfield Drive, Pensby & Thingwall, Mere Farm Grove, Oxton, Lord Street (part) Birkenhead, Chester Street (part) Birkenhead, Downham Road (part) Birkenhead, Oak Road, Bebington, Reedville Road, Bebington, Richardson Road, Rock Ferry

**Carriageway resurfacing completed:** Sherlock Lane, Poulton, Brompton Avenue, Wallasey, Haydock Road, New Brighton Chadwick Street, Moreton, Wharfedale Road, Wallasey, Aysgarth Road, Wallasey, The Laund, Wallasey, Perrin Road. Wallasey, Acres Road, Bebington, Richmond Close, Bebington, Devonshire Road (part) Birkenhead, Townsend/Challis/Curlender Road, Bidston, Bedford Road (part) Rock Ferry, New Chester Road (part) Rock Ferry Bridge Street, (part) Birkenhead, Argyle Street, (part) Birkenhead, Mount Road (part) Bebington.

**Carriageway resurfacing planned:** Raby Mere Road (part) Clatterbridge, Derwent Drive, Liscard, Neville Road, Bromborough, Dibbins Hey (part), Clatterbridge, Wirral Mount, Clatterbridge, Patterdale Road, Clatterbridge, Bassenthwaite Avenue, Claughton, Laburnum Road, New Brighton, Sandheys Road, New Brighton, Mount Road (access link to hospital entrance) Clatterbridge, Telegraph Road/Pensby Road, Heswall, Dock Road, Seacombe (part).

**Carriageway Retread sites completed:**

WESTBANK ROAD  
WILLAN STREET  
BRIMSTAGE LANE  
KNOWSLEY ROAD/VICTORIA DRIVE  
WILLOWBROW ROAD  
THINGWALL ROAD SERVICE ROAD HSE 51 - 77  
CALDWELL DRIVE  
MEADOW CRESCENT  
FLAXHILL  
BLACKHEATH DRIVE  
WILKES AVENUE  
HALSBURY/WOBURN ROAD  
ALLERTON GROVE  
HALDANE ROAD

PRENTON  
OXTON  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
ROCK FERRY  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
PENSBY & THINGWALL  
UPTON  
UPTON  
MORETON WEST & sm  
LEASOWE  
LEASOWE  
NEW BRIGHTON  
BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE  
CLAUGHTON

**Carriageway Retread sites programmed:**

GRANT ROAD  
MACKENZIE ROAD

LEASOWE  
LEASOWE

HARVEST LANE  
DEVONSHIRE ROAD

MORETON  
WEST KIRBY

**Carriageway Surface Treatment sites completed (or due to be completed within the next 2-3 weeks)**

TEEHY CLOSE  
NAPIER ROAD  
INGLEBY ROAD  
WOODFORD ROAD  
BRILL STREET  
NEWLING STREET  
TRINITY STREET  
ABERDEEN STREET  
CRAVEN STREET  
RODNEY STREET  
HELENA STREET  
FOX STREET  
BRASSEY STREET  
RABY DRIVE/RABY AVE  
STATION ROAD (PART)  
GOTHAM ROAD  
GRANBY CRESCENT  
SILSTON CLOSE  
ORSTON CRESCENT  
ELTON DRIVE  
RADFORD AVENUE  
BRADDEN CLOSE  
BENTY HEATH LANE (PART)  
RIDGEVIEW ROAD  
MANOR HILL  
HEATHER BROW  
LYNDHURST/DAWLISH/GREENHEYS/SOUTH ROAD  
WOODLANDS ROAD  
DRAYTON CLOSE  
PORTO HEY ROAD  
SOUTH HEY ROAD  
SHAWS DRIVE  
WHITEHEATH WAY  
GREENHEATH WAY  
BLACKHEATH DRIVE  
CARTMEL DRIVE  
SEAFORTH DRIVE  
SHEEN ROAD  
RATHMORE ROAD  
BARKER ROAD  
PORTAL ROAD  
CUMBERLAND/CALDER/BOWNESS  
COLLEGE DRIVE  
NORTHBROOKE/DOMVILLE  
KILN ROAD  
ROBIN WAY  
BRIDGE FARM CLOSE  
GLEBE HEY ROAD  
BIG MEADOW ROAD  
MONKSWAY  
FLECK LANE  
LYNDHURST ROAD

BEBINGTON  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BIDSTON & ST JAMES  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIDSTON & ST JAMES  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLATTERBRIDGE  
CLAUGHTON  
CLAUGHTON  
CLAUGHTON  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
HOYLAKE & MEOLS  
LEASOWE  
LEASOWE  
LEASOWE  
MORETON WEST & SM  
MORETON WEST & SM  
NEW BRIGHTON  
OXTON  
PENSBY & THINGWALL  
PENSBY & THINGWALL  
PRENTON  
ROCK FERRY  
UPTON  
UPTON  
UPTON  
UPTON  
UPTON  
UPTON  
WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON  
WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON  
WALLASEY

**Carriageway Surface Treatment sites programmed: Vyner Road North, Bidston & St James, Wroxham Way, Upton, Seabank Road (part) Liscard**

**Footway Surface Treatment sites completed (or due to be completed within next 2-3 weeks)**

RUSSELL STREET  
CRAVEN STREET  
RODNEY STREET  
HELENA STREET  
FOX STREET  
KNOWLES STREET  
JULIET AVE  
PORTIA AVE  
MIRANDA AVE

BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BIRKENHEAD  
BEBINGTON  
BEBINGTON  
BEBINGTON

CRESSIDA AVE  
BEATRICE AVE  
ROSALIND AVE  
NAPIER ROAD  
NEW FERRY ROAD  
INGLEBY ROAD  
CECIL ROAD  
BEVERLEY ROAD  
SHOREFIELDS  
APSLEY AVENUE  
DEARNFORD AVE  
DEARNFORD CLOSE  
BRINLEY CLOSE  
BRONINGTON AVE  
SPRINGHILL AVE  
REDBROOK CLOSE  
MILLERSDALE CLOSE  
WHARFDALE AVE  
DARLEYDALE DRIVE  
MALLOWDALE CLOSE  
WENSLEYDALE AVE  
EDALE CLOSE  
SWALEDALE CLOSE  
LYNDHURST/DAWLISH/GREENHEYS/SOUTH ROAD  
WOODLANDS ROAD  
DOWNHAM DRIVE  
SHAWS DRIVE  
WILKES AVE  
FLAXHILL  
HARVEST LANE  
CARTMEL DRIVE  
SEAFORTH DRIVE  
HOLLAND ROAD  
BARKER ROAD  
THINGWALL DRIVE  
DEMESNE ST& BORO ROAD EASTSEACOMBE  
RANKIN STREET  
LIMEKILN LANE  
BIG MEADOW ROAD  
NORTHBROOKE /DOMVILLE ROADUPTON  
HILLSIDE ROAD  
FLECK LANE  
DEVONSHIRE ROAD  
KIRBY PARK

BEBINGTON  
BEBINGTON  
BEBINGTON  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
BROMBOROUGH  
EASTHAM  
EASTHAM  
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EASTHAM  
EASTHAM  
EASTHAM  
GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY  
GREASBY,FRANKBY & IRBY  
HESWALL  
HOYLAKE & MEOLS  
LEASOWE & MORETON EAST  
MORETON WEST & SM  
MORETON WEST & SM  
MORETON WEST & SM  
MORETON WEST & SM  
NEW BRIGHTON  
PENSBY & THINGWALL  
PENSBY & THINGWALL  
  
SEACOMBE  
SEACOMBE  
UPTON  
  
WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON  
WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON  
WEST KIRBY  
WEST KIRBY



# **Section Eight**

## **Equalities & Diversity**

The Equality Standard for Local Government (ESLG) provides a framework for local authorities to deliver continuous improvement in relation to fair employment and equal access to services.

The standard has six strands or pillars:

- Race
- Disability
- Gender
- Age
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion or belief

## **New equality and diversity policy and strategy for Wirral Council**

The Equality Standard for Local Government (ESLG) provides a framework for local authorities to deliver continuous improvement in relation to fair employment and equal access to services.

The standard has six strands or pillars and these are: Race, Disability, Gender, Age, Sexual Orientation and Religion or belief

Wirral has a new equality and diversity policy which sets out the council's commitment to fair employment and equitable service delivery and includes detailed statements in relation to all six strands of the equality standard. It also sets out the legislative framework within all local authorities must operate.

The council currently has a statutory duty to produce schemes which address any negative impact in respect of race, disability and gender, all of which can be found on the Council's website.

Main site [www.wirral.gov.uk](http://www.wirral.gov.uk)  
or use the following link [http://10.107.1.50/Personnel/EO\\_Policy.htm](http://10.107.1.50/Personnel/EO_Policy.htm)

Alongside its new equality and diversity policy, Wirral has introduced an equality and diversity strategy. The strategy recognises that Wirral has particular challenges in relation to this area of work, and that the council must work at all levels to progress this important agenda.

The authority has mechanisms to ensure all departments regularly discuss equalities. There is, for example, a cross-cutting corporate group which meets regularly to assess the progress of departments through the equality agenda. In this way the council works to address any areas of weaknesses in employment practice or service delivery.

### **Council staff diversity forums go from strength to strength**

An employee diversity forum has long been established within the council. This group consists of staff from across the local authority and brings together issues relating to the six strands of the equality standard.

The group meets regularly before the council's corporate group, in order for the forum's views to inform strategic discussions. For more information about the employee diversity forum please contact Steve Russell (Chair) on 0151 691 8656 or email [steverussell@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:steverussell@wirral.gov.uk)

More recently, two further staff diversity forums have been set up specifically designed to align to a particular strand, the gender diversity forum (women's group), and disability diversity forum.

The gender diversity forum has met twice since their inaugural meeting in May with the next meeting scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> September. The focus of this meeting will include agile working and transforming working practices to meet the future and addressing the gender imbalance within the top 5% of staff within the Council.

For more information please contact Christina Bebbington (temporary Chair) on 0151 691 8063. or email [christinabebbington@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:christinabebbington@wirral.gov.uk)

The disability diversity forum has met three times since their inaugural meeting in May discussions have included terms of reference for the group and discussing council communications aimed at raising awareness about the reasonable adjustments to which people with disabilities are entitled.

For more information please contact Ged Smyth (temporary Chair) on 0151 691 8217 or email [gedsmyth@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:gedsmyth@wirral.gov.uk)

If you are interested in finding out more about what the council is doing about equality and diversity please visit the council's website where you can also have your say.

## **Wirral Black and Racial Minority Partnership established**

The Wirral Black and Racial Minority Partnership (WBRMP) held its inaugural meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

The aim of the WBRMP is to provide Wirral Black and Racial Minority communities with a co-ordinated voice to enable them to become more involved in local issues that affect their lives.

The Partnership has recently agreed its constitution and appointed officers. Presently, they are being supported by the Wirral Voluntary and Community Sector Network, Community Engagement Team at Bebbington CVS.

The Partnership is hoping to hold their official launch on 3<sup>rd</sup> October this year in The Laurie's Centre.

Current members of the Partnership include; Wirral African and Caribbean Community Voice, Wirral Cultural Diversity Group, Irish Community Care, Wirral Change, Wirral Sikh Association amongst others.

If you are interested in the work of the Partnership or wish to join please contact Julie Johnson or Karen Livesey 0151 645 4038.

## **Mayoral reception for Wirral's leading BME community members**

The Mayor of Wirral, Councillor Phil Gilchrist, held a reception for Wirral's leading BME community members at on 6<sup>th</sup> September in the Round Room, Wallasey Town Hall.

The council recognises the growing diversity in Wirral and wanted to provide a forum to meet with those who represent both the established and the emerging minority communities.

Although informal, the reception offered an opportunity to discuss any issues that are of concern and a selection of senior council officers were in attendance.