

**New Brighton and Wallasey**

**Area Forum**

**Area Co-ordinator's Report**

**9<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

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# Section One

## Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

### Area Forum (New Brighton and Wallasey) - 6 June 2006

Present	
Chair	PJ Hackett
Ward Councillor	WA Duffey, DJ Hunt, A Pritchard, Mrs LA Rennie, Mrs K Wood
Community Representatives	Rita Fraser (New Brighton Community Partnership), I Lewis , Major Roy Tipping (Faith Representative), Mark Williams
Business Representative	Martin Revans
Chief Executive	S Maddox
Lead Officer	David Green (Director of Technical Services)
Area Service Co-ordinator	Andrew Brannan
Birkenhead & Wallasey PCT	Kath Doran (Chief Executive, Birkenhead and Wallasey PCT)
Merseyside Police	Inspector Ian Hassall, Inspector John Hogan
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service	Tony Buratti
Council Officers	Lindsay Davidson (Deputy Head, Policy Development), Sue Davies (Children and Young People's Department), Chris Jones (Area Streetscene Manager), Bob Little (Community Safety Team)
Apologies	Dr Shymal Mukherjee, Medical Director, Birkenhead and Wallasey PCT

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**Minute 1 - The Chief Executive of Wirral Council will be present as part of the Annual Review of Area Forums to invite views, comments and observations on the Forum and any suggestions for improvement or development**

The Chair introduced Steve Maddox, Chief Executive, Wirral Borough Council, and invited him to address the meeting.

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Steve Maddox stated that the Local Authority remained committed to the Area Forum structure and to demonstrate that commitment elected members had asked him to visit a meeting of each Area Forum on their behalf to receive views and comments about any aspects of the Area Forum. The feedback received would be incorporated into a report and taken to Cabinet in July/July. The Council would respond positively to any suggestions made to improve the process for the benefit of local communities.

Comments or questions could be raised at the meeting, sent directly to Steve Maddox at the Town Hall, Wallasey, or via the Area Co-ordinator.

### **Minute 1 - Welcome and introductions**

The Chair, Councillor P J Hackett, welcomed Area Forum members and 22 members of the public to the Area Forum meeting in Wallasey. He invited members of the Area Forum to introduce themselves. A microphone was available for use at the meeting if required.

### **Minute 2 - Area Co-ordinators report**

Area Forum members had received the Area Co-ordinator's report in advance of the meeting. Copies had been posted on the Council website at [www.wirral.gov.uk/minutes/public/-minsareaco-ordsreport](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/minutes/public/-minsareaco-ordsreport). Paper copies were provided for members of the public at the meeting. The minutes of the meeting of 28 February 2006 had been incorporated into the Area Co-ordinator's report.

Matters arising:

Football facilities: The Chair advised that as the Wallacre Road recreational area was in the Liscard Ward it would be more appropriate for the member of the public to raise the query about drainage work on the field through the Area Forum for Liscard.

The Area Co-ordinator explained that 'Open for All' funding was available to any local organisation, business or person who was interested in organising an environmental project, eg a litter pick, cleaning up a street, or painting a school room. Information packs were available on request.

Councillor Rennie responded to a request for information on the 'message in a bottle scheme,' and on the justification for awarding £1,000 CIF money towards the scheme. The member of the public replied that, in her view, the allocation was not appropriate for the purpose provided.

Another member of the public stated that a grant application for a neighbourhood watch scheme had been misrepresented in the submission, and had been refused. An application had been re-submitted.

Minute Decision :  
Resolved: That –

i the minutes of the meeting of 28 February 2006 be confirmed.

ii the Area Co-ordinator be thanked for his report.

### **Minute 3 - Presentation on Youth Participation at Area Forums**

Lindsey Davidson, Deputy Head of Policy Development, had been invited to describe Youth Participation in general and to discuss ways in which Area Forums could form links with young people in Wirral. She presented information under the headings - Participation by Wirral's Children and Young People - What is happening in Wirral at the moment? Achievements to date. Participation to date What do we know from having young people participate? Participation in Wirral; and the Next Steps.

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The many links that existed with young people needed to be strengthened and developed to make them more accessible both for adults and young people. One way to promote discussion and dialogue with young people on the best way forward would be to hold an area forum meeting after a youth forum meeting. The next area youth forum for the whole of the Wallasey would be on Tuesday, 27 June at the Allandale Youth Club.

Dave Hanlon referred to the many Church-based youth clubs that operated in Wallasey in the past, and to the monthly meetings of the North West Area Youth Council that had previously taken place. Each youth organisation/club had been entitled to send two people to the monthly meetings.

Lindsey Davidson replied that youth councils were still operating in some areas but in Wirral they had evolved into the Youth Forum concept. Youth Forums operated in a similar way to Youth Councils but promoted a more open membership that allowed opportunities for all young people to express their views. She concluded her presentation by stating that the whole concept of youth participation had started quite small but had been built up gradually and was gaining momentum. The achievements so far had been recognised by the award of Beacon status.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that Lindsey Davidson be thanked for her presentation.

### **Minute 4 - Presentation on New Brighton and Wallasey Children Centre**

Sue Davies, Children's Centre Development Manager, explained that the development of Children's Centres was a Central Government initiative that would be funded and implemented in three phases, starting in 2004 and ending in 2010. In locating children's centres, local authorities must follow the principles of reducing child poverty and in the first phase meet the needs of families with children under five. In Wirral, the Authority had identified the most disadvantaged Wards in which to set up Children's Centres and to establish satellite centres to develop outreach services. The funding available to 2008 would be focussed on those areas. By 2010, there would be a children's centre in every locality. A map identifying the first phase of children's centres and satellite centres was displayed at the meeting.

At a local level, building work on the Children's Centre for New Brighton located at Mount Primary School would be completed by the end of June and the 50-place day nursery would be opened in September. A full-time Centre Manager had been appointed to support both New Brighton and Liscard Children's Centres. Care staff and other support staff were being recruited.

Sue Davies responded to queries raised by Area Forum members on -

**Parking:** An additional 11 parking spaces had been created as part of the Children's Centre. Officers in the Council's Technical Services Dept. were looking at the whole issue of car parking in the area and at the possibility of installing an additional road crossing.

**Traffic:** Traffic surveys had been undertaken in the area to ensure the safety of people who walk to the Centre.

**Child Safety and Protection:** The gates would be locked and security fencing would be erected around the building. There would be a double-entry, electronic access and egress, ensuring that children are very safe once they are in the building. High levels of supervision would be provided at all times when children are present.

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Sure Start: The Sure Start programme had now ceased. The team of staff and the delivery of services had been integrated into the Children's Centre.

Impact on local residents: The School's Headteacher and the Centre Manager were looking at ways to keep the local community informed of developments and to address any issues or concerns they may have.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that Sue Davies be thanked for her presentation.

### **Minute 5 - Streetscene Update - Transport Capital Monitoring, Integrated Transport Block 2007/08**

(a) Street Scene: Chris Jones, Street Scene Manager, drew attention to Streetscene update in Section Six of the Area Co-ordinator's report, and to Section Eight, the Structural Maintenance Programme 2006/07. He reminded the Area Forum that members of the public could report any aspects of the Street Scene environment via the Street Scene Centre on 606 2004.

Councillor Wood commented that the overall report was very informative and reflected some very good work in Wallasey as a whole. She requested that the main focus for future reports should be events and developments in the New Brighton and Wallasey Wards.

Doug Wright drew attention to long-standing problems concerned with speeding, problems with the tarmac, and the absence of kerbing for about 40/50 feet in Dalmorton Road and advised that the road has been in a poor state for 25 years. The issues had been brought to the attention of elected Members, senior Council Officers and the local MP, on numerous occasions in the past, all without effect.

David Green, the Director of Technical Services, undertook to accompany the member of the public to the area and to inspect the road, at the end of the meeting.

b) Transport Capital Programme 2007/08/Integrated Transport Block.

The Environment and Transportation Select Committee had asked for Area Forums to be consulted on a proposal to involve Area Forums in drawing up programmes within the Integrated Transport Block element of the Transport Capital Programme.

Area Forums were being asked whether -

a from 2007/08, each Area Forum should be given an equal share of the Integrated Transport Block to allocate as they wish; or

b whether the status quo should be maintained with the total amount being managed centrally and allocated against the Council's criteria; or

c the money continues to be managed centrally and allocated on a Wirral-wide basis, with the views of the Forums being fed into the decision-making process.

The amount available to each Area Forum [£16,300 for 2005/06] would be insufficient to fund a speed reduction scheme, but would allow a very modest road programme comprising some elements of parking schemes, dropped crossings, refuges and sign posting to be carried out.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Wood, SECONDED by Ian Lewis, that -

The New Brighton/Wallasey Area Forum would prefer the funding available in the

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Integrated Transport Block to be used on a borough-wide basis as at present, and that Area Forums nominate areas where funding should be allocated.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that: -

i this Area Forum recommends that the funding in the Integrated Transport Block continues to be centrally managed and allocated on a Wirral-wide basis, and that Area Forums nominate the areas where the funding should be allocated.

ii David Green and Chris Jones be thanked for their updates.

iii. David Green to visit Dalmorton Road, with Doug Wright, to inspect the road re: long-standing problems there.

### **Minute 6 - Primary Care Trust Update**

Kathy Doran updated the Area Forum on -

Restructuring of the Health Service: The public consultation had closed and the Secretary of State or Health had approved the proposal for one Wirral Primary Care Trust to be established from 1 October 2006. The positions of Chair and non-executive members of the Board were currently being advertised. The independent body, the NHS Appointments Commission, would make all the appointments.

Re-location of Seabank Road medical centre: A consultation would be launched on 1 September and last for 12 weeks on a proposal to re-locate and merge the Seabank Road medical centre with St George's medical centre.

In response to comments, Kathy Doran stated that it was becoming increasingly difficult for a surgery with only one doctor to deliver the services that ought to be available to people in the community. The premises at St George's would be extended to enable the patients from both practices to access a wider range of services than the two centres can provide in their existing premises. The issue of car parking in St George's area was being address in conjunction with the Council.

Members of the Forum and members of the public highlighted problems that would be experienced by people who are elderly and disabled negotiating the hill to St George's to access the services; the high costs of travel that would be incurred by those who would need to travel by taxi; and the increased demands for parking in an area that already has high traffic levels and severe congestion.

Kathy Doran continued that there would be two public consultation meetings at the New Brighton Community Centre on 30 July, and on 31 July. The presentation would include an analysis of where current patients live and how they will be affected by the move. People's views on the proposal would be most welcome throughout the consultation period. Depending on the outcome of the consultation, a planning application to extend the St George's premises would be submitted to the Council in due course.

Wirral Health Communities initiatives: Wirral Healthy Communities are currently delivering its second 'Brighter Futures' course, which aims to support people's positive mental health. [tel. 647 1703, or the website [www.wirralhealthycommunities.org](http://www.wirralhealthycommunities.org).]

Further Expert Patient Programme courses would be running throughout the year as part of the self-care programme. [tel. 647 1703, or the website [www.wirralhealthycommunities.org](http://www.wirralhealthycommunities.org).]

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The PCT have secured a bid worth £140,000 to increase swimming activity in older people who have a long-term health condition.

A smoking cessation service run by the NHS can be accessed via GP practices and over 30 pharmacies. [more information from Support 0151 647 0211.

Walk On is a local programme of short walks led by a trained volunteer leader.

There are four weekly walks:

Birkenhead Park Mondays. 11 am Grand Entrance, Conway Street

Moreton Shore Wednesdays, 12.30 corner Leasowe Road/Pasture Road

Royden Park Thursdays. 2.30 from car park

Port Sunlight Wednesday, 11 am Port Sunlight Station.

[More information from Birkenhead Park 652 5197]

A Wirral Walking Festival involving twelve walks has been organised to encourage people to become active over the summer and enjoy some of the local parks in Wirral. All walks would be led by a Council Ranger and last approximately 1.5 hours.

Copies of the publication, 'Health Links Newsletter, were distributed to members of the public.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that Kathy Doran be thanked for her update.

### **Minute 7 - Community Safety Update: - Merseyside Police - Merseyside Fire Service - Community Safety**

Merseyside Police: Inspector John Hogan, Neighbourhood Inspector for Wallasey, reported on the setting up of a number of neighbourhood action groups with the aim of community representatives meeting with the Police to identify priorities for their area and to gain an understanding of how Police resources are used. . The group for this area comprised community representatives from Liscard, Seacombe and New Brighton. At the meeting on 24 April, the priorities identified for New Brighton included Rake Lane cemetery, graffiti, under-age drinking around the War memorial, youth disorder, the promenade, and congestion. The next meeting had been scheduled for 8 June 2006.

Following re-organisation, there were now dedicated Officers attached to Wards who could meet with members of Area Forums to identify issues and assess priorities.

Inspector Ian Hall, Lead Inspector for Wallasey and Moreton area expanded on the wider role of the neighbourhood community action groups. In relation to areas in and around Wallasey, the three key issues were under-age drinking, youth disorder and criminal damage, especially in the areas around Leasowe Road and Grove Road. A section 30 Dispersal Order had been invoked for the Grove Road area, which had just concluded. Local Councillors would be advised on the outcome when the results have been analysed.

The Police were keen to receive information from the public, particularly in relation to off-licences selling alcohol to under-aged young people, via Crimestoppers 0800 551 111 or local police stations.

Merseyside Fire Service: Tony Buratti, Fire Station Manager for Wallasey and West Kirby, reported that services offered by the Fire Service to the local community included free home safety checks, advice on risk assessments and a home fire plan, and the fitting of smoke alarms; the identification of and support for vulnerable, elderly, disabled people in re-generation areas; youth engagement aimed at



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reducing anti-social activities; advice to youth clubs and schools; the use of fire service premises, free of charge, for meetings of local neighbourhood groups, health seminars and training courses.

Merseyside Fire Service had achieved Beacon status in recognition of its participation with young people.

Tony Buratti responded to a query from a member of the public on legislation to control the sale and storage of fireworks.

Community Safety: Bob Little, Information Officer, Community Safety Team, drew attention to the report on Community Safety on pages 50/52 of the Area Co-ordinator's report, and to the statistical analysis of Crime for New Brighton/Wallasey April 2005 to March 2006. He commented on the effectiveness of the working partnership between Officers in the Community [mobile] Police Station and the Crime and Disorder Reduction team.

Responding to a question by the Chair, Bob Little explained that the Community Safety Team is responsible for evaluating and advising on the Alleygate scheme. A report on the effectiveness of the Alleygate scheme was currently being compiled.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that Tony Buratti, Inspector Ian Hassall, Inspector John Hogan, and Bob Little be thanked for their updates.

### **Minute 8 - Public question time**

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

Bus stop near Liscard Shopping Precinct: People waiting long periods for buses have to stand on narrow strip of pavement at the back of McDonalds in Liscard. The waiting area is located between two busy two lanes of traffic on one side, and diesel buses, which belch toxic fumes, on the other, suggesting that the one-way system had been installed the wrong way round. If the route could be altered, the bus stop could be relocated on the shops' side avoiding the necessity for people to weave between traffic and wait for buses in the middle of a busy road.

David Green stated that re-routing the one-way system would be a major undertaking. He would arrange for a Traffic Engineer to visit the area with a representative from Merseytravel and assess the improvements that can be made.

Bus stop on Mount Pleasant Road. The removal of the bus stop in Mount Pleasant Road had caused considerable difficulty and inconvenience, particularly for elderly people who had to negotiate the hill.

Supermarket on Marine Lane: The Chair advised that Area Forums had agreed a policy that the New Brighton regeneration would not be discussed at area forum meetings. He was able to state that the public enquiry had ended and the Council was awaiting the outcome.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that David Green to arrange a visit with Traffic Engineer and a representative from Merseytravel to look at possible improvements to bus stop area near Liscard Shopping Precinct.

### **Minute 9 - Date of future meetings / presentations**

The next meeting will be held on 9 October 2006.

### **Minute 10 - Any other business**

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Low Energy Bulbs. The Area Co-ordinator would issue packs of low energy light bulbs to members of the public, at no charge, at the end of the meeting.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

# Matters Arising

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### -Minute 5

**David Green to visit Dalmorton Road, with Doug Wright, to inspect the road re: long-standing problems there.**

Dave Green visited Dalmorton Road with Doug Wright immediately after the area forum. The matter was resolved to Doug's satisfaction in that a figure of £50,000 has been committed during the financial year 07/08 for some element of footway improvements in the area.

The expenditure is justified in terms of the condition of the footway and not just because Mr Wright's raised the issue at the Area Forum. The matter has now been resolved.

### -Minute 8

**Resolved that David Green to arrange a visit with Traffic Engineer and a representative from Merseytravel to look at possible improvements to bus stop area near Liscard Shopping Precinct.**

The response to this minute decision will be updated at the Area Forum.

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# Future meetings

## **Section 1**

## **Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

The date of the next area forum is

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2007.**

**(Venue to be confirmed).**

# Section Two

## Local Updates

### LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS

Wirral has been chosen as a pilot area for the next round of LAA's. The purpose is to build much stronger links between central government and local partners with outcomes, objectives and targets set for the next 3 years. Key priorities for Wirral have already been established within the Community Strategy and partners own plans and strategies such as the Council's Corporate Plan, and the task now is to draw these priorities together and establish if there are any gaps and include some new additions if necessary.

The aim is to bring together LAA's and Local Public Service Agreements (LPSAs) to deliver local solutions to local issues. There is NO additional money with the LAA (apart from a reward grant for delivering 'stretch' on certain targets which replaces the previous LPSA regime) but this is an opportunity for Wirral to achieve more with given/current resources. Basically, the aim is to 'pool' or align current resources across partner organisations. Within the LAA, Government have identified four 'Blocks' as priority areas, and the Council – with their partners in the LSP – have identified key officers to lead on each one, they are:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| • <b>Safer and Stronger Communities</b>         | <b>Alan Stennard</b>  |
| • <b>Healthier Communities and Older People</b> | <b>John Webb</b>      |
| • <b>Children and Young People</b>              | <b>Chris Batman</b>   |
| • <b>Economic Development and Enterprise</b>    | <b>Kevin Adderley</b> |

# SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES

## **Countdown in Merseyside to new car seat laws**

With just under a week to go until the new child car seat laws come into force parents in Merseyside are being urged to make sure that they are familiar with the changes. The changes are expected to save up to 2000 child casualties per year.

The new law comes into force on Monday 18 September and will require drivers to ensure that all children under 135cms (4' 5") or age 12 – whichever they reach first –use an appropriate car restraint when travelling in their vehicle.

Road Safety Minister Stephen Ladyman said:

"I would urge all parents to check that they are using appropriate child seats or booster seats. Using the right seat for the size of the child will give parents peace of mind and help to ensure that children are as safe as possible in the vehicle at all times.

"Most people do use some kind of child restraint but it is very important to use the right one for the size of the child and to take the time to fit it properly; and not to use an adult belt before the child is big enough."

Parents can get expert child car seat safety advice from in store experts at a number of retailers. Halfords, Mothercare and Toys R Us, and other stores have been supporting the Department for Transport's Think! road safety campaign and the change in the law by providing special offers on car seats and booster seats from July to September 2006.

Road safety officers in Merseyside have been hard at work promoting the new legislation to parents and carers. The chairman of the North West branch of the local authority road safety officers association (LARSOA), Steven Whitehouse from Sefton's road safety unit, said:

"Time is running out for motorists to make sure that if they are driving young children around that they comply with these new laws.

"This isn't safety for safety's sake – it is all about taking sensible precautions to keep our children out of harm's way. Younger children are more fragile than teenagers or adults and are prone to more serious injuries in accidents. Even minor bumps can break their bones or seriously damage their internal organs.

"You wouldn't put your most treasured tea service in the car without proper restraints, so why take the risk with your children? There is plenty of safety advice available and we would urge all drivers who have kids in the car to make sure their safety restraints measure up to the new laws."

Parents unsure whether their children must use a child restraint should consider the

following:

- Check the height of your child. Children up to 135cm in height (and under 12 years old) need to use a child seat, booster seat or booster cushion suitable for their weight.
- Before you buy or use any child restraint, check the label to make sure it is suitable for the child's weight.
- Check that any restraint is securely fitted. If your child travels in more than one vehicle, check the car seat or restraint fits each car so it can be moved between them each time they travel.
- Get expert advice. Many retailers have trained in-store experts who can advise on the best kind of car seat for a child and can demonstrate how to fit it.

For more information, parents can visit [www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk](http://www.thinkroadsafety.gov.uk) or call our helpline for a leaflet 0800 32 72 52

### **Pride in your Promenade:**



mersey  
WATERFRONT

Consultation was recently undertaken by Mersey Waterfront on the development of the promenade between Seacombe and New Brighton as part of the Pride in our Promenades programme.

The consultation was organised specifically to allow local people in the community to have a say about what changes would be made to their area.

The improvements will focus on three main locations along the promenade.

Seacombe Gateway, Seacombe Embankments and Vale Park Interface are all due to be improved and the consultation allowed people in the area to feedback their suggestions for what these improvements should be. Some of the suggestions made included:

- Giving the Seacombe Gateway 'pedestrian priority' including a 'archway feature'
- Using lights or a distinctive piece of artwork to improve the tunnel ventilation shaft making it a prominent feature of the promenade.
- General improvements to the Seacombe Embankments, tidying up the area and improving street furniture along the promenade.
- Removal of the waterfall feature was discussed to provide seating and somewhere where people can sit and enjoy the views.
- For Vale Park it was suggested that Dr Proggi's Shelter should be refurbished, possibly making it a gateway to the park.
- Replacing some of the railings and fences in the area to reflect a more traditional view, with the possibility of banners and flags along the promenade as long as they were designed to fit into the surroundings.

With all the recommendations made, it is hoped that the developments made in the area will be of benefit to everyone who uses the area and make the promenade more appealing for families to enjoy and use. For more information about the Pride in our Promenades scheme contact Mersey Waterfront on 0151 237 3940 or [www.merseywaterfront.com](http://www.merseywaterfront.com).

## **Be on extra guard against these bogus bailiffs**



Wirral Council today issued an urgent warning for the public to be on their guard against a gang of 'extremely plausible' bogus Council Tax bailiffs.

Recently there has been an incident in Barnston in which they have successfully conned an elderly person out of £400.

Malcolm Flanagan, Assistant Director of Finance said;

"If anyone posing as a bailiff comes to the front door, even if they have ID, DO NOT let them in or hand over money until you have checked that they are genuine. We have opened up a special line to help householders check - in all cases, call 666 3473 to verify. Our genuine bailiffs will wait while these checks are made."

Wirral Council never sends bailiffs out of the blue. Householders who receive a visit from genuine bailiffs will already have had several notifications by post over many weeks and would be expecting them.

Malcolm continued: "These bogus bailiffs are using very plausible excuses for why they have appeared unexpectedly. They are targeting our most vulnerable citizens and playing on their desire to 'do the right thing'. They are despicable. Please help us catch them."

## **Open for all funding:**

Wirral - Open to all' was a borough-wide campaign aiming to encourage agencies, businesses and - most importantly - local people to take a pride in Wirral and get involved in improving the local environment.

Running from May to September 2006, it aimed to:

- encourage everyone to take a pride in Wirral
- get people involved in improving the environment
- have a lasting impact on the borough

There were many projects supported in Wallasey and New Brighton which benefited the local community.

Wallasey District Scout Centre – 'Littershield'

Scouts planted climbing plants to grow on steel fences which surround the centre in order to improve privacy for surrounding houses, reduce noise and litter from the local supermarket, and enhance the general appearance.

Wallasey YMCA – 'Root to Fitness'

Young people are worked evenings to paint walls, clear overgrown area and provide more welcoming and accessible entrance for disabled people who use the centre

It is hoped that following the hard work put in by everyone across Wirral, all the projects will have a long lasting benefit to the Borough.

## **The UGLI scheme has been launched to make our environment beautiful again.**

The primary objective of the Urban Green Land Initiative (UGLI) is to tackle unsightly and derelict land through a programme of targeted site improvements in Neighbourhood Renewal areas. The Initiative will help to improve the visual amenity of sites that are currently neglected and having a negative impact on those people living around them.

This approach is consistent with the aims of the Liveability theme of NRF particularly around enhancing the image and attractiveness of local neighbourhoods, making them more desirable places for existing and prospective residents.

The project aims to explore new ways of working with owners of derelict land and to find a sustainable solution to promoting the active, responsible management of these sites where enforcement action is not possible.

If anyone can identify a piece of derelict land that they feel could be improved please contact the Council's Empty Property Team on 0151 691 8005 or email [emptyproperties@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:emptyproperties@wirral.gov.uk) for more information.

# HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES AND OLDER PEOPLE

## **£300 heating rebate**

£300 is now available towards the cost of central heating for anyone aged 60 or over, anywhere in Wirral. As long as they own or privately rent their home they'll be covered under this new addition to the Warm Front Scheme.

For further advice telephone 0800 512012.

This extract is from the Wirral Fuel Poverty Newsletter (Issue 2) which is available in full from [chrispearson@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:chrispearson@wirral.gov.uk) on request.

## **Wirral Primary Care Trust** **Healthy Communities and Older People – New Brighton and Wallasey**

### **Section one**

#### **Update on the establishment of a Wirral Primary Care Trust**

A Consultation on proposals for changes took place in each Strategic Health Authority in the country and concluded on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2006. This ran at the same time as consultations on the reconfiguration of Strategic Health Authorities and Ambulance Services.



Following the announcement by the Secretary of State approving the formation of a single Primary Care Trust in Wirral, a Consultation Paper and Summary Document was produced to share with staff, stakeholders and partners to gain their views and allow them to shape the future Wirral Primary Care Trust (PCT). The Consultation ended on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2006 with all responses taken into consideration. There were no responses received from members of the public and the majority of responses were received from staff.

Work has been going on to bring together Birkenhead and Wallasey and Bebington and West Wirral Primary Care Trust as a newly established Wirral primary Care Trust on 1st October 2006...

### **Vision for new Wirral Primary Care Trust**

As a response to the general policy direction and listening to our population, our vision is to:

*“Put services around patients to identify health needs, address health needs and improve the health of our population while addressing health inequalities “*

We understand the importance of creating a distinct “arm’s length” organisational structure within the new Primary Care Trust to ensure contestability and value for money of Primary Care Trust provider services.

The basic principle of the accommodation plans is to base Provider and Commissioning at arms length, with Commissioning Head Quarters being based at St Catherine’s Hospital, Birkenhead and Primary Care & Provider Services at Port Causeway in Bromborough.

### **Purpose**

The Primary Care Trusts’ purpose will be to:

- Help people keep well
- Work with patients to make them better
- Provide continuing care for those who need it

The Primary Care Trusts’ values will mirror the values of the NHS, which will be to:

“Care for all, based on need, not the ability to pay ensuring respect, dignity and compassion at all times”

### **Structure**

The new Primary Care Trust will be structures based on its vision, the strategy and delivering its functions.

The provision of provider services will continue to be directly managed by the Primary Care Trust. Primary care services will be managed within three localities, which are Bebington and West Wirral and Birkenhead and Wallasey.

Wirral Primary Care Trust has responsibility for commissioning services for:

- a registered population of 335,000
- Budget for 2006/07 of £459m.
- responsibility for the support and development of GP practices Pharmacies, Dental Practitioners and Ophthalmic Practitioners

To find out more please visit our website [www.wirralpct.nhs.uk](http://www.wirralpct.nhs.uk)

## **Section Two**

### **Public and Patient Involvement in Health and Social Care Services**

A stronger local voice: A framework for creating a stronger local voice in the development of health and social care services (DoH 2006). Sets out the Government's commitment to ensuring that Public and Patient Involvement are at the heart of any future health service developments:

- Developing a health and social care system planned around the needs of individual people and those of the wider community;
- Creating health and social care services that are, regardless of who provides them, user-centered, responsive, flexible, open to challenge, accountable to communities and constantly open to improvement; and
- Devolving decision making to the local level. Some 80% of the NHS budget is now devolved to Primary Care Trusts, meaning that priorities are decided locally.

The Wirral Primary Care Trust will work with partners across Wirral building on the excellent work of patient forums and the vast array of involvement of individuals, groups and networks. It will strengthen and widen the way in which peoples views are gathered, listened to and taken account of when health and social care services are planned, developed and commissioned. Changes will include:

- The national Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health (CPPIH) will be abolished and Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) will be established for every local authority area with social service responsibilities. These networks will support a more flexible approach to the way in which communities engage with Health and Social care organisations, in ways that best meet the needs of the communities and the people within them. Patient Forums will be strengthened ensuring a more user involvement approach is encompassed and public accountability will be promoted throughout health and social care through open and transparent communication with commissioners and providers.
- LINKs will establish a specific relationship with Council Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees and have the power to refer matters to the Council Committees.

- Overview and Scrutiny committees will be encouraged to focus their attention on the work of commissioners of health and social care services and are ideally placed to ask about the decisions they have made.
- The duties to involve and consult will be simplified and strengthened. There will be a new duty placed on commissioners to respond to what patients and the public have said.
- Work is being undertaken to explore ways of creating a stronger voice for patients, service users and members of the public at a national level.
- There will be a stronger user voice in regulation and in regulation and involvement.

## **Section Three**

### **PALs and Comments Hotline Service**

The principle aim of the PALS service is to give advice to individual patients, their families and carers about how to get information about services and help with their concerns; however, another key element of the service is to help resolve patient's problems at an early stage, thus avoiding a concern escalating to become a formal complaint.

Information from concerns raised through the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALs) are used to assist the Primary Care Trust in improving its services and standards, to this end we encourage and welcome feedback from individual patients, user groups and local community & voluntary organisations. There is also a free phone comments service, where at no cost to the public and in complete confidence callers can tell us of their concerns, complaints, general comments and compliments about any of the health services that are provided in Wirral and we will do our best to resolve any problems and pass on comments.

### **Choose and Book**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006, patients have been able to make a choice over which hospital they wish to be treated, along with the time and date they wish to attend. Patients have the option of choosing amongst four hospitals and clinics.

If you want to find out more information on this or any of our other services please call or contact the PALS service either direct or through the free phone service can do so by the following

Call in or write to:

**Wirral Primary Care Trust**  
**PALS Office**  
**Laurie's Centre, 136 Claughton Road**  
**Birkenhead**  
**Wirral**  
**CH41 6EY**  
**0151 647 4251**

Or call our Comments Hotline free phone service on **0800 085 1547**

## **Section Four**

### **Health Promotion Activities**

#### **Do you know what is happening in your area to help you improve your and your families' health?**

Wirral Healthy Communities is a specialist team to support community-led health improvement initiatives and help increase the knowledge, skills and confidence of groups to address health problems locally.

The team also wants to promote access to and generate a programme of neighborhood-based health promoting activities in the following areas:

- Food and Nutrition
- Positive Mental Health / Personal Outlook
- Stopping smoking
- Drug and Alcohol awareness
- Supporting parents
- Welfare advice
- Weight management
- Physical activity
- Confidence building
- Social isolation

**Current initiatives delivered within your Area Forum locality are as follows:**

**The essential services that your local pharmacy offers are:-**

Activity	Venue	Dates	Times	Health Worker	Other info
Feel Better with a book	Wallasey Central Library, Earlston Rd, Wallasey	Fridays	1.30 – 3.30	Kate McDonnell 07973247707	Weekly reading group for people with mild to moderate mental health conditions.
Chair Based Exercise	Liscard House	To be arranged		Marilyn	Contact Marilyn on 647 1703 for further information with read to this exercise.
Chair Based Exercise	Mariner's Park, Wallasey	Wednesdays ongoing	11.30 to 12.15	Chris	Free open to Mariners Park Residents only.

**Other Sessions – For over 50's with Active Age Centre**

Age Concern offer a wide range of physically, mentally and socially stimulating activities for older people who can come and participate in their chosen activity and meet new friends as part of promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. The activities include line, ballroom and tap dancing along with Tai Chi, yoga and keep fit. Bridge, arts and crafts, computer language classes and a range of therapies, which include aromatherapy, reflexology, massage and a fortnightly chiropody service.

For details and information on any of the above please contact:

0151 647 3537

Or visit

Active Age Centre

Grange Baptist Church Hall

Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead

Wirral CH41 2QS

Or visit our website [www.ageconcernwirral.org](http://www.ageconcernwirral.org)

- Dispensing of prescriptions
- Repeat Dispensing Service (a service where patients with stable conditions do not need to go to the surgery every month, but can collect medicines directly from the pharmacy)
- Advice on medicines
- Advice on self care (for example when to seek medical attention for an asthmatic)
- Compliance support (helping patients to take medicines as directed – for example offering reminder charts)
- Disposal of waste medicines
- Provision of Public Health information
- Signposting (advising patients which service might be of benefit to them – for example advising a customer with a head injury to attend A and E)
- Incontinence supplies
- Stoma supplies
- Advice on minor ailments (for example allergies or stomach upsets)

Services that pharmacies might offer include:-

- Smoking cessation advice
- Emergency Hormonal Contraception (The “Morning After” pill)
- Needle exchange schemes (for drug misuses)
- Anticoagulant monitoring
- Support for Nursing and Residential Homes
- Delivery of medicines
- Prescription ordering and collection
- Measuring and fitting service for trusses and surgical support stockings
- Blood glucose testing
- Blood pressure measurement
- Cholesterol testing
- Flu vaccination
- Pregnancy testing

### **Pharmacies with Stop Smoking Intermediate Advisors**

Did you know that you can go to your pharmacy for advice on stopping smoking and Nicotine Replacement Therapy (patches) on prescription at:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Pharmacy</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Contact Name</b>	<b>Tel. Number</b>
New Brighton	Victoria	100 Victoria Rd	Stuart Cubbon Mark Ellison	639 4361

Pharmacy contact details, localities, opening times (and more) can be obtained from <http://www.nhs.uk/England/Pharmacies/Default.aspx>

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Community Foundation for Merseyside.



Community Foundation for Merseyside are currently encouraging local voluntary and community groups who are working with young people and who have projects that specifically benefit young people to apply to their Local Network Fund Programme.

Local Network for Children and Young People – Greater Merseyside

The main beneficiaries for projects should be 0-19 years (up to 25 with Learning Disabilities) and projects should meet at least one of Every Child Matters outcomes:

Being Healthy  
Staying safe  
Enjoying and Achieving  
Making a Contribution  
Achieving Economic Well-being

Priority will go to groups with an annual turnover of less than £100,000, and groups working in the most disadvantaged/deprived communities. LNF have to be the main funder, covering at least 70% of the total project costs.

Deadline for returning applications for the next round in **Wirral** is **30/11/06** – For application forms you will need to ring a call centre, their number is 0845-113 0161.

For further information about the fund please contact Community Foundation for Merseyside on 0151-966-4604.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE

## **Wirralbiz celebrates a first year of great success**

Business start up team wirralbiz are celebrating after achieving a first year of huge success supporting business starts on the Wirral.

The end of July marks the anniversary of wirralbiz, a dedicated training programme and support centre for people looking to start their own business.

The company has exceeded its first year client target by an amazing 65 per cent, helping to launch and support 230 new, local businesses to date, in professions as diverse as food processing, body sculpture, and creative floristry.

The wirralbiz programme consists of four inter-related elements. The process starts with an awareness session, followed by training, specific one-to-one advice and the offer of a grant, providing certain criteria are met.

During the past year over 700 budding entrepreneurs have attended a wirralbiz awareness event at the company's centre in Egerton House, Birkenhead.

The event is a three hour informal seminar that highlights the essential information required in becoming self-employed and starting a new business. All relevant criteria are examined and discussed to ensure that each individual attending understands what they need to do to attain the most benefit from the programme.

The candidates may then choose to attend six workshops that cover vital subjects, including sales and marketing and financial planning and control.

Assistance is also provided in other areas, such as putting together a realistic business plan. This document will act as a blueprint for the first year's activities of the new business, and provide evidence to potential fund providers of trading potential and sustainability.

The facilities at wirralbiz centre include two training and seminar suites, meeting rooms and six internet linked computers. Discounted design and printing services, and free accountancy advice are all available.

The wirralbiz programme is free to Wirral residents and to those living outside the area but wishing to start a new business on the Wirral. Most types of business are eligible for the programme, although there are a few exceptions and prospective applicants are advised to check eligibility when making their initial enquiry.

The programme is managed by Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council, The Wirral Waterfront Regeneration Initiative, and is part-funded by the European Objective One Programme, and Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.



The programme consists of:

### **Training Sessions**

The six informal training sessions are held at two per week over a three week period and are available either day or evening.

### **Counselling & Mentoring**

One-to-one counselling is available before and after business start-up. Mentoring and other support services, such as our design service, are available during the first 18 months of trading.

### **Grant Opportunities**

Our grant opportunity is one of the very few available in Merseyside for new business starts. The amount of the grant is discretionary depending on each new business's requirements and each individual's circumstances, and ranges from £500 to £2000.

Recent wirralbiz success stories include:

#### **Daniel McAssey, DGM Foods**

A major wirralbiz success story is DGM Foods based in Bromborough. After major personal investment and a little more help from wirralbiz, the company now operates 24 hours a day and is expanding rapidly.

#### **Steve Barnaby, SPB Body Repairs**

Steve Barnaby's workshop on the Argyle Industrial Estate offers a versatile range of services from panel beating and spraying to vehicle servicing. After a year in business Stephen can empathise with the problems small businesses face and offers excellent rates to other small firms.

#### **Amanda Williams, Water Lily Florists**

From her Grange Precinct shop Amanda Williams creates distinctive floral decorations for both private and corporate customers.

#### **Eddie Gowns, Three Dimensional Portraits**

Brand new business start Three Dimensional Portraits offers a unique opportunity to transform a family's emotional bonds into a work of art. By taking a cast of, for example, a child's hand or foot an everlasting sculpture is created.

#### **Gail Curry, Argyle Sportswear**

Gail Curry's Argyle Sportswear is growing rapidly by offering customers quality sports, leisure and workwear at competitive prices, and with the option of personalisation.

For any further information or to book yourself onto the next Business Start Awareness Session telephone 0845 456 1796, drop into wirralbiz centre, Egerton House, 2 Tower Road, Birkenhead, open 10am-6pm Mon-Thu & 10am-4.30pm Fri or email [info@wirralbiz.biz](mailto:info@wirralbiz.biz)

# CROSS CUTTING

## Merseyside chosen to launch national bike scheme

Transport Minister Derek Twigg MP will launch a major new national cycling proficiency scheme in Merseyside, home of one of the UK's biggest cycling training programmes.

The government's new "Bikeability" standard will see its UK launch at Aintree Racecourse in Merseyside on Thursday, 7th September (from 10am).

The Bikeability standard will see the delivery of cycle training for the 21st Century and will be trialled with 3,000 children in England before being rolled out nationally in Spring 2007.

By 2009, the government aims to have trained half of all Year Six pupils in England through various schemes, offering them Bikeability certificates.

Merseyside was selected because the Department for Transport see the region as an excellent example of local authorities and the private sector working together to deliver high quality cycle training to national standards.

And it is the young people of Merseyside who are reaping the rewards.

Neil Scales, Chief Executive and Director General of Merseytravel, and Chair of the Local Transport Plan partnership group, said: "The cycle training we have launched in Merseyside is rightly attracting major national attention and its success is testament to the hard work of TravelWise and all of the district authorities. It is a fantastic example of public and private sector partners working successfully to encourage young people to get on their bikes and equipping them with the skills to do so safely."

Cllr Mark Dowd, Chair of Merseytravel, added: "We are proud to support the government's drive for improved cycle training. The national 'Bikeability' standard will help us continue to build a training programme that puts cycling at the heart of young people's lives."

TravelWise, the campaign run by the Local Transport Plan partnership – the five Merseyside authorities and Merseytravel – launched the scheme to train 4,500 Year Six children in Merseyside earlier this year.

The giant safety project was developed in partnership with Liverpool-based not-for-profit social enterprise Cycling Solutions and includes vital on-road experience.

Cycling is a key element of the Local Transport Plan, a long-term strategy and a £200m investment programme of new infrastructure and improved services providing Merseyside with a safer, greener, more efficient and accessible transport network.

Councillor John Fairclough, Chairman of the Merseyside Strategic Transportation and Planning Committee, said: "Encouraging people to cycle has health benefits for the individual, as well as helping the environment and reducing congestion. Ensuring young people are fully trained to cycle safely is an important part of the Merseyside Local Transport Plan and we are delighted that the work of our partners in this area has been recognised in this way."

Through the Merseyside programme, TravelWise hopes to increase the number of children cycling to school and then continuing to cycle into adult life.

For more information about the work of TravelWise and their cycle training, log on to [www.LetsTravelWise.org](http://www.LetsTravelWise.org)

## **Nominations invited for the Wirral Award 2006**

**Wirral Council is seeking nominations for this year's Wirral Award. The Award confers civic recognition on people who live in Wirral or organisations based in the borough.**

The Wirral Award is given either for an outstanding achievement within the previous 12 months or distinguished service to the community over a period of 20 years or more.

Previous recipients of the Award have included people who freely give up their time to work with disadvantaged groups, and those who offer their services to different sections of the community who require support.

Last year's winners included:

- Mrs Frances Watson - for her services in caring for visually impaired people through her work with the Wallasey Friendship Club for the Visually Handicapped.
- Mrs Maria Wright - for her services as coach and organiser for Wirral Athletic Club.
- Mr Jack Cuffe - for his services in promoting the interests of older people as Chair of the Wirral Senior Citizens Forum, as a lay member of the Older People's Modernisation Team and as a member of the Older People's Champions Network.
- Mrs Ruth Dann - for her fund-raising work for Wirral Wildlife.
- Mrs Barbara Mason - for her services to the Birkenhead History Society.
- Mr Geoffrey Parry - for his services to the local community of Rock Ferry including serving as Church Warden and Choir Master at St Peters Church.

Anyone wishing to nominate an individual or organisation for the Award, should phone Brian Ellis from Wirral Council on 0151 691 8491 for a nomination form.

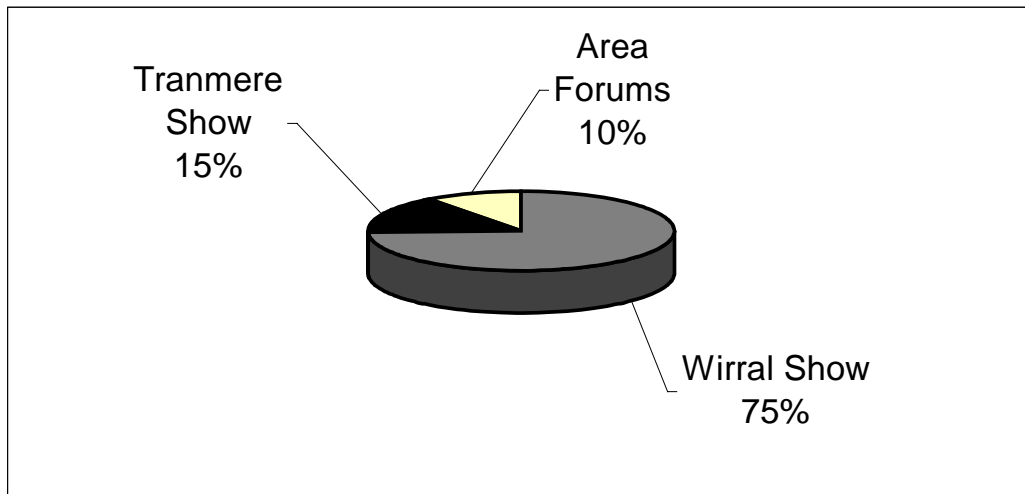
Completed forms should be returned to the Committee Services Section, Corporate Services Department, Town Hall, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 8ED by September 30, 2006.

## **Area Forum Consultation**

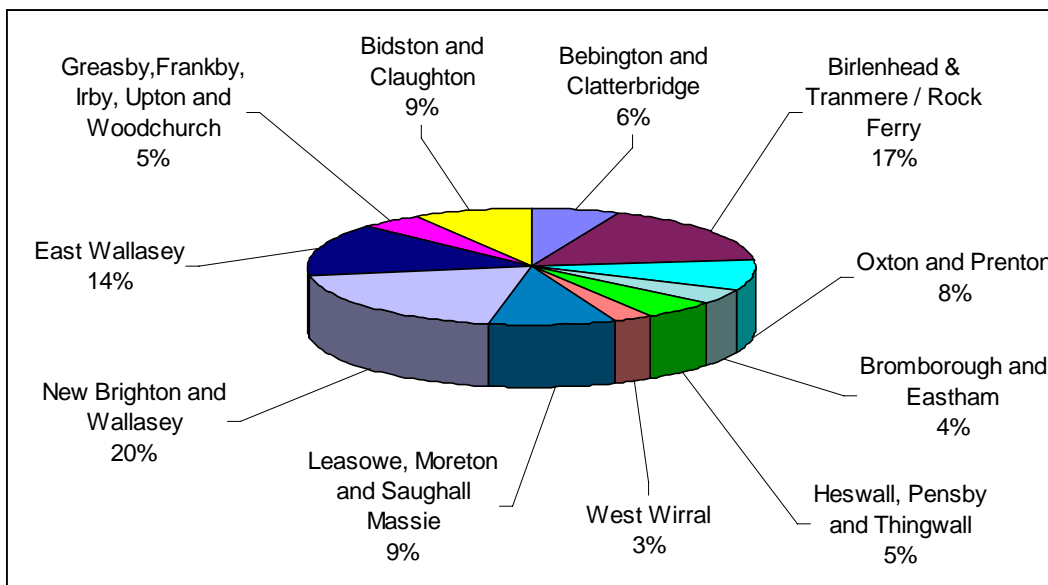
The Community Planning Team developed a questionnaire to ensure that Wirral Borough Council's Area Forums continue to be representative of our residents. Local people attending the Area Forums, the Wirral Show and the Tranmere Show have completed 290 questionnaires.

Some of the results from the questionnaires are detailed below:

### Questionnaires completed by event



### Questionnaires completed by forum area

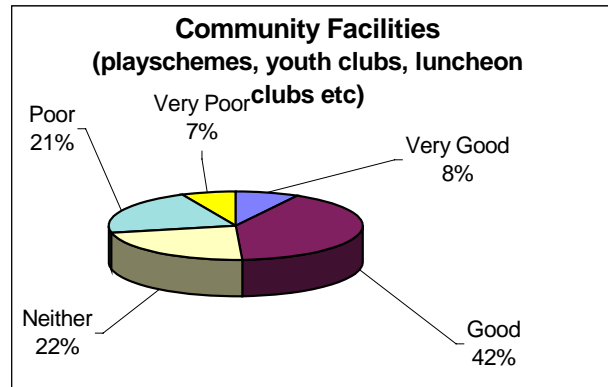
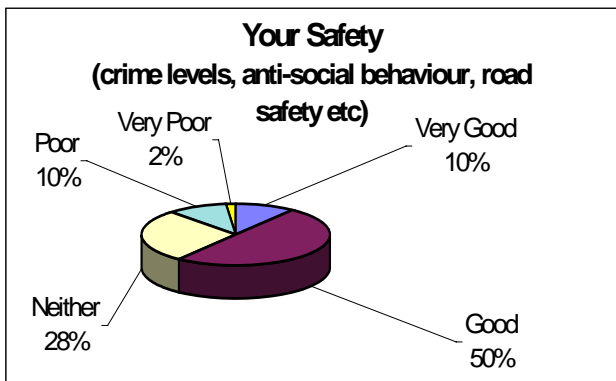
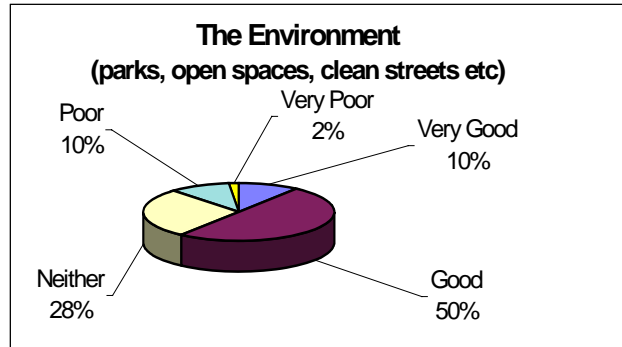
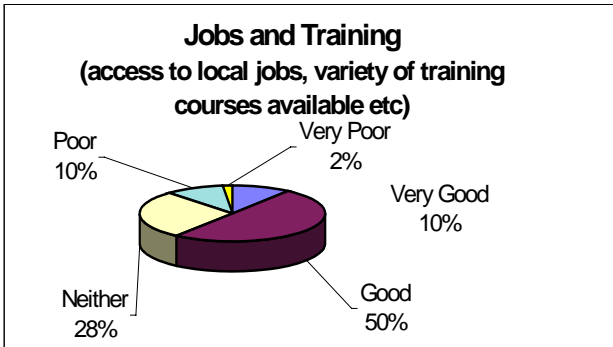
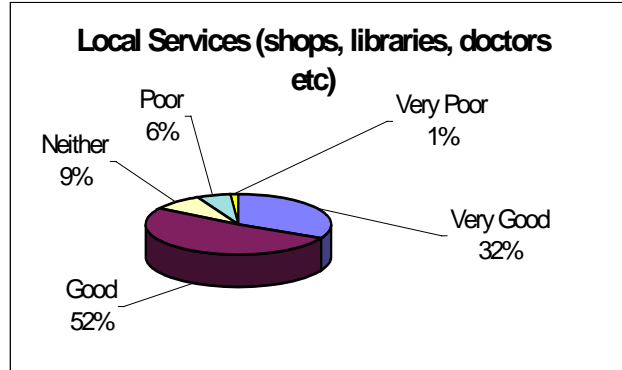
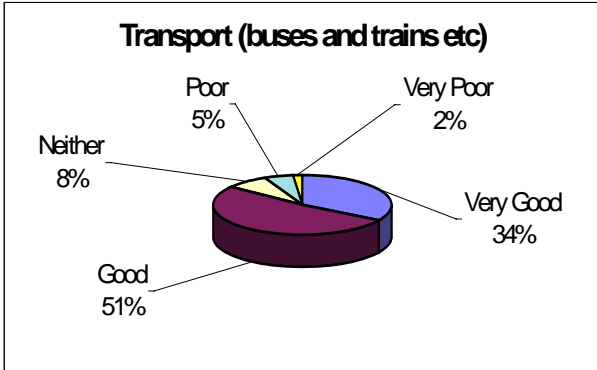


**Information on the people completing the questionnaires**

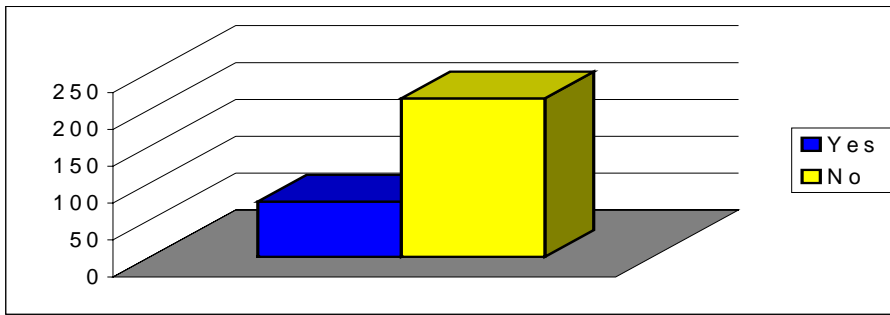
Male	121
Female	169
Under 19	40
20 - 64	183
65+	24
People that consider themselves to have a disability	27
People that consider themselves not to have a disability	263
White British	268
White Irish	3
White Other	4
Mixed – White & Asian	1
Mixed – White & Black-Caribbean	3
Mixed – Other mixed background	2
Asian or Asian British – Indian	3
Asian or Asian British – Pakistani	3
Chinese	2
Other Ethnic Group	1

The following has been taken from all the questionnaires completed at the Area Forums, Wirral Show and Tranmere Show in 2006.

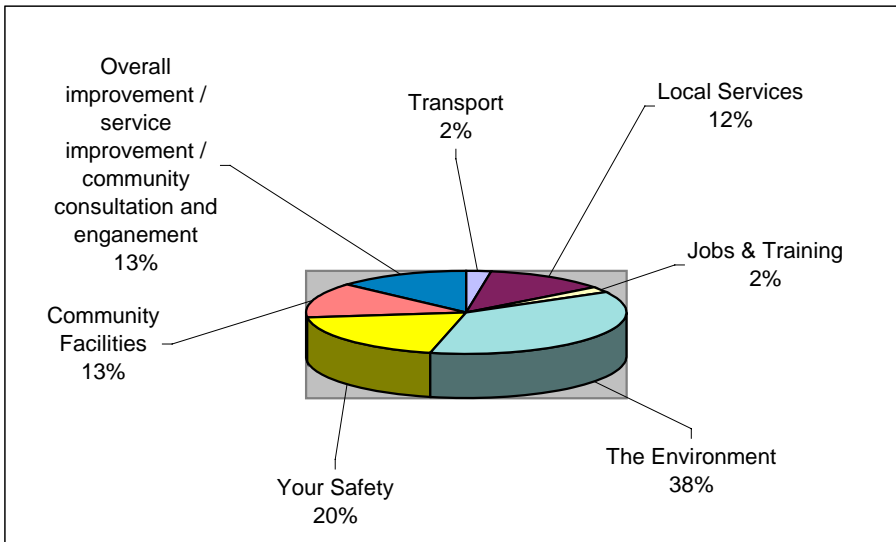
How well do you think the area is where you live (within 10 minutes walk of your home) for....



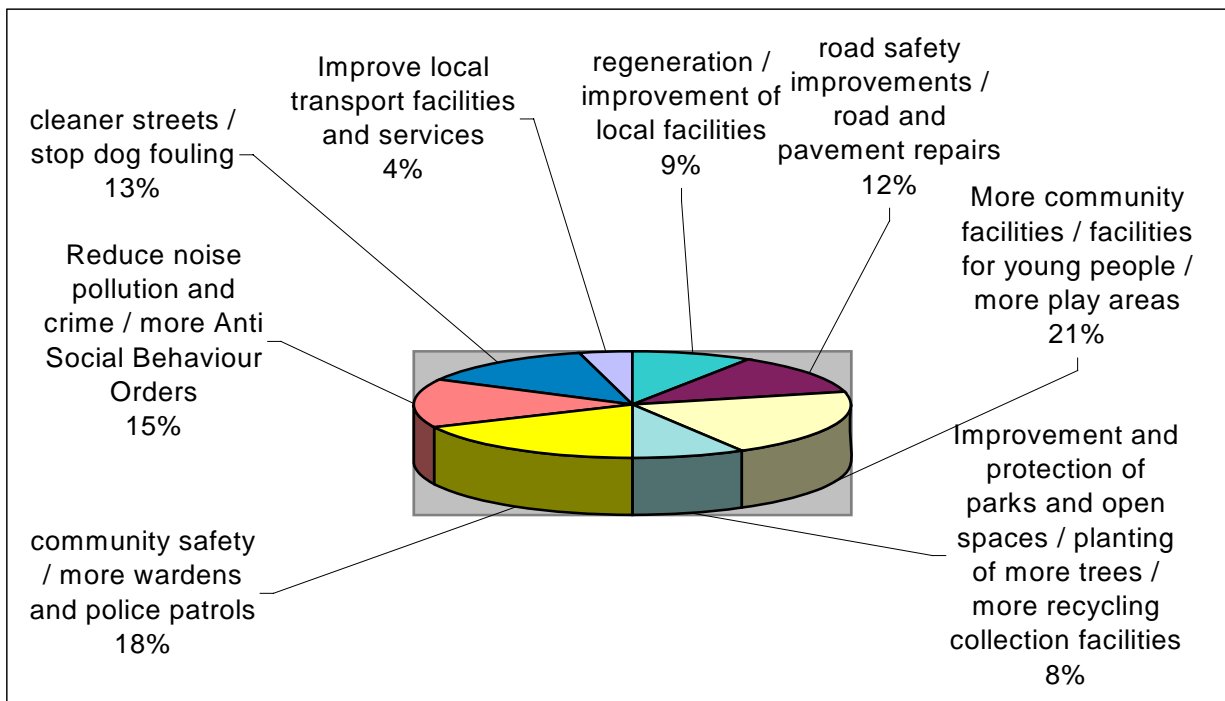
**Would you say that the area where you live has improved over the past 2 years?**



**If yes, how has it improved?**

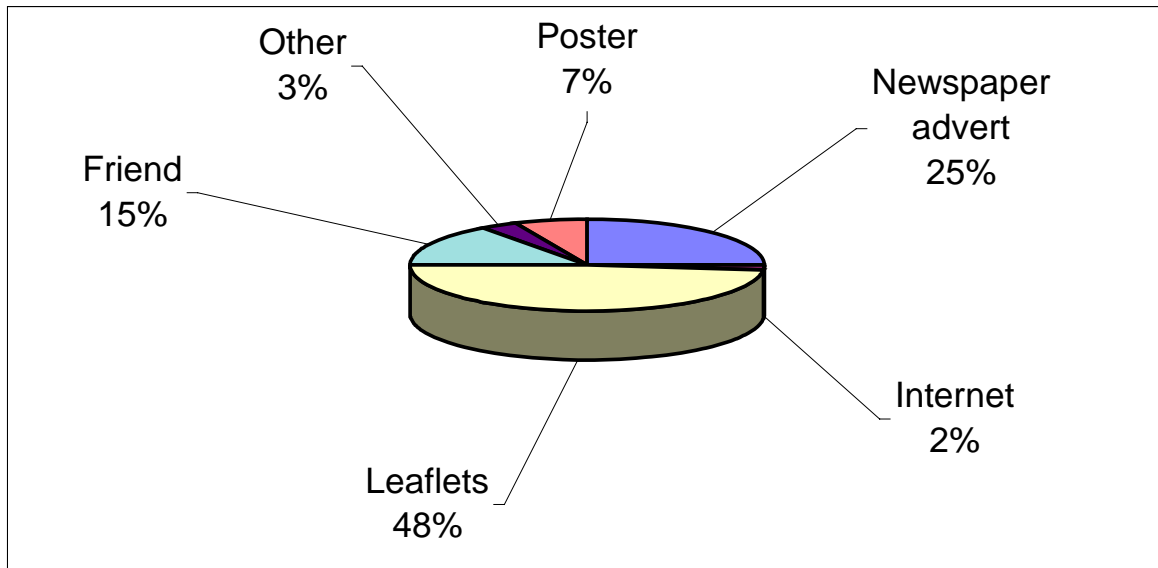


**If no, what do you think would be the best improvement to make the area where you live better?**

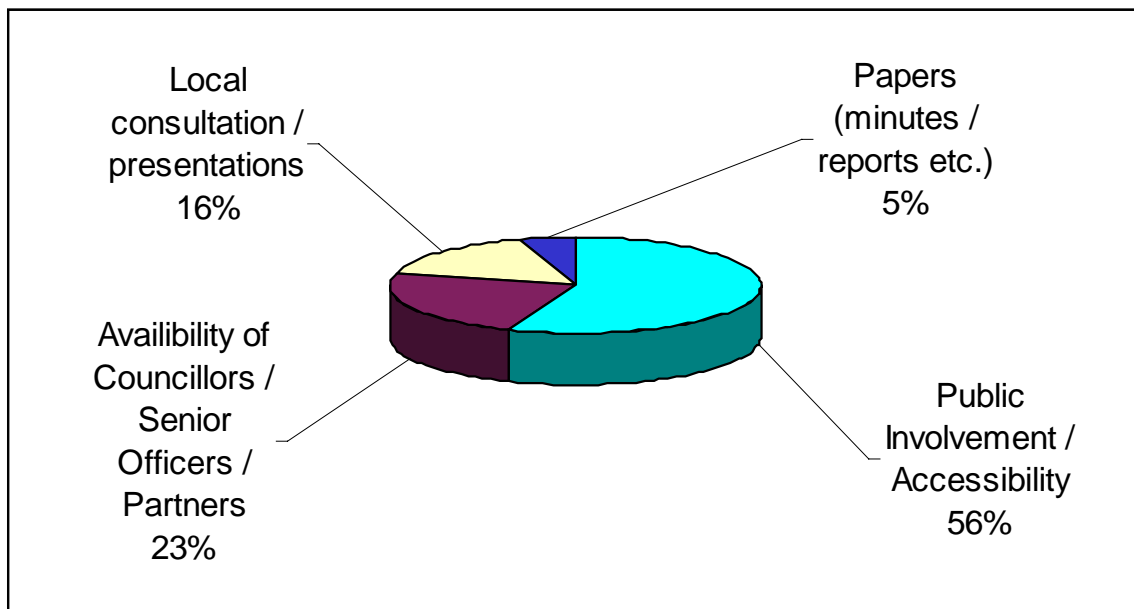


The following additional questions (specifically on the area forums) were asked of those who had attended the forums. 30 questionnaires were completed with the following results:

### How did you hear about Area Forums?

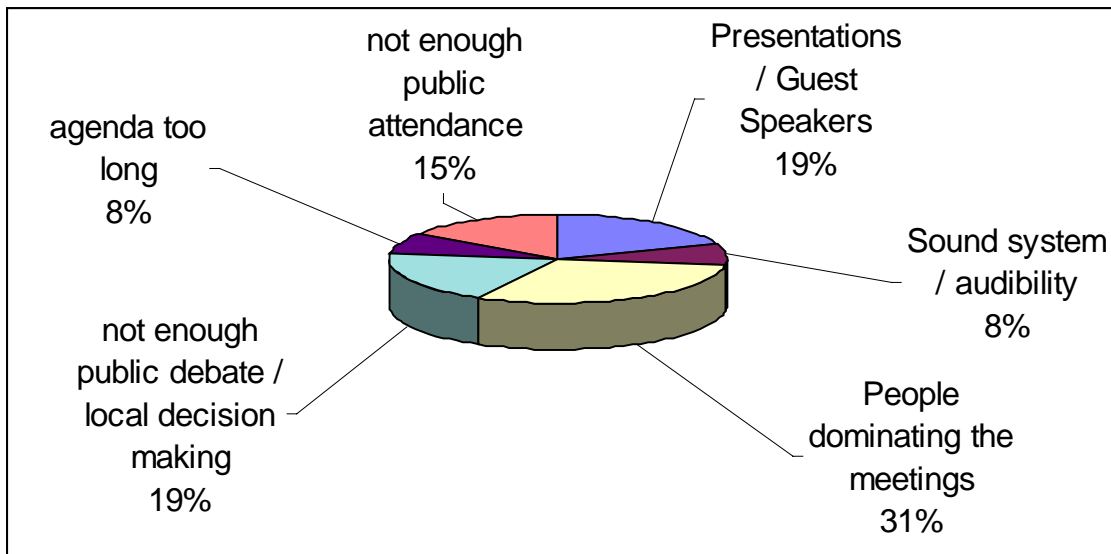


### What do you think works at Area Forums?





## What doesn't work well at Area Forums?



## Have you any ideas on how to improve Area Forums?

- Hold in fully accessible venues on bus routes or near a train station; better heating of venues in Winter
- More publicity/local radio/papers etc.; let the public know a bit more about the forums; encourage better public attendance
- Provide more information about specific services to be made available
- Give more notice of members who will be attending, so relevant questions can be aimed at the right person
- Provide suggestion boxes in areas and join up with residents associations
- Better behaviour on the part of some residents
- Restrict time from being wasted ; adhere to time limits and start the meetings on time and close doors 5 minutes after start of meeting
- Papers for next meeting be given out at the previous meeting
- Have more discussion groups
- More professional powerpoint presentations by council officials/other contributors.
- More time to be given to issues to allow time to absorb information
- Copies of slides should be made available for everyone, not just top table
- Keep Agenda and Presentations fresh; have only two presentations per meeting unless requested
- Make certain you elect a good chairperson
- Have guest speakers e.g. MP or Minister; more Police presentations etc.
- Generally happy with the Forums, no improvement required; well chaired and organised

# Section Three

## Community Initiative Funding

ID	Bid No	Received From	Requested	Bid Details	CIF	CS	LA21	Total	Reason
Funding available					£11,000.00	£3,000.00	£1,827.33	£15,827.33	
1089	1	Vale Kids Out of School Club	£1,000.00	To purchase equipment and games for the club.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1130	2	Reclaim Our Quarry	£800.00	To contribute towards placing seating and lighting at the Quarry Recreation ground, and arrangement of a bulb planting day with children from Mount Primary School.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it did not meet the criteria as closely as other applications and is something that should be funded by the Council.
1131	3	Wirral Women & Childrens Aid	£1,000.00	To help run the youth club for the next 12 months.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1132	4	Wirral Pathfinders	£469.00	To help with the cost of providing the help and support for people in the community who suffer with mental health problems and their families.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.

1133	5	Argyle Music Hall	£1,000.00	To provide entertainment for older people and those who have an interest in music hall (hire of venue, payment of artistes and musicians, advertising costs).	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1134	6	Jellybean Kids' Appeal	£2,500.00	To contribute towards creating a children's assessment and treatment area (CATS) at Arrowe Park Hospital.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough and should be funded through the Primary Care Trust.
1173	7	Helplink Community Support	£2,000.00	To fund volunteer expenses, training and administration costs to enable the organisation to take on further clients.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1181	8	Wirral Life Education Centres	£750.00	To contribute towards the costs of providing a mobile classroom at local primary schools.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1187	9	Wirral Information Resource for Equality & Disability (WIRED)	£718.50	To contribute towards provision of a new heavyweight scooter for Liscard Shopmobility to meet the needs of an expanding membership.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.

1189	10	Wallasey Chess Club	£150.00	To host two competitions for junior chess players from New Brighton and Wallasey and surrounding areas.	£150.00	£0.00	£0.00	£150.00	Panel considered this to be a good project which meets the criteria and will benefit local people and agreed to award £150.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
1205	11	Inclusive Access (UK) Ltd	£6,400.00	To provide access auditing and Disability Awareness Training to enhance community and voluntary buildings within the places within the forum area.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1221	12	Victim Support & Witness Service Merseyside	£218.00	To train / recruit 15 volunteers to work with children and their families who are affected by crime in their local area, and to cover volunteer's travel expenses.	£218.00	£0.00	£0.00	£218.00	Panel considered this to be a good and worthwhile project that meets the criteria and agreed to award £218.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
1235	13	Age Concern Wirral	£855.00	To contribute towards annual older persons' conference.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1246	14	Perspective Theatre Company	£1,800.00	To present ten workshops covering alcohol and drugs issues across the forum area.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.

1279	15	Wirral Squash Development Association	£1,003.00	To contribute towards starting up a programme to develop sporting skills in young people aged between 11 and 14 years by provision of equipment and coaching.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it is not area specific enough.
1283	16	All Fired - Up	£1,000.00	To contribute towards cost of fitness equipment, marketing of health promotion, transportation and attending away days.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project and would be willing to fund equipment costs, but not travel and away costs.  Panel requested that the applicant submit detailed breakdown of equipment costs and deferred this to the next round of applications for consideration on receipt of this.
1284	17	Wallasey Amateur Boxing Club	£1,960.00	To replace the internal cladding of the exterior walls of the club premises.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not fund this as it a council building and should be funded through the Council.
1291	18	New Brighton Festival	£5,475.00	To contribute towards costs of entertainers / bands for the festival.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, however it was felt that the project didn't meet requirements as much as other projects.
1292	19	Friends of Harrison Park	£735.00	To purchase picnic bench, seating, litter bin and engraved plaque.	£0.00	£0.00	£735.00	£735.00	Panel considered this to be a worthwhile project that will benefit local people and agreed to award £735.00 from the Local Agenda 21 Fund.

1293	20	New Brighton Cricket and Bowling Club	£2,500.00	To contribute towards the cost of erecting a 2m high metal fence and gates across the entrance area.	£0.00	£1,250.00	£0.00	£1,250.00	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the criteria agreed to contribute £1,250.00 from the Community Safety Fund.
1294	21	Rodney / Nelson Tenants	£729.00	To improve the garden area at the rear of Rodney Court by clearing, new planting and adding a water feature.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it did not meet the criteria as closely as other applications.
1295	22	Friends of the Sea	£3,000.00	To contribute towards the cost of enabling the Royal Marine Band to perform at the floral Pavilion in New Brighton.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but did not support this as it a national charity and does not meet the criteria as closely as other applications.
1296	23	St Hilary's Youth Club, Wallasey	£1,335.00	To widen the scope of activities and facilities available to members of the youth club by the purchase of a data projector, a laptop, karaoke machine and air hockey table.	£1,000.00	£335.00	£0.00	£1,335.00	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the criteria and will benefit local people and agreed to award £1,000.00 from the Community initiatives Fund and £335.00 from the Community Safety Fund.
1297	24	Wallasey Village Community Partnership	£864.00	To produce and circulate a Partnership newsletter three times per year.	£864.00	£0.00	£0.00	£864.00	Panel considered this to be a good project and agreed to award £864.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.  Panel requested that the applicant be informed that if apply for this in the future will need to supply three quotes for printing.

1298	25	Wallasey Athletic Club	£500.00	To contribute towards the purchase of mobile display boards as part of a publicity campaign to promote the Club's Centenary.	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	Panel considered this to be a good project that meets the criteria and will benefit local people and agreed to award £500.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund.
1299	26	Imperial Avenue Area Neighbourhood Watch Group	£1,500.00	To allow the core membership to expand and inspire community to take responsibility for general safety of the neighbourhood by issuing a community newsletter and holding a larger meeting for local residents.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Panel considered this to be a good project, but as with application submitted with last round of funding, did not support this as neighbourhood watch is funded from the Home Office.  The Panel suggested that the applicant contact the Home Watch Co-ordinator, advertise in the Walrus magazine and contact the Local Ward Councillors.
1300	27	Wallasey Sea Cadets	£895.00	To contribute towards the purchase of camp beds for the unit.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	The panel felt unable to support this application at the current time but were pleased to see that the organisation had received support previously from this area forum.
1301	28	Wallasey Sea Cadets	£1,748.45	To purchase rack of folding chairs and chairs with desk tablets attached for classrooms.	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	The panel felt unable to support this application at the current time but were pleased to see that the organisation had received support previously from this area forum.
<b>Funding Awarded</b>					£3,732.00	£1,585.00	£735.00	£6,052.00	
<b>Balance</b>					£7,268.00	£1,415.00	£1,092.33	£9,775.33	

There is £7,268.00 CIF, £1,415.00 Community Safety and £1,092.33 LA21 funding amounting to **£9,775.33**.

The funding is now being advertised with a closing date of Wednesday 8 November 2006

Application packs can be obtained by contacting the Community Planning Team, Corporate Services, Wallasey Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 8ED.

(tel): 0151 691 8650 (e-mail): [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) or

The forms can also be downloaded from our website.

**Contact:** [Community Planning Team 0151 691 8650](tel:01516918650)

**Website:** <http://10.107.1.50:8888/community/cifund.asp>

## **New Brighton / Wallasey Area Forum Funding Progress Report**

<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Received From</b>	<b>Bid Details</b>	<b>Progress Report</b>
£1,000.00	Wallasey G.H. Peers Club	To purchase a reconditioned mower.	Report received from Wallasey G.H. Peers Club - May 2006: Thank you for your consideration and assistance, the mower is working perfectly and is in constant use.
£1,000.00 2006	Wallasey Sea Cadets	To purchase cooking equipment and tableware.	Report received from Wallasey Sea Cadets – May  Thank you for the funding. All the galley equipment has been purchased and we have held our first weekend sailing, and the staff found the cooking equipment easy to use.
£676.00	Age Concern Wirral	To purchase equipment for Keep Fit and Chair-Based Exercise Classes.	Report received from Age Concern Wirral - August 2006: The funding was used to purchase keep fit equipment for the Claremount Church Chair Based



Group and the Emmanuel Church Keep Fit Group. Two lockable storage cupboards have been ordered to store this equipment in. Approximately 30 people benefit from the equipment each week.

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£500.00	Vale House Community Centre	To purchase a fridge freezer for use by the luncheon club.	Report received from Vale House Community Centre - June 2006: The new fridge freezer is more reliable and energy efficient and has enabled us to bulk buy foodstuffs on offer for our luncheon club.
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Amount Awarded	Received From	Bid Details	Progress Report
£1,000.00	Wirral Community Arts	To contribute towards developing an arts resource centre in Wirral.	Report received from Wirral Community Arts - June 2006: The funding was used for admin, advertising, promotion costs and helping with the developing of performance space at an event in Wallasey Central Park and at the Oxton Festival in 2005. Both these events have helped us develop an extensive network of performers and artists that we will use in the future to develop the resource centre.

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# Section Four

## Local Area Plan

### Update

The purpose of the area plan is to give you an understanding of the local area in which you live. It also gives information about Wirral, what is in your area, statistical information and it also identifies local issues that have been raised and includes those nationally agreed Local Area Agreement priorities.

A lot of hard work has gone into the plan by the area co-ordinator, area plan sub-group and members of the community.

Thank you very much to everybody for all their hard work and support in development the area plan.

The area 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 it 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 the quality of life of local people in the area.

Area plans will be refreshed on annual basis to take account of changing priorities and the changing policy environment within which our local services operate. It will be the responsibility of the area forums to refresh their area plan and to report on progress to their local community.

**Area plans are being developed across all 11 of the area forums currently operating in Wirral and will feed into the annual refreshment of the local area agreement and the overarching community strategy for Wirral.**

# Section Five

## Youth Update

### Wirral Youth Service

#### Introduction

Wirral Youth Service provides opportunities, which are open to all Wirral young people. The Service's age range is 13-25 years; prioritising young people aged 13-19 years. Youth work helps young people learn about themselves, others and society, through informal educational activities which combine fun, challenge and learning.

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
- 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.

The Wallasey Young People's Project undertakes streetwork and where appropriate, makes use of the Kontakta Bus, in New Brighton, Wallasey and Liscard, Monday to Friday.

Much of the work of the Youth Service takes place in one of sixteen open access youth clubs located across the Borough from Wallasey to Eastham and Birkenhead to West Kirby.

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**

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 and 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.

## **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.

# Section Six

## Streetscene Update

### **Review of Disc zone Parking**

Wirral Council has completed the major consultation exercise with residents and businesses in Birkenhead over plans to scrap the disc zone parking regulations.

This review has been prompted by the difficulty to enforce the current regulations from motorists who are not familiar with the area. Wirral Council also wishes to encourage motorists to make more use of alternative modes of transport.

The scheme has now been advertised and staff are currently dealing with objections, with the aim to present a report to Select Committee on 4 October 2006.

### **Hoylake Improvements**

With phase 1 completed in time for The Open Golf Championship, phase 1b has now commenced. This work is expected to be complete early next year with a break during the Christmas shopping weeks.

### **Environmental and Streetscene Services Contract**

An extensive procurement exercise has taken place over the last 12 months, for the provision of Refuse, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services for the Borough. Four tenders were received and after a comprehensive evaluation the tender was awarded to Biffa.

The contract commenced on August 22 with considerable efforts by Biffa representatives and officers of the Council to ensure that the mobilisation of the contract is successful, with as little disruption to the service as possible.

Key benefits include Bank Holiday collection (excluding Christmas and New Year), Sunday street cleansing and electronic communication systems between crews and the call centre to provide immediate feedback from collections and residents.

### **Waste and Recycling**

#### **Garden Recycling**

All residents currently participating in the white sack garden recycling scheme have received a brown wheelie bin in replacement of their white garden sacks to increase the capacity of garden recycling. The roll out was completed at the end of August with Biffa now collecting these bins. This was deemed necessary to avoid the long term health and safety implications associated with the white sacks for the collection crews.

#### **Food and Garden recycling**

A newsletter has been distributed to all residents who receive a food and garden waste collection to update them on the scheme, provide encouragement to increase food recycling particularly and provide information on the current use of the product after process through the IVC.

### **Paper and Packaging Recycling**

The new dry recyclables scheme consisting of paper and packaging is to begin the week starting November 6. This collection will see plastics, glass, paper, cardboard, foil and cans all being collected, combined, from the kerb-side. The Oxton, Prenton, Woodchurch, Upton and Moreton wards are to be in the first phase roll out. The marketing literature is near completion and information roadshows will begin on the week starting September 25.

With the introduction of these Paper and Packaging recycling bins comes the alternate weekly collection of recycling and residual waste. The level of recyclable materials will mean the weekly residual bin collections will be unnecessary and expensive. The chosen areas will provide valuable experience when collecting from a range of properties including terraces, multiple-occupancy, semi-detached among others.

The next phase of roll out will begin in March 2007.

### **Road Improvements along Saughall Massie Road**

The major road improvement scheme along Saughall Massie Road in West Kirby between Blackhorse Hill to the junction of Gilroy Road has now been completed. This work was carried out within budget and on time.

### **Major Surfacing Schemes**

Recently completed surfacing works in the Borough are:

Frankby Road, Frankby Close to Hillbark Road  
Holm Lane  
Townfield Lane  
Pasture Road, Moreton over the bridge  
Forest Road, Heswall  
Thurstaston Road, Irby (part only)  
Raby Mere Road  
Graham Road, West Kirby

A trial programme of surface dressing was undertaken during the summer in:

Column Road, Caldy, Caldy Road to Grange Cross Lane  
Willaston Road, Clatterbridge  
Denning Drive, Irby  
Heathbank Road, Irby

The aim of this work is to provide a proactive maintenance of the carriageway surface which will enable Wirral Council to achieve a sustainable programme of maintenance.

Recently completed footway improvements:

Wharfedale Road, Wallasey  
Grant Road, Leasowe  
Pasture Road (bridge area)  
Grange Road, West Kirby (part)  
Meols Drive, Hoylake (part)  
Riviera Drive, Tranmere

#### Road Signage

As reported at the last meeting, a programme of traffic sign improvements has taken place during the summer and was complete in time for The Open Golf Championship.

This work covered all the main routes in the Borough and contributed to the success of the Championship.

Depending on funding, Wirral Council hope to continue with further signage improvements next year.

#### Leasowe Road/Gardenside roundabout

Work is now in progress on the construction of the new roundabout. This scheme is part of Wirral Council's aim to improve road safety and reduce congestion.

#### Traffic Calming

Traffic calming schemes are currently in progress in the Trafalgar Road area of Wallasey and the Willan Street area of Birkenhead. A further scheme is planned for Twickenham Drive in Leasowe.

#### Traffic safety schemes

As part of Wirral Council's drive to improve road safety a number of schemes have been completed in the Borough.

Brighton Street/King Street, Wallasey  
Ferry Road, Eastham  
Smithy Hill, Thornton Hough  
Moreton Road, Upton new Puffin crossing  
Greasby Road/Frankby Road new traffic signal junction improvement  
Laird Street/Park Road North a major new junction improvement will be complete in the next few weeks.

#### **Road Safety**

A new law has come into effect on Monday 18 September requiring drivers to ensure that all children under 135cms (4' 5") or age 12 – whichever they reach first –use an appropriate car restraint when travelling in their vehicle. The Road Safety team have spent time publicising this and meeting with parents to provide advice for the correct car restraints.

The Kerb Craft team have with marketing created several new streams of literature to encourage road safety in children and reduce accidents of this nature in Wirral. Calendars and activity books are all examples of this.

## Routine Inspections

As part of Wirral Council's legal duties regular inspections are made of all the roads in the Borough. This very successful inspection regime has reduced significantly the number of claims being made.

## Future Programmes

Assessment surveys are currently being undertaken across the Borough for statistics to collate a structural maintenance programme for 07/08. Forums should now be considering which streets in their area should be put forward for inclusion in their future programme.

As part of Wirral Council's commitment to improve road safety and improve the public transport infrastructure two new major junction improvements are currently being designed for A41/Bromborough Village Road and A41/Eastham Rake junctions.



# **Section Seven**

## **Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service update**

A verbal update will be provided during the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service update at the Forum.

# Section Eight Community Safety

A verbal update will be provided during the Community Safety update at the Forum.