BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE / ROCK FERRY AREA FORUM
Co-ordinator’s report
7 June 2005

Maxine Joynson – 691 8266
Contents

Section one
Local issues

Section two
Local updates

• Developing Skills for Neighbourhood Renewal
• Community representative vacancy – Rock Ferry
• Local Transport Plan 2 – consultation
• Church Road and Fiveways
• Tranmere Alliance
• Lees Avenue Residents
• Neighbourhood Management – ‘Together’
• Highways Maintenance programme 2005/05
• Handyperson Scheme
• ABC Together
• Minutes of United Utilities Liaison meeting

Section three
Community Initiative’s Funding 2004/05

Section four
Developing and implementing a local area plan

Section five
Youth Forums and update

Section six
Streetscene

Section seven
Future presentations

Section eight
Dates and venue of future meetings

Appendices
Minutes of the last forum meeting October 2004
Highways Maintenance programme 2005/06
SECTION ONE
LOCAL ISSUES

Separate meeting to discuss recruitment of community representatives – it was decided to organise this meeting after the next area forum in June given the election period during May.

Rock Park Esplanade – a further meeting took place on 15 March and more since then. David Ball has reported that they are discussing a number of detailed issues with local residents and the owners of the Esplanade as well as exploring funding. The Rock Park AGM is scheduled to take place for late April and he has been invited to attend. It is suggested that once this has taken place and they are in a more stated position, we invite the other people from the Forum to attend.

Mrs Moss - Old Chester Road residents don’t want trees just bushes (Tudor/Oriel/Crofton) – Sharon Smith responded by reporting that the plans for the landscaping scheme adjacent to Oriel and Tudor road contain low level shrubs/bushes. However at this moment in time she is unsure of the plans for any new development on the land that has been made available adjacent to Crofton Road (previous Saunders site).

Mr Corkish – enquired about a new brush but apparently was only joking!

Mr Taylor, Albany Bowling Club – enquired about unadopted entries. Alan Stennard would investigate if such a list exists.

Philip Barton – people who live in CH41/CH42 are discriminated against by local businesses. The Chair asked David to feed this through to the Birkenhead Town Centre Business Forum via Sheila Terry. Also he was refused treatment at Arrowe Park Accident & Emergency because he was not brought in by ambulance as he is a wheelchair user – Pam Bethell to speak to Philip directly and take this up.

Val Simms – asked about upper level of car park at Green Lane station and asked who was responsible. The Council owns this car park and contact was made with Steve Atkins from Technical Services with regard to the lighting issue. He will arrange for an inspection to take place to investigate the replacement of existing lighting and/or additional lighting. They have plotted where lighting is with the possibility of placing spotlights off existing lights (currently 2 columns). ‘An engineer from parking services has since inspected the car park at night and confirms that the lighting is possibly substandard. I consider that this is one of many car parks that would benefit from improved street lighting. I have therefore requested the street lighting division to look at the lighting of this car park in more detail and come back to me with their recommendations. I do however have to say that any improvement scheme would be subject to resources being made available’.

Garry Cummings passed the following queries directly to Streetscene and requested that they contact the enquirer directly in all cases:

Alleygates – Mr Ged Brown requested clarification of who should be sweeping and clearing the unadopted gated entries in Rock Ferry and are enough keys made available to these teams and the bin assists. He also felt that people should not be leaving their bins on their frontages in the terraced streets as this is a blight on the area and a potential health hazard and wanted to know what the Authority is doing about it.
Graham Gathercole has responded by saying ‘when alleygates were first introduced, Mike Walker sent a letter to all occupants advising them it would be their responsibility to clean the entry if alleygates were installed. The residents all signed up to this and the gates were installed. Onyx enforcement team were not were not issued with keys because of the cost of a skeleton key. The ‘hit’ squad is sent in if dumping becomes bad on request only. Graham checked the entry on 22 March and it was very clean. With regard to bins, it would be preferable if people could keep them on their own property and bring them out on collection day and return the. This stops theft, damage and misuse of bins. We would only intervene if it was a serious obstruction’.

Flytipping – Miss Challinor reported that the yard of the derelict house in Shaw Street is being used by neighbours to dump household waste.

Refuse removal/cleansing - the green area at the rear of Whetstone Lane Medical Centre (Quarry Bank/Shaw Street) has not been cleansed for many months, as well as litter, there are items such as bike frames that need removing.

Nicky Smith reported that the green area at the junction of Larch Road/Borough Road needs clearing of litter and furniture including a large fridge.

Dumping – Mrs Moss reported rubbish and building materials left at side of 2a Tudor Road and further along the entry. With regard to flytipping in the Cobden/Grenville area, if this is reported to Garry Cummings he may be able to prosecute. Mrs Moss is prepared to be the main keyholder for the alleygate scheme, Ian Lowrie will pass this info to Mark Hunter.

Mark has spoken to Mrs Moss and a public meeting is due to take place during April.

Recycling – Mr Jones reported that the black recycling boxes are not being used or are being misused by residents and wanted to know if the Council has any plans to re-launch or re-publicise this scheme.

Steve Davies from Recycling has responded to directly to Mr Jones via letter on 23 March 2005.

Bin collections – Jim Crocker stated that a number of bins are left out after collection at the rear of Gothic Street encouraging people to dump there.

Graham Gathercole responded that he works closely with Mr Birchall of Lees Avenue Residents Association. Unfortunately, number 1 Ionic Street is at the end of an entry with a bin collection point. Graham checked on 22 March and no bins were left in the entry. The area is cleaned on a regular basis. Letters have been sent in recent months to all residents and in certain circumstances to targeted addresses asking them to bring their bins in. In exceptional circumstances, bins can be taken from residents and replaced at their own expense’.
SECTION TWO
LOCAL UPDATES

Wirral Metropolitan College, Wirral Lifelong Learning Service, Birkenhead 6th Form College and the Worker's Educational Association

Working in Partnership

Developing Skills for Neighbourhood Renewal

Wirral Metropolitan College, Wirral Lifelong Learning, Birkenhead 6th Form College and the Worker’s Educational Association are working together in five Wirral wards; Leasowe, Seacombe, Bidston, Birkenhead and Tranmere to provide a range of opportunities in community settings for individuals who wish to improve skills in literacy, numeracy and communication.

Three development workers have been engaged and work as an impartial team in community locations across the Wirral. They work with individuals on one to one basis providing information on opportunities offered by all the partner organisations and helping to overcome individual barriers. They can provide guidance with financial assistance to help with childcare, travel and books. They also work collaboratively with other community based organisations and groups to provide customised provision in community locations.

By working collaboratively, using the expertise of each provider, the project aims to provide information about local English and Maths courses to individuals and respond to community needs with innovative ways of encouraging adults to participate in courses in the community.

If you would like to talk to a development worker about English, Maths and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses in your area, please contact

Carole Wilshaw at St James’ s Centre, Birkenhead or Beechwood Neighbourhood College
670 0359 or 677 9211

Anna Douglas at Leasowe Early Years & Adult Learning Centre or Rock Ferry Adult Learning Centre
630 5069 or 645 9182

Janet Castle at South Wallasey Neighbourhood College
691 2640

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE VACANCY – ROCK FERRY WARD

An advert was placed in the Wirral Globe on 19 January 2005 to promote this vacancy. If you are interested or know of anyone who may be interested in representing the Rock Ferry area at the area forum, please contact the Community Planning Team on 0151 691-8069.

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2 – consultation feedback

Forums were held at;

Bebington Civic Centre - Wednesday 23rd Feb and was attended by 19 people
Birkenhead Museum - Thursday 24th Feb and was attended by 8 people
Westbourne Hall – Tuesday 8th March and was attended by 24 people
Wallasey Town Hall – Thursday 10th March and was attended by 10 people

The feedback is divided under the four headings of accessibility, congestion, air quality and road safety as these are the themes that the government have told us to work to as part of LTP2.

**Accessibility**

♦ Free travel scheme for pensioners is good however the passes should be valid pre 0930hrs
♦ Access to work - public transport does not cater for the needs of shift workers.
♦ Reliability of buses – cannot rely on them for journeys to work therefore limits opportunities.
♦ Bus Networks – distribution of services is not balanced – some areas have lots of buses and others have none.
♦ Access to hospitals difficult by public transport but also need to ensure that access to GPs is not overlooked. Shuttle buses from the villages and/or stations to the hospitals would benefit visitors and staff.
♦ Need more evening bus services and Sunday services as accessibility to leisure and retail is limited (social inclusion issues). Train services also stop too early. As more people are now employed in leisure and retail this needs to be addressed.
♦ Cost - Services are too costly – need more discounted tickets. Suggestion made to have tickets valid on all services for 60 or 90 minutes to make interchange between operators and modes easier. General comments regarding introducing standard fares and more integrated tickets.
♦ Safety and Security issues affect accessibility as services are withdrawn due to vandalism. Buses and trains need to have conductors on and more visible staff. Need more CCTV
♦ Customer care – inconsiderate attitudes of, and erratic driving by, bus drivers puts people off using the services. (Similar comments regarding private hire vehicles also made).
♦ Bus operators/Merseytravel should be providing local services eg. Circulars around housing estates etc that feed into more strategic services along main routes.
♦ We should all be looking at bringing services etc back to the communities so that we reduce the need to travel
♦ Information – there is still a need for more public transport information and a need to publicise its availability as a lot of people are not aware of where to get leaflets etc from. Also trains and buses need better information e.g. service numbers and destinations on buses. Need to be aware of information on train fronts not being easily read by partially sighted/elderly people due to “orange dot” format. Bus companies should not be allowed to handwrite their service number and destination on a piece of paper and stick it in the
window. Buses should also have service number at the rear so you know if you have just missed it.

- Pedestrians - Need more road crossing facilities. Footpaths which need to be in better condition. Crossings need to have clear visible indicators to show when safe to cross (some crossings don’t have visible ‘green man’)

- Bus shelters and bus timetables are much improved in recent years although timetables not always reflecting what the service actually does! – i.e. need speedier responses after changes to services.

- Employers should be playing a bigger role in subsidising services in order to get people to their place of work.

- Joblink – service is good but would it be better utilised and more time efficient taking people to the stations instead of direct to work – may reduce long journey times as rail journey often quicker.

- Access to stations for disabled and parents with prams needs to be improved.

- Need to consider accessibility to areas outside Merseyside – particular support for electrification of Bidston to Wrexham rail line.

- Interchange facilities at Liverpool for buses from Wirral need to be improved - buses through the tunnel do not go to the Coach Station or to Bus station. In particular problematic for the elderly or people with cases who have to walk up quite a distance after alighting from the bus.

- Should try to increase role of ferries

Congestion

- Congestion only occurs at peak times however it is unacceptable. Mixed views over the definition of congestion from 5 minutes to 30 minutes. General agreement that it has got worse in recent years.

- Greatest problems outsides schools, at the Tunnels, the A41, the Hospitals and the Motorway roundabouts. Main cause is school and work travel.

- Congestion also caused by more localised issues such as road works – need better co-ordination of road works to reduce disruptions.

- Park and Ride is key to reducing congestion however many stations need extensions to the car parks as it is pointless trying to encourage people to use the trains if no parking is available.

- Shuttle buses to key locations such as the Hospitals – would benefit visitors and staff.

- Rail – rail is crucial in tacking congestion. Car drivers more likely to change to rail than to bus (social class issues). Strong support for the electrification of the Wrexham – Bidston line: would remove some cars off the road and increase accessibility to jobs
♦ Could old railway track-beds be better utilised either through re-opening of rail services or making them available for walking/cycling routes?

♦ Enforcement issues - specifically taxis and cars double parking needs to be enforced as this causes congestion.

♦ Deterioration of bus services has led to increased congestion as more people won’t use them. Therefore need to improve reliability and improvement of bus services – strong support that we should be looking at Quality Contracts/more public control of the bus network and more bus lanes (if properly enforced). However, acknowledgement that bus lanes can increase congestion if car drivers unwilling to make shift to bus.

♦ Improvement and expansion of Community Transport and Demand Responsive Services. We should also be looking at car clubs. Could the planning system play more of a role with regard to car free developments, or developments where facilities for a car club are designed in from new.

♦ Traffic Management – signage needs to be clearer to avoid drivers getting lost and clogging up the towns. Signage painted on the roads is more useful than the signs on posts especially where several lanes of traffic. Improvements needed to traffic lights so that they do not stop cars and buses when there is no other traffic.

♦ Need better integration between operators of buses and also better integration between buses and trains.

♦ Walking and Cycling – need better facilities to attract people to cycling and walking e.g. storage facilities and changing facilities. Particularly to schools.

♦ Mixed views on “stick” approach of reducing congestion, i.e. road tolling and car parking charges, however, agreement that can’t build more roads. Some feeling that Wirral residents are already tolled because of the tunnel.

♦ Requests for Merseytram be extended to Wirral in the future.

♦ Anti- social behaviour needs to be tackled if people are to be encouraged to get back on to public transport.

♦ Flexible working/staggered school times – should be encouraging more companies/schools etc to allow flexible working/staggered school times.

♦ Young people at the Youth Forum had not realised the link between congestion, air quality and cars - and their main desire was to own cars at age 17.

Road Safety

♦ Speed limits – differing views obtained; Some people thought speed limits should be more consistent (less changing of speed limits along routes) however others considered that variable speed limits at different times of day would work better. General support for lower speed limits in residential areas and more speed signs generally. View was that speed cameras work but traffic calming is less effective. Support for Homezones.
Enforcement – Residents should be trained to operate speed guns to warn drivers of speed? Should have cameras on buses to photograph cars in bus lanes. People should be more pro-active in reporting bad driving and reporting offenders (police systems would need evidence). General support for enforcement cameras however need for consistency, (not all functional) and their use needs to be further extended. Location of cameras should not be publicised but visibility of boxes could be improved - in Scotland, cameras are striped and were viewed as more visible. Incorrect parking should be more widely enforced.

Cameras – strong support, but preference was for speed/distance cameras as opposed to spot speeds which encourage people to slow down and speed up again once drivers have passed the camera. Mobile cameras keep people alert. Support for use of mobile speed warning signs to provide ‘surprise’ factor on roads.

Education – drivers need to be educated more – signage alone is not effective enough. Education should be more generally targeted and not just at the young – elderly people were mentioned in particular. Mobile speed warning signs to raise drivers’ awareness of their speeds are effective. “Gateway” markings were also seen as effective, as were the use of variable speed warning signs on approaches to known black spots.

Pedestrians and Cyclists - more roads to be pedestrianised to make it pleasant for walking and there is also the need to promote the health benefits of walking and cycling more. “Walking Bus” idea is excellent.

Rat running is a problem at peak times - need to address this.

Cycle lanes need to be continuous. Cycling on pavements needs to be addressed. Traffic calming measures need to take cyclists and motorcyclists into account as some speed ramps are too steep at slow speeds.

Driving standards – drivers should be re-tested periodically.

School buses – more enforcement required on vehicles - drivers cannot/will not control the children. Problem of unruly behaviour by school children also applies on public services.

Ideas -

Introduction of ‘countdown system’ at pedestrian crossings (like in Dublin) to indicate to waiting pedestrians how long they have to wait to cross.

Buses stop in roads rather than in laybys like in Leeds – cheap and effective traffic calming on busy routes.

Air Quality/Environment

Strong agreement that transport is a significant contributor to poor air quality, however, apart from at specific spots, air quality was felt to be quite good on Wirral - however noticeably worse during peak periods.
♦ Main offenders were felt to be buses as they are usually from old inefficient fleets. As well as air pollution this also creates noise pollution. Air quality and noise issue also raised in regard to Liverpool John Lennon airport and increasing numbers of flights over Wirral.

♦ Taxis were deemed to contribute to air pollution by leaving engines running

♦ Alternative fuels should be investigated and encouraged - Buses should be gas/electric/hydrogen cell powered and trains can also be dual fuel or solar powered.

♦ More control needed on HGVs with regard to parking, driving through centres, noise and fumes

♦ More freight to be carried by rail to reduce the number of HGVs on the roads.

♦ Support for park and ride to reduce cars on the road.

♦ Mixed views on “stick” approach of reducing congestion, i.e. road tolling and car parking charges

♦ Suggestions for specified ‘drop-off’ locations near schools to avoid poor air quality at schools due to the numbers of waiting cars.

♦ American yellow buses should be used for transporting children to school.

♦ Higher taxes for 4x 4’s and sports cars.

♦ Need enforcement of parking on verges and pavements as these damage the streetscene.

♦ Young people at the Youth Forum had not realised the link between congestion, air quality and cars - and their main desire was to own cars at age 17.

**CHURCH ROAD AND FIVEWAYS**

Following a successful round of public consultation before Christmas the final touches are being put to the Church Road masterplan that will provide a development framework for the future redevelopment of Higher Tranmere. A private sector construction partner is due to be appointed by the Council to assist with the redevelopment of the Church Road area to provide new shopping units with apartments above. Full details will be the subject of further discussions and consultation prior to work starting on site. Council Members are scheduled to discuss the masterplan proposals at a special meeting in June and if agreed preparations will be made for further property acquisitions. All interested parties including home and shop owners, including tenants, will be contacted individually by Council Officers who will make every effort to resolve any issues or areas of concern.

A report is going to Cabinet on 26 May with regard to Fiveways. This can be viewed on the Council’s website for full details including decisions.
TRANMERE ALLIANCE

Tranmere Alliance as a local independent Charity continues to support and advise Wirral people who have various problems and local issues whilst also facilitating various ongoing training programmes and youth development.

Wirral Mediation Service
The service is currently thriving with new referrals. During April 2004-March 2005 128 referrals were made, 60% of those being within Neighbourhood Renewal Wards, 85 of those cases went to mediation. Most of those classified as Neighbour Disputes. If you need help or advice please contact Barbara or Lucy (mediation@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Youth Development
We have been successful in gaining Positive Activities for Young People Funding in April 2005 which this year has slightly altered the focus of our holiday programmes. The Easter Programme was extremely popular and we are now bringing together the Summer Programme. The Youth Club continues to develop and is open Tuesday and Friday evenings at the Tranmere Alliance Community Hall in Albany Road. We are in the final stages of setting up a new Web-site for young people, on-line stations will be installed initially at our office and at various other places in Tranmere as well as being able to access it from your home computer. We are looking for more involvement from young people interested in helping.
Please contact Wendy (youth@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Youth Aide Programme
A third recruitment phase has started for this programme. We have advertised for new volunteers to undergo specific training to work alongside the youth service in an outreach situation within the Tranmere area. If you are passionate about helping young people develop contact Justine to become part of her team (justine.burns@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Tranmere Show 2005
This year the show falls on Sunday 26th June 11am-6pm, bookings are now being taken for places in the Information Marquee from other organisations who want to promote themselves and support us and the Craft Marquee for enterprising local small concerns to sell their wares whilst enjoying the atmosphere of the day. A full line up of live entertainment is scheduled for the live stage and arena area. Community stalls are available for groups wanting to raise money for themselves. Volunteers are needed on the day to help at various stages, to set up, to man sites during the day and also to help towards the end, any experienced and willing groups or individuals would be very welcome. The under 11's 5-A-Side football competition still has a few spaces to be filled and Sponsorship for this and other aspects of the day are open to local firms or organisations to enable them to reach the growing thousands of local people who attend. Contact Michelle (information@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Protective Behaviours Programme
The training we facilitate is continuing to help agencies and schools become more aware of how to help others feel safer and give skills and strategies for self protection. The next free 2 day training dates are:-- 26th,27th May at St. James's Centre 25th,26th July at Leasowe Millenium Centre 7th, 8th November (venue to be arranged) At the end of this course attendees will receive a certificate, if you wish to become an accredited trainer book onto our 'Train the Trainers' course which is intensive, over 4 days and carries a charge. For more information contact Michelle (information@tranmerealliance.org.uk)
Charity Night - 28th April
Our recent Charity Night held at the Gladstone Liberal Club sold out of tickets prior to the event due to local support. Funds raised will be put back into Youth and Community Projects over the next few months.

Community Development
Over the past few months we have been working with the newly formed Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder, Together in Tranmere establishing stronger partnerships and innovative ways of delivering services within the area. If you need to contact their team ring 666 1191 The Community Transport Fund is in it's second year of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding and was fully allocated last year assisting 36 community based groups to enjoy trips across the country. We continue to work closely with the Neighbourhood Wardens from Tranmere and Rock Ferry liasing on various issues which concern people and signposting them to appropriate help. To contact them call Tranmere 643 0522, Rock Ferry 645 9673. Should you need to contact the Community Support Officers ring 777 2347 Well Lane) If you need any information about the Regeneration of Church Road or Five Ways Rock Ferry ring Housing Market Renewal Team on 691 8249 or contact Stephanie (communitydevelopment@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Christmas Dinner Dance
Plans for a prestigious, glamorous evening event have begun, to be held at the Assembly Rooms in the Birkenhead Town Hall on Saturday 17th December. Business's, organisations and agencies can buy tables for the evening. The entertainment for the night includes a Motown Group, Comedian and Swing Set, there will be a free raffle and a V.I.P. room. For reservations ring Lee or Justine (advice@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Advice Centre
We provide advice and support for people across Wirral on Welfare Benefits, Debt and Housing, also Job Search and C.V. service taking referrals from the Job Centre Plus advisors. You can see your local Councillors at our office on the first Friday of each month between 5pm-6pm. We have extended our opening hours on the first Saturday of each month between 10am-12noon, if this proves to be successful these hours may be extended further. We have set up outreach surgeries at various venues which are under review and can make home visits when required. Contact Lee or Sally (advice@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Funding
Tranmere Alliance is an independent Charity and raises all it's own funds, we have recently gained help from HBOS Foundation and Rowan Charitable Trust towards running costs. John Lewis Partnership, Liverpool made a donation towards continuation costs for our information storage systems and The Desk Chair Foundation donated a number of computers which have all gone to deserving community groups. Our new web-site was established in February 2005 www.tranmerealliance.org.uk we have had over 200 hits to date, any other agencies wanting to link theirs to it please contact Paul (information@tranmerealliance.org.uk)

Contact:- Tranmere Alliance
225, Church Road
Tranmere
Birkenhead
CH42 0LD
Tel:- 0151 644 1100
Fax:- 0151 644 9427

Web:- www.tranmerealliance.org.uk E Mail:- information@tranmerealliance.org.uk
The next meeting will be at 7.30pm in **The Sports Barn at the bottom of Ionic Street. All future meetings will be held here.**

Please come along and tell us if you are happy with the area. If you’re not, come along and tell us your problems. We may be able to help you with them. Come along even if you only want to see what the inside of the barn is like. Free tea and coffee is available to all.

**Community spirit in action**

Following a plea from Head Teacher Jo Lambeth, to have the cut grass cleared from inside the railed off area, Lenny sprang into action.

He asked for volunteers to clear the grass, by raking it up and putting it in bin bags. Back breaking labour I can assure you. Eleven members of the community got up early on Saturday morning and got stuck in, so the school children could safely carry out sporting activities, within the fenced off area.

A great big thanks and well done to all concerned, they were Lenny, Jim Cocker, Glenys, Julie, Joanne, Lee, Sophie, Abbie, Joyce and Neil McGowan, Robert and Lee.

**M.P visits area.**

Frank Field M.P made an impromptu visit to the area last week. He met some of the children when he toured the school and the local streets. He commented on the progress made in the school and the immediate area and the vast improvements that had been made since he previously visited.

**Parking problems**

Following complaints from residents, we arranged a site meeting with The Borough Engineer, to talk through the problems residents are having in the area.

He sympathetically listened to our suggestions for a one-way system and removal of most of the parking restrictions in the streets of the area.

He witnessed the relative chaos during the school run period and agreed something should be done.

Hopefully, this will be sooner rather than later, but at least we have successfully achieved a meeting and the powers that be, are aware of the problems that exist. We’ll keep the pressure on until something positive is achieved and the parking problems are cured.
Purpose of Report

This report provides a brief introduction to the Together Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder (sections 2-5) and information about our work to date (section 6).

Background

Together Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder is one of 35 Government funded pilots operating around the country. It is a seven year programme based on the pre-2005 Tranmere Ward the Pathfinder area includes Higher Tranmere, Lower Tranmere (around Old Chester Road), and parts of Rock Ferry.

The Together Partnership was formed by Merseyside Police, Birkenhead and Wallasey Primary Care Trust, Riverside Housing, Maritime Housing Association, and Wirral Council. Representatives of these bodies sit on the Partnership Board with representatives from the Community & Voluntary Sector, and residents. The Board is chaired by Cllr Dave Christian, from Birkenhead & Tranmere ward.

Together’s Delivery Plan was approved by Government Office North West in December 2004.

Aim of the Pathfinder

Together was set up to make Tranmere and Rock Ferry a better place to live for residents by improving the impact services have in their area.

The Pathfinder is charged with testing out new ways of working that will join-up services at a local level and which will advise the development of a neighbourhood management approach elsewhere on Wirral and nationally.

Focus of Work

The Together Delivery Plan identifies the key issues facing the area, and the responses needed to address them. These provide the priorities for action in this and future years.

Each priority area has been identified through a baseline analysis which will be used to measure progress and advise future plans. The priority issues are common to areas of multiple deprivation:

- The Living Environment (including housing)
- Crime and the fear of crime
- Young people
- Education and Learning
- Health and Social Care
- Work and Worklessness
A neighbourhood management approach provides a focus for service improvement at a local level which will equip partners to respond more effectively to these issues.

Tranmere has a history of joint agency intervention, area-based regeneration initiatives and community involvement. Together is building on this and transferring lessons learnt locally, and from elsewhere, to its programme of work.

**Together’s investment in Neighbourhood Management**

Together receives £350,000 a year to 2011. From this year this sum has been included in the Safe Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) allocation.

This investment is used to employ a dedicated Neighbourhood Management Team with the capacity to support partners and local residents to work together at the neighbourhood level, and provide a small project investment fund. The Team supports:

- Leadership and Advocacy by the Together Board and the Partnership Director
- Development and maintenance of a shared neighbourhood evidence (data)base to guide our work
- Implementation and evaluation of Delivery Plan actions that provide a focus for work to improve the area
- Case Study-based pilots to improve co-ordination in service planning and delivery, particularly where issues cut across theme headings
- Resident engagement and participation and their involvement in Thematic Groups that will link to those of the LSP
- Local management of neighbourhood wardens on behalf of Maritime Housing Association
- Identification and investment in new ideas through project funding
- Innovative use of mainstream resources to improve the impact public spending has in the area

**Progress to date**

Together work covers a number of areas. The main focus of work at present includes:

**Supporting Cultural Change/New Ways of Working**

- Partnership development and board recruitment
- Neighbourhood Management Team recruitment
- Establishment of Thematic Champions and Thematic Groups by end May 2005
  - Health & Social Care
  - Community Safety
  - Young People
  - The Living Environment
- Three year ‘Infuse’ Change Management programme for service managers (with Common Purpose)
- Baseline review and update and performance management arrangements
- Support for NRF Performance Management Framework update
- Preparations for launch in June 2005
- Development of a Community Engagement and Communications Strategy
- Contribution to preparation of SSCF template
Community Safety

- Local focus for Merseyside Police Anti-Social Behaviour Campaign (also known as Together)
- Development of local targets and interventions in support of Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy
- Case Study and multi-agency response to youth disturbances and anti-social behaviour affecting elderly residents

Living Environment

- Housing Market Renewal (Church Road and Fiveways)
- Tenancy Reference Scheme
- Case Studies and multi-agency responses to environmental issues affecting the Old Chester Road and Bedford Road areas
- Development of social enterprise proposals to support mainstream service improvement and address worklessness

Young People

- Development of a Neighbourhood Youth Plan to join-up services locally
- Case Study and multi-agency response to problems caused by young people gathering in Victoria Park
- Development of a community newspaper produced on behalf of Together by young people in the area

Health & Social Care

- Development of a Neighbourhood Health Plan as local partnership response to Choosing Health White Paper
- Development of social enterprise proposals to provide response to levels of teenage pregnancy and health related worklessness

Education & Learning

- Contribution to review of school places affecting local primary schools in the area

HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2005/06

A report went to Cabinet on 12 April 2005 outlining the programme of Highways Maintenance and Structural repairs for 2005/06.

Overall 30% of schemes approved are as a direct result of consultation with forum members. These are marked ‘F’ in the attached appendix.

HANDYPERSON SCHEME

WIRRAL Council’s new Handyperson Scheme has already proved a huge success, cutting waiting times for minor home improvements from several months to a week.
The Scheme is funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and the Housing Market Renewal Initiative and charges just £3.50 for the first hour and £7 per hour after that. Most of the calls only take one to two hours with the payment going directly back into the service. The team also fit Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Smoke Detectors without charge.

Tony Watkin, Handyperson Supervisor, said: “The scheme was launched in February with three of us attending calls each day in the renewal areas of Birkenhead, Seacombe, Tranmere, Bidston and Liscard. The service is open to over 55s with a lot of people being referred by Social Services’ Occupational Therapy Team.”

Margaret Campbell, Occupational Therapy Assistant, added: “It’s a brilliant service. Grab rails could take months to be fixed up. Now our Handypersons do them and clients are getting their jobs done within a week of their assessment.”

All the team are time served so customers are confident to have them in their homes and know the work will be to an excellent standard. Mrs Jacqueline Wilson used the service and was very impressed:

“I wanted some pictures and mirrors putting on the wall and couldn’t do it myself so the Social Services OT gave me a leaflet about the scheme. I was so pleased to have someone do the job who was trustworthy, reliable, friendly and caring. The fact that they were recommended by Social Services gave me extra peace of mind but I think the service is too cheap!”

If you are over 55, live in the eligible areas and have a job that the Handyperson Scheme can help with, please call Joanne on 691 8371.

ABC TOGETHER

ABC Together is in the process of setting up a scheme to recycle previously unrecycled cardboard from WBC into hypo-allergenic horse bedding. This bedding will be sold and then picked up when soiled and recycled into high quality compost. The Company is a social firm whose foremost goal will be to assist people with mental health problems reintegrate into mainstream employment. There are few therapeutic facilities for people with mental health problems extant on the Wirral and Merseyside at present especially those which lead to real job opportunities. We will be creating a vibrant social network and have several schemes we are hoping to set up in the first two years of our operation such as a therapeutic garden and a community kitchen. We have forged links with many other environmental and mental health action groups and have attracted substantial funding already from CRED and MSEI. We intend to also provide an educational and information service to local schools and businesses to increase awareness of environmental and mental health issues. Initially we will be benefitting around 30 people but as we have just mentioned our project will eventually be of benefit to a much wider section of the community.

ABC Together aim to create varied and therapeutic work opportunities for people who are presently excluded from society, especially those with mental health problems. By integrating people into the mainstream we will be reconnecting people into society and enhancing their prospects of real recovery. By offering contact to carers, who also find themselves isolated, we aim to encourage active involvement and respite for this previously marginalised group. We aim to do this by creating an essentially crucial environmental project that will considerably improve existing recycling objectives on Wirral and Merseyside. Our project is
being developed by current carers and service users with a committee including key members of relevant organisations. We have been working towards this aim for the last 3 years.
1 Introduction

GD explained that United Utilities had fulfilled its commitment to Wirral MBC to invest in interim solutions until additional funding from the Regulator (OFWAT) provided for further works to address odour issues at the three Wirral Plants. The interim works have been completed.

Currently UU were nearing the end of the process of agreeing with the Regulator the investment plan for the next five year period. Wirral has been identified as a priority area in terms of odour in the proposals for the North West. The Regulator has allowed UU to begin work to design additional odour control measures for the Wirral plants under the “Early Start Programme”. Through this process UU will be investing £11 million in new control measures to enhance odour control.

UU had proposed spending £86m across the Northwest for odour control measures over a 5 year period from April 2005. However only £24m had been granted overall with £11m ring fenced for Wirral. UU have made representations to the Regulator concerning the overall investment and a response from the Regulator should be received by December and would thereafter be shared with Forum Representatives.
The Liaison Meetings will provide reports on the progress of the new investment at the plants and issues of concern such as the tanker movements at the Meols site. The aim is to ensure that residents are kept informed and to provide a forum for issues to be raised.

In respect tanker movements from Meols a GPS tracking system is being installed in the sludge tankers. This will enable movements to be logged and that information can be made available. Action may be taken against Contractors and drivers for breaches of the Agreement.

Liaison meetings will receive reports of the complaints related to each plant.

Liaison meetings will place on a quarterly basis and be rotated across the three Plant areas.

3 Question and Answers

In response to questions from members of the meeting United Utilities provided the following information –

MC commented that at the beginning UU had said that the interim treatment has been completed involving changing seals and filters. Was the level of spending as originally stated?

GD said £650,000 was envisaged but £850,000 was spent across the three sites. PH confirmed it was close to £300,000 for Bromborough.

In Bromborough, a tanker emptying area would be considered as part of the new investment and a new ductwork for extraction from specific processes installed. The main investment to the site is likely two add stages to the odour treatment. There is a single stage chemical scrubber at the moment, the intention is to add a second stage chemical scrubber and then a carbon filter. Consideration is also being given to increasing the height of the emission stack to improve dispersion. If this is considered necessary then planning permission would be needed.

MC asked whether the growing height of the landfill had exacerbated the problem.

In answer PH said possibly, but they were not able to measure odours but used models although there were difficulties due to the topography at Bromborough.

MC said that probably the landfill created a valley where odour was trapped.

PH said that was why they were looking to increase the height of the stack.

SN said they talked about funding a scrubber and additional scrubber.
PH confirmed there would be an exchange scrubber and additional scrubber, then a carbon filter within stack.

RB said to take up the point of Cllr Mitchell that, as far as possible emissions should be odour neutral.

PH said they would design to achieve an emission from the stack of 500 odour units and dispersal from stack to several thousand units. Adding, that was the best that could be achieved with carbon filters.

BM was interested to know how the bid was based on £86m when they did not know what was put in place. Adding, it implied if you do not get what you bid for, we would not get what was needed.

GD said they had got the £11m that they requested for Wirral and which was included in the “Early Start Programme”. They had a good idea what they were going to do.

UU’s original Business Plan was not far short of £4 billion, representing a significant increase in bills over 5 years. In this country, all investment is paid for by the customer through their bills. The Business Plan draft determination proposed by the Regulator includes an increase of 3.5% per year as opposed to 12% per year.

BM expressed concern over noise at Bromborough.

PH said the site had been operational for years and the limit at the site boundary was 45 decibels. He confirmed from a survey undertaken confirmed that the noise level was 45 at the boundary. Control measures had reduced the boundary level to 40 decibels. There was little else that could be done to change that process but it would be looked at again.

In answer to a query regarding the effect of the planted trees at Bromborough. PH said they had tried to dissipate the noise and the area was covered with both deciduous and evergreen trees. There was extensive planting at the Meols site too.

MC asked when work was likely to begin. GD said the process began with optioneering work then a robust decision and conference with internal planners, followed by tender under procurement rules. It would likely be mid/late 2005 before work on site commenced.

SN asked about the proposed height of the stack. PH said he could not comment on design issues but his feeling was at least it may need to be raised by10 metres.

JW said this would not resolve the issue however, PH said that it was a matter for the planning process, that there was nothing more that could be done.

PH said there would be dialogue, adding that the position of the stack was also not beneficial.
MC said they had been looking at the tip site and Bolton Road access and considered some kind of vertical feature. Perhaps the stack could be located in this structure?

PH said any proposals and recommendations would be submitted to Planning Committee.

JW was concerned about the effects of the stack on house prices.

PH said that as the proposals developed United Utilities would provide an update to this Liaison Group and Planners.

SN raised the issue of problems with the pump. He asked if they (UU) were looking at better monitoring. In answer, PH said the human nose was far more sensitive. UU were the industry leaders in odour control.

PH then described situation with regard to the three sites individually –

Unlike Birkenhead and Bromborough much of the treatment process was uncovered. UU were looking at what could be done to cover odours. There are two shallow sewers into the Meols Plant that during dry weather can create problems. They were looking at primary treatments or if money permits, replacement of tanks. Other work includes a tanker loading facility similar to Bromborough and similar additional stage chemical and carbon treatment and completely new stack.

SM said local residents would feel they were only getting the basics but that Bromborough and Birkenhead were getting considerably more and would feel everyone should be at the same level.

PH said it was their intention that Meols catch up with other treatment works.

SM asked whether they would see a bigger improvement to which PH said, probably not. Meols served 90,000 people and gives rise to fewer odours.

United Utilities said they were working towards parity across the three sites. With regard to Birkenhead, it is similar to Bromborough in design and they would add tanker loading facility, scrubber and carbon filter but that one of the problems was the tunnel air intake. Consideration was being given to moving the stack around that problem area. Time scales would all be the same. One of the largest problems at Bromborough was tanker loading/offloading.

SM queried whether they were transporting all sludge to Ellesmere Port.

PH confirmed there are a series of 6 pre-digestion tankers at Bromborough taking in approximately 10 tankers per day, 6-8 from Meols and 14 from Birkenhead. They either go to Bromborough or everything from Birkenhead to Ellesmere Port.
SM said 6-8 was not considered an issue but if it was doubled or tripled to somewhere else that would be.

PH said, at Meols there are 6 movements a day but because of the agreement with the residents United Utilities had been trying for 5 a day – that creates difficulty.

MC asked what happened to the sludge at the end of the day and was informed there was a treatment process at Bromborough/Ellesmere Port to pasteurise it. It was broken down to methane, water, carbon dioxide and eventually sold as a soil enhancer for non food land.

GD explained there was legislation in terms of sludge to land. They had a large incinerator to dispose of some of the sludge.

BM said that the whole process from sludge to the end process used energy. In answer, PH explained that one of the by-products was methane and methods of generating energy from it were being looked at. Biffa had agreed with Contractors to sell to the National Grid.

AT said during a recent visit recycling methane had been discussed and asked whether progress had been made on that.

PH explained it was probably 18 months hence.

GD pointed out the huge energy bills, for instance Ullswater in the Lake District had a pumping station with 6 megawatts of pumps thus they were big energy users.

4 ODOUR HOTLINE UPDATE

Gary Dixon shared a graph showing current trends.

In terms of calls received from last July (2004) they were time banded between 1800 and 0800 hours Monday to Friday. The graph showed extremely low numbers from Birkenhead. Meols peaked in May when coincidentally a newsletter from the Council was circulated that published the hotline number. It was highlighted to attendees that if they looked at the last week, UU did not get any from anywhere except Bromborough Plant, and the latter complaints arose from atmospheric conditions.

PH They believed that the incident the previous week was the result of still air conditions.

JW explained smells lingered in the sub way. He said UU had talked about the stack but that it was nowhere near the stack.

PH explained that he believed a taller stack would give greater dispersion via winds not present at ground level. He added that they could not get the stack to work any better than it does at the moment.
GD explained calls received were analysed and since monitoring was put in place, 169 calls had been received on odour hotline (92 Meols, 7 Birkenhead and 70 Bromborough). Of the 92 in Meols, 42 were customers and of 7 from Birkenhead, 5 were customers. Similarly of 70 in Bromborough, 33 were customers.

He hoped he had demonstrated in terms of investment secured, that they were serious about addressing the issues and would give regular updates. This should be seen as a positive move to address issues.

SM requested an assurance on the importance given to calls received.

GD said he had not received complaints since the meeting in the Council Chamber when Councillor Moseley had a bad experience that was recognised as unacceptable and an apology was given.

He said disruption can occur if there was a major incident such as a loss of water/electricity supply or flooding.

JB stressed it was important they received feedback.

5 TANKERING UPDATE

GD had two meetings with RB and local Councillors and a meeting with Councillor Gerry Ellis and residents in Park Road to explain the difficulties encountered in trying to move sludge elsewhere. In the main, tanker drivers were observing the rules and if they missed a window they waited until after 3.00pm when school traffic had dispersed.

He reiterated that United Utilities would work with local communities. He had suggested to residents in Meols the route be revisited and had confirmed at the meeting with Highways that they were asking drivers not to exceed speed limits and only travel within the operating window. Drivers not adhering to the rules could be tracked and reprimanded. This would be done electronically and shared with this Group and RB. There were 131 movements of which 6 were outside the 3 p.m. window.

The consequences of breaching agreements could be loss of the contract. Gerry Ellis had suggested speed ramps and UU had proposed looking at “splitting” tanker routes (ie in through one road and out another- in via Park Road, and out via Bennets Drive), though there was a query about weight limits along the Promenade.

SN replied that no one had mentioned the tankers going to Bromborough. What were the implications on the delivery of sludge to Bromborough. SN pointed out that there might be arising from the tankers delivering sludge from Meols to the tip.

PH said it is about 45 minutes between the two sites before 4pm in the main and that they may drop a load from Birkenhead to Bromborough in the morning as we can not get on the Meols site until 9.00 a.m. They were restricted from 8-6 operations at Bromborough by planning permission.
6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SM said though he had only been involved for the past 14 months, he acknowledged the huge efforts made to improve the site and thanked United Utilities.

GD said he wanted to find solutions and manage a difficult situation. He wanted to know if there was a problem be it drinking water or sewage. Research was undertaken from time to time but although people complain about bills over 50% did not appreciate included in water bills was an amount for waste water services.

SN appreciated that but said increased water bills were a consequence of everyone else using the system. The Government had decided the model was that customers fund investment. United Utilities had actively suggested that people write to the Regulator/DEFRA/the Government.

JW asked if United Utilities had a scheme to reimburse the local community, for instance by providing a Charitable Trust for a childrens’ park. GD said that whilst it was not appropriate to compensate, UU were investing money in some areas, for instance looking at supporting Liverpool in their City of Culture year. Whilst UU would not compensate individuals, they would not rule out their support of other schemes, though they could not guarantee this. UU to inform Forum of the application process and suggested Representatives write in with specific initiatives.

AT spoke of the recent £10,000 fine imposed on United Utilities for contamination and requested a guarantee it would not happen again. GD was unaware of the details but would return to the Group.

SN raised the graffiti issue within Spital Dam Pumping Station. PH report back to him on that issue.

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To take place at Birkenhead. GD offered the meeting facilities at the United Utilities site.

Date to be arranged.
SECTION THREE
COMMUNITY INITIATIVE’S FUNDING

For the 2005/06 financial year, each area forum will be responsible for allocating the following specific funding streams:

Community Initiatives Fund - small grants available for voluntary and community groups to support local projects and initiatives in line with area forum agreed priorities (£11,000 per forum);

Community Safety - specific funding ringfenced for initiatives dedicated to tackling crime and nuisance (£3,000 per forum);

Environmental Funding - specific funding, provided through Local Agenda 21, for community based projects aimed at improving or maintaining the local environment (£1,500 per forum).

As in previous years, each area forum will be responsible for setting their own priorities and processes for agreeing and allocating funds.

2004/2005

The forum had funding of £16,532.00 in 2004/05 (including sum carried forward from 2003/04) and awarded grants totalling £11,095.00 for nineteen projects (detailed overleaf) at the panel meetings in January and February 2005, which were approved at Cabinet on 16th February and 3rd March 2005.

2005/2006

The forum has a carry forward of £5,437.00 and allocation of £11,000.00 from the Community Initiatives Fund; and allocations of £3,000.00 from the Community Safety Fund (for community safety projects) and £1,500.00 from the LA21 Fund (for environmental projects) and Lairdside Communities Trust through Royal Standard House have again transferred £5000. This gives the forum a total of £25,937.00.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Project / Service</th>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wirral Play Council (Playspaces)</td>
<td>To replenish depleted stock of consumable materials, i.e. arts &amp; crafts materials and sports equipment, which enable us to deliver a wide range of activities</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Joseph's Junior Youth Club</td>
<td>To provide equipment for the club and training for the Junior Leaders.</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tranmere Community Project</td>
<td>To purchase a new climbing frame and mats for the playgroup and creche for children aged 2-5 years.</td>
<td>£950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Werburgh's Church</td>
<td>To improve the access by re-surfacing the existing pathway between Beatties / The Precinct and Borough Road.</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tranmere Residents Association Committee (TRAC)</td>
<td>To provide additional and replacement equipment to upgrade facilities.</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tranmere Alliance</td>
<td>To purchase a PC with internet access in the advice centre that can be used by local residents. Also to purchase desktop publishing software and a colour printer to enable the production of a quarterly newsletter.</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stick 'n' Step</td>
<td>To publicise our services and fund additional hours for one of our staff to carry out outreach work in local schools, communities, church groups etc. to identify children who would benefit from Conductive Education for children with Cerebral Palsy.</td>
<td>£350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirral Family Friends</td>
<td>To purchase a laptop and TV/Video/DVD player.</td>
<td>£100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1175 (Prenton) Squadron ATC</td>
<td>To purchase two laptop computers and two projectors to be used in lectures at the squadron to improve the quality of training.</td>
<td>£700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Federation</td>
<td>To fund additional training for young people aged 14-16 undertaking voluntary work within youth organisations on Wirral, specifically Birkenhead, Tranmere and Rock Ferry.</td>
<td>£750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillside Christian Fellowship</td>
<td>To upgrade and improve the security of the building to allow the expansion of our youth project.</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirral African and Caribbean Community Voice (WACCV)</td>
<td>To fund luncheon club for elders, history project, women's support group, youth activities and central office accommodation.</td>
<td>£300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiveways Residents Association</td>
<td>To improve accessibility and meeting space in community house and to purchase a computer and printer to enable a newsletter to be produced.</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Anne's Presbytery</td>
<td>To improve disabled access to church and parish centre and increase use of car park.</td>
<td>£500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Learning Lighthouse</td>
<td>To contribute towards a fantasy animation, involving primary and secondary school children in all aspects of film making.</td>
<td>£250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany Bowling Club</td>
<td>To top surface road to make it level, safe to walk on and easy to maintain.</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Support &amp; Witness Service Merseyside</td>
<td>To train 5 new volunteers, to meet the increasing demand for witness support in Wirral.</td>
<td>£695.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirral Women &amp; Childrens Aid</td>
<td>To provide training for staff and volunteers and educational and development courses for women, to help them break the cycle of domestic violence.</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany Bowling Club</td>
<td>To top surface road to make it level, safe to walk on and easy to maintain.</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION FOUR
DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A LOCAL AREA PLAN

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide forum members with an update of progress made in relation to the development of area plans and to suggest possible next steps for the forum to implement which will support the achievement of priorities identified locally for action.

Background

One of the key tasks envisaged for all area forums since their introduction in 2001 was the development of specific local area plans which reflected the needs and priorities of the area forum. The area plans form a key element of the overarching community strategy – developed through Wirral’s Local Strategic Partnership – which sets out how the council and its partners will work towards improving the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of all communities in Wirral.

Area plans are designed to:

- Identify the needs and aspirations of the local community;
- Identify significant social, economic and environmental trends through establishing an overall demographic picture of the area;
- Promote initiatives that will address the identified local needs and priorities;
- Provide a work plan for the area forum;
- Provide a more local perspective to the overarching community strategy through identifying ‘common’ issues and needs across the area forums;
- Feed into the service planning cycles of the council and its partners to ensure that the identified local needs are influencing business plans and strategies.

The diagram below shows how the area plans developed by local area forums feeds into, and influences, the business plans and overarching community strategy for Wirral.
The development of area plans has been ongoing for the last 18 months. The work carried out by the area forum has also been informed by Quality of life surveys, Wirral’s Citizen Panel, specific information drawn from area forums and existing consultation results.

Next Steps

The development of the area plans has been further protracted by the recent changes to ward boundaries and the increase in the number of area forums, which has delayed the production of the plans.

It is proposed that the area forum:

- Approves the attached area plan, developing a work programme to support forum activities in meeting issues identified within the plan as being a priority for local people;
- Refreshes the existing plan (to be completed by December 2005 to allow for the plans to inform service planning cycles);
SECTION FIVE

YOUTH FORUMS & UPDATE

Up 2 U Awards

Wirral won the award for best Council on 27th April 2005. Weston Spirit runs the awards and there are a number of categories including Youth Service, which was won by St Helens Council. Young people judge all the awards. And they felt that in relation to Wirral it was improving and offering young people better services across the Council.

Area Youth forums
February 28th-March 3rd 2005 – provided by Debbie Dawson

Agenda
Consultation with transport dept and Police
Allocation of forum money

The first half of the forum involved young people in a large group discussing transport issues as part of a wider consultation on Wirral. The police where consulting with young people on the best way to present information to young people.
For the second part of the forum the young people present where divided into groups. Each group had a set of application forms (designed and filled in by young people). The groups spent about 20 mins discussing whom they would allocate funding to and why. We reformed into one big group and went through the process of negotiating and allocating the funding.

Some of the unintended outcomes included: user groups sharing some resources as they where doing a similar project, freeing up money to be allocated elsewhere. Offering to fund raise for a particular group if it was unsuccessful in getting funding and putting prejudice aside to allocate money to a rival group.

Funding allocated
Greasby Outreach project £250
Pensby barge trip £250
Jigsaw video work £100
Beaconsfield skills project £100
Beaconsfield craft project £100
Beaconsfield/Fender cultural project £50
Powerhouse newspaper £90
Fender YAP health project £100
North end YPP Homelessness project £110
Eastham YC D of E resources £100
Eastham YC Drama activities £100
Bromborough YC cooking project £100
Bromborough YC Southport trip £100
Bromborough YC Card Making £100
YMCA senior member training £100
Belvidere YC quiet room project £100
WYPP social event £100
Skateboard group / skating trip £100
Leasowe health project £100
SECTION SIX
STREETSCEENE

PLANS TO SPRUCE UP WIRRAL FOR THE OPEN

WIRRAL Council has announced plans to invest £300,000 on the biggest clean up operation the borough has ever seen – so as the region shines for The Open golf championship in 2006.

The eyes of the world will fall upon Hoylake in July next year, when an estimated 40,000 visitors per day descend upon the area and the event is watched on television by 350 million people around the globe.

The authority is enlisting help from public sector colleagues, local businesses, landowners, schools and community groups to spruce up the region and guarantee a warm welcome for visitors.

Director David Green said: “The Open presents us with a fantastic opportunity to showcase Wirral to the rest of the world. We will be embarking on a mammoth tidy up campaign - spanning a huge area and involving people from a wide range of backgrounds. The Council can’t do this on its own. We will be relying on the efforts of everyone in Wirral to get behind us, show their pride in the local area and get involved.”

Wirral Council already has a good reputation for its cleanliness - as recognised our recent inspection by the audit commission, and for its work developing innovative anti-litter campaigns that have been short-listed for national awards. This project builds on these successes and aims to ensure that Wirral looks its best for the Open.

The Council has been gathering intelligence from other host Councils to maximise opportunities created by the event and regeneration plans for the Hoylake and West Kirby area are now being implemented. Many of us are aware that work has already begun brightening up the street scene in West Wirral. More than 70 trees have been planted along Meols Drive, and roundabouts and shrub beds have been given a thorough revamp. A litter blitz is set to target key transport routes in and out of Wirral, together with Hoylake, West Kirby and neighbouring town centres. Land owners Network Rail have pledged to tackle waste issues along the Liverpool to West Kirby railway line. As the golf championship approaches, the Highways Agency and Mersey Tunnels will also be working tirelessly to clear their land of any illegally dumped rubbish.

Much work is being done by the local authority to catch the criminals responsible for fly-tipping in these areas and in other parts of Wirral. Every effort is being made to trace those responsible and take action against them. To help the Council with these investigations officers have the use of covert surveillance equipment that is sited in known hotspots. Further educational work will be taking place in Wirral’s schools. The Council’s award winning ‘anti-litter’ roadshow that encourages secondary school children to take more pride in their local environment, will be embarking on a new series of tours. Primary School litter clubs are also being asked to get involved in organising community clean-ups.

During the tournament community volunteers will be enlisted to serve as uniformed town guides. These guides, and additional volunteers from the business community, will be encouraged to report any environmental issues to our Streetscene contact centre for immediate action during the Championship. We will have an increased presence in terms of street cleaning staff, for the duration of the event.
SUPPORT FOR RECYCLING

WIRRAL residents have expressed overwhelming support for changes to rubbish collections, according to a recent survey.

More than 75% of householders responding to a waste questionnaire have said that they would like an additional bin or container for storing recyclable waste at home.

The Council’s recycling team has been consulting with residents about how it can encourage more people to recycle. This recent survey is one of a series planned for the coming months. Results will be used to inform the Council of key issues to consider when planning the new kerbside collection arrangements.

Wirral Council’s Director of Technical Services David Green said: “The reality is that less than 12% of waste is being recycled in Wirral while the rest of our rubbish is being sent to landfill. Changes to waste collections are essential if we are to boost this figure, meet government requirements and more importantly protect our local environment.

“We want to make it even easier for the people of Wirral to recycle. With the results from this recent survey, it is reassuring to see that residents are supportive of all recyclable rubbish being collected from outside their front door.”

The local authority is about to embark on a major re-organisation of waste services that will see recycling rates soar - with paper, cardboard, glass, can, garden waste and clear plastic collections likely to come into effect in Spring next year.

These recyclables will be taken to a new Material Recycling Facility, which, after several years of negotiation, is currently being built in Bidston. The site will be managed and owned by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority. Here Wirral’s waste will be sorted out and sent on to recycling companies for transforming into new materials.

LITTER PROSECUTIONS

ENFORCEMENT officers are continuing in their fight against litter louts. Thoughtless residents are being warned that illegal dumping could cost them dearly – as two women were heavily fined by the courts this week.

Kelly Cole from New Ferry Road, New Ferry was fined £150 plus costs at a hearing before Birkenhead Magistrates on Tuesday, April 5. The court heard how Miss Cole had dumped bags of rubbish less than 100 yards from her home in Salisbury Avenue last November 18, 2004.

Emma Lyon from Newling Street in Birkenhead was also fined £150 plus costs after leaving household waste in an entry between Newling Street and Prince Edward Street last October 29, 2004.

The women were caught by Wirral Council’s environmental enforcement team, responding to fly-tipping reports from local residents. After searching through bags, the officers were able to trace the rubbish back to the owners.

After failing to pay a fixed penalty, both cases were taken to court by Wirral Council and Miss Cole and Miss Lyon were found guilty of the offences in their absence.
ROAD SAFETY UPDATES

ROAD safety officers have been out and about visiting Wirral schools to promote sensible driving.

Pre-driver training has been given to pupils at West Kirby Grammar School. Students were offered advice on selecting a driving school, learning about attitudes, risk and behaviour. They were also given an overview of the demands of both the Theory Test and the Practical Driving Test, taught practical checks (oil, water, brake fluid etc) and even changed a wheel!

Meanwhile students taking part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award scheme at Pensby High School for Boys welcomed road safety officers and two police motorcyclists to school for a talk this term as part of a traffic education training programme. The police officers took their bikes to the school and engaged the boys in the positive and negative points of being both a police officer and a motorcyclist. Students at the school have one more lesson learning about the physical damage caused by road traffic collisions and then they have to take an examination.

SWITCH OFF AND BELT UP

ROAD safety officers and Merseyside Police have launched a ‘Switch off and belt up!’ driver safety campaign.

Throughout April, Merseyside Police were cracking down on motorists they saw using a mobile phone whilst driving, and stopping drivers and passengers who were not wearing their seatbelts.

The police enforcement campaign was supported by an educational ‘push’ from regional road safety officers. They targeted local communities with publicity reminding motorists to switch off their mobile phones before starting the engine, and reiterating the message that seatbelts save lives. The initiative is in support of the ongoing Department for Transport ‘Think!’ road safety campaign.

Merseyside Police and road safety officers gathered at Tranmere Rovers Football Club at the launch of the road safety campaign. Young drivers who recently passed their test attended to take part in an off-road cone slalom - while using a mobile phone. Anna Cope from Support and Information Services was among those taking part. For safety reasons this was done using dual control cars, with assistance from local driving instructors. It proved the point that it is not possible to control a car with the distraction of a mobile phone.

David Midmer, the bereaved father of road traffic collision victim Nathan, also spoke at the launch to talk about his loss and the impact that careless driving can have on a family.

Wirral Council’s road safety officer Dave Watson said: “We want to remind motorists that mobile phone and seatbelt laws are in place to protect people. People are still too complacent about using handheld mobiles whilst driving. Throughout the launch demonstration our young drivers have had great difficulty controlling the car while they had a mobile phone clamped to their ear. We’ve proved this in a safe environment, but how many people are out there on our roads, still ignoring the law? Anyone using a mobile phone while driving is not in full control of their car - it is a dangerous distraction. If you are setting out on a journey, please be careful and take a moment to carry out your in-car safety checks. Don’t forget to switch off your phone and belt up.”

SUCCESS IN FIGHTING CLAIMS
THE number of claims being made against Wirral Council has fallen dramatically – as the local authority is establishing a winning reputation for itself in the court room.

Improved systems and procedures have brought about a staggering 66% drop in the number of claims pursued against the Council. Whereas two years ago the Council was receiving up to 180 claims a month, the authority now receives less than 60 claims each month. And of 41 cases taken to court in 2003/04, Wirral Council officers successfully defended 35, making for a win rate of 83%.

Recent years have seen local authorities up and down the country facing growing numbers of highway claims made against them. However, officers in Wirral have been working hard to counter this trend as part of its Streetscene overhaul of services.

Highway inspectors have been undergoing specialist training to give them more confidence in the court room. They have taken part in one-day intensive workshops which cover everything from preparations before going into court, dealing with cross examination, developing confidence in giving effective evidence and a mock trial.

Wirral Council has also enlisted the help of specialist risk advisors in a bid to make the borough’s roads and pavements safer. Insurance giant Zurich Municipal has been assisting the local authority with implementing current industry ‘best practice’ for maintaining roads and pavements. Inspection regimes have been re-organised, priorities for road repairs are now assessed differently, and there is a new Council policy for replacing paving flags with Bitmac. This has proven to be a much safer and cost effective alternative, particularly in areas where flags are repeatedly broken or lifted because of inconsiderate motorists parking on the pavement. Claims ‘hotspot’ areas are also mapped and closely monitored by inspectors.

As a result of all these changes the Council is now in a better position to prove that it fulfils its legal obligations for highway maintenance. Wirral will continue to work with industry experts to improve both the conditions of roads and pavements and its claims record.

Director of Technical Services at Wirral Council David Green said: “We are striving to make roads and pavements even safer for the Wirral public. Much work has been done to re-organise the way in which we carry out highway inspections in line with national recommendations.

“We’ve also rolled out an extensive training programme to familiarise our highway inspectors with the court room environment and give them the confidence to provide good evidence. It is now reassuring to see our efforts are paying off with this massive reduction in claims being made against the Council.”

AWARD WINNING LITTER CAMPAIGNING

WIRRAL COUNCIL has been shortlisted for a prestigious national environmental award – in recognition of its achievements with anti-litter campaigning to teenagers.

The XCELL4WIRRAL campaign has seen innovative partnership working between the Council, secondary schools, Radio City and Tranmere Rovers FC. Over the last year all have been involved the co-ordinated targeting of anti-litter messages at school children using the web, radio advertising, live stage shows, text messaging and community litter picks.

The XCELL4Wirral initiative has already received regional recognition – winning the category for Innovation and Technology at the Merseyside 21 Awards earlier this month). The campaign has been deemed so impressive that it was also shortlisted for the annual ENCAMS ‘People and Places’ awards that took place in Birmingham this month, hosted by comedian Jasper Carrott. The environmental
charity, which manages the ‘Keep Britain Tidy’ campaign, organises the awards to highlight work local authorities are doing to tackle local environmental quality issues that blight neighbourhoods.

NEW £1.3m BYPASS opens in SAUGHALL MASSIE

At a glance…

- New £1.3m road scheme provides better transport links between West Wirral and the motorway network in readiness for The Open in 2006.
- Improved and safer facilities for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Partially opens to traffic this weekend after eight months of engineering and construction work.

Director of Technical Services at Wirral Council, David Green, said: “Wirral Council is committed to improving transport facilities across the region. This is a route of major strategic importance and the new road will provide better links between North West Wirral and the motorway network.

“Not only will it reduce journey times for motorists, this road has also been designed to take into account the needs and safety of pedestrians, cyclists and even horse riders.”
Cathy McNulty has contacted the Community Planning Team and would like to give a presentation at the next area forum, details as follows:

**Development of Cycle Networks in Wirral**

Proposals are currently being developed for the implementation of cycle networks in Wirral. A working group formed of council officers, local users, local and national cycle groups and Members have developed a quantitative process to determine where best to focus resources to build cycle networks. In the past, the council has delivered some excellent cycle routes, but have failed to create urban networks allowing people to make local journeys by bicycle. Almost 50% of all car journeys are less than 2 miles – the equivalent of a 10 minute bike ride.

The presentation will cover current cycle policies, dispel myths about cycling and explain the process which has been developed to deliver cycle networks. Officers will also be seeking local and Member views on the proposals.

It was also agreed to invite a representative of the Lauries Ltd to give a presentation.
SECTION EIGHT
DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It is anticipated that all future meetings will be held at Birkenhead Town Hall as a fixed venue. If this is not possible an alternative reserve venue will be used.

The dates of the next meetings the Birkenhead & Tranmere / Rock Ferry area forum are Tuesday 4 October 2005 and Tuesday 7 February 2006.
Minutes - Area Forum (Birkenhead & Tranmere and Rock Ferry) Meeting  
- 15 February 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward Councillors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Service Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Wallasey PCT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merseyside Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apologies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Index to Minutes
Minute 1 - Welcome, introductions and apologies
Minute 2 - Minutes of the last meeting/matters arising
Minute 3 - Area co-ordinator’s report
Minute 4 - Community initiatives fund
Minute 5 - Public question time
Minute 6 - Presentation on provision for children and young people
Minute 7 - Presentation on ‘Wirral Evening and Night Time Strategy’
Minute 8 - Primary Care Trust update
Minute 9 - Community Safety update
Minute 10 - Future meetings/Presentations
Minute 11 - Any other business

Minute 1 - Welcome, introductions and apologies
The Chair welcomed Forum members and approximately 30 members of the public. She announced apologies and invited the members of the Forum to introduce themselves.

The Chair welcomed Insp. Martin Andrew to the Forum who is replacing Insp. Simon Irving and thanked Simon for all his hard work with the Forum and wished him well in his recent promotion.

The Chair also welcomed David Ball the Head of Housing and Regeneration who will be deputising for Alan Stennard as Lead Officer for the forum on an alternative basis.
Minute 2 - Minutes of the last meeting/matters arising
Maxine Joynson reported on the following:

2.1 On the matter of the Selection of Community Representatives, it was agreed at the last meeting that this would be an agenda item for this meeting at the request of Simon Petris. However, in the co-ordinator’s report this had been highlighted and documented research undertaken into how other Authority’s recruit community representatives. Simon stated he did not wish to prevent the forum from doing business and requested that a separate meeting could be arranged to discuss further. Cllr. Moira McLaughlin agreed that there should be a separate meeting and the Chair agreed.

2.2 In the minutes it stated that Karen Stratford would be giving the talk on the Nightime and Evening Strategy, but it would now be given by Andy Mills (Birkenhead & Wallasey PCT).

2.3 Minute 5: Question from Mr Corkish. The Community Safety Team had resolved the matter and hoped that Mr Corkish was happy with the outcome.

2.4 Minute 5: Rock Park Esplanade. An initial meeting between local residents and Officers of the Council took place in January. A second meeting took place last night. A progress report would be brought to the next Area Forum. Simon Petris thanked the Forum for their support. David Ball promised to invite other interested people to the next meeting about the Esplanade that would take place around the 14/15 March.

2.5 At the last meeting Cllr Christian had asked how many Hostels there were in Birkenhead. See Co-ordinators report.

2.6 Community Engagement Strategy. See Co-ordinators report.

2.7 Update United Utilities: Simon Petris reported back from the United Utilities Community Liaison Group meeting that took place in November. The smell from the site is an ongoing problem but as only 7 people had complained, there was not enough public support for it to be recognised as a problem. The group were still waiting to visit the plant. The Chair thanked Simon and asked him to keep the forum updated.

Minute 3 - Area co-ordinator’s report
Maxine Joynson presented her report to the Forum, which included information on:

- Local Issues
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Community Initiative’s Funding 2004/05 Royal Standard House Community Fund
- Developing and implementing a local area plan
- Youth Forums update
- Streetscene
- Local updates - Warm Front grants
- Neighbourhood Management ‘Together’
- The Lauries
- Church Road and Fiveways
- Tranmere Alliance
- Local Transport Plan 2 consultation
- Tsunami disaster
- Community Safety update

**Minute 4 - Community initiatives fund**
Maxine Joyson reported that the Assessment Panel had met and made recommendations, which would go to Cabinet on 16th February 2005 (not the 10th as originally planned). All applicants would be informed of decisions after 10 working days.

**Minute 5 - Public question time**

Mr Brown:

Onyx Bin Assist crews do not have access to the alleys that are gated. About 30% of people are putting their bin out front which is unsightly.

Garry Cummings responded: Keys have been made available to Bin Assists, Onyx and there should no longer be a problem.

Alan Stennard: asked for Street Scene to meet Mr Brown on site and Garry Cummings agreed.

Mrs Moss:

Where sites have been cleared in the Old Chester Road area the Council have notified residents that mature tree planting will be happening. Residents are concerned that they will be planted too close to houses, which will result in houses being damaged by roots. Also fly-tipping is a problem, especially in Cobden Place.

Alan Stennard responded: Groundwork Wirral were responsible for the Tree Planting Scheme and he would ask someone from Groundwork to contact Mrs Moss to discuss residents concerns. In Cobden Place work would soon start on the development of replacement housing. If there were any incidents of Fly-tipping, registration details of the vehicles involved can be passed to Garry Cummings who may be able to prosecute.

Mr Jones:

When are alleygates going to be fitted to the alleys between the parks, particularly in the Crofton/Mossley Road area?.

Ian Lowrie responded: Work would be starting in April in conjunction with the Fire Service who would also be running a Smoke Alarm programme.

Mr Jones asked in the meantime what would be done about fly-tipping and the blocked sewer?

Ian Lowrie responded that as soon as they are made aware of problems, every effort was made to deal with them.

Mr Ken Taylor said that if people were still having a problem with rubbish being dumped in alleys once they were alleygated, then they had to take ownership of the problem as it was the residents dumping the rubbish. He had taken on the responsibility of encouraging his neighbours not to dump rubbish by posting letters to all the houses that backed onto the alley, encouraging them to keep it clean. So far this was working and the alley was clear.
Syd Taylor of Albany Bowling Club:

Is there any prospect of the Council assuming responsibility of unadopted alleys and entries?

Alan Stennard responded: There was no immediate prospect of them being adopted in the near future as the costs of improvements were too great for the Council to take on.

Mr Corkish:

Where should wheelie bins be kept, is there a Council guideline?

Garry Cummings would contact Mr Corkish with clearer guidelines.

Minute 6 - Presentation on provision for children and young people

Minute Decision:
Maureen McDaid the Head of Youth and Community Services talked about local youth provision in the Birkenhead, Tranmere and Rock Ferry area for 0-19 year olds. There were five targets, which have to be recognised when providing this provision:

1) Staying safe
2) Being healthy
3) Enjoying and achieving
4) Making a positive contribution
5) Achieving economic wellbeing

Maureen provided local statistics on play schemes, holiday schemes, Council and Voluntary sector groups. She outlined the number of groups and the number of children attending, which is rising all the time. The Council is engaging with organisations regularly to increase youth provision. (See attached copy of presentation)

The Chair thanked Maureen McDaid for her presentation.

Minute 7 - Presentation on ‘Wirral Evening and Night Time Strategy’

Andy Mills gave a presentation on Wirral’s Evening and Night Time Strategy.

Birkenhead and Wallasey Primary Care Trust (PCT) in conjunction with Wirral Waterfront Initiative, commissioned Wirral’s Evening and Night Time Strategy to look at the positive and negative aspects of night time activity within the area.

The working group had identified a positive and thriving night time scene including restaurants, bars, clubs but the negative side of this could lead to binge drinking and violence.

Andy highlighted the main issues raised by the Strategy and in response the Strategy aims to:

§ Promote a partnership approach to tackling the issues relating to the evening and night-time economy.
§ To promote and encourage a positive and diverse evening and night-time economy.
§ To create safe and attractive evening and night-time environments across Wirral.
§ To provide safe evening and night-time venues for local residents, staff 
and visitors to Wirral.
§ To increase awareness of potential harms and reduce actual harms 
associated with evening and night-time economy.

Wirral Council and especially the NHS want to respond to concerns now, so 
that it can act positively to changes to the Licensing Act 2003, Government 
Drugs Strategies, the National Door Registration Scheme, which will support 
Wirral’s continued economic growth.

There followed a discussion around the issues of binge drinking, rolling out 
the Strategy across the Borough, proliferation of off-licenses selling alcohol, 
transport and the currently negative impression gained by external agencies 
and businesses of the centre of Birkenhead.

In relation to the last item the Chair asked David Ball to bring this matter to 
the attention of Sheila Terry, Birkenhead Town Center Manager at the next 
meeting of the Birkenhead Town Centre Forum.

**Minute 8 - Primary Care Trust update**

Pam reported back to the Forum on the current accommodation issues for 
the PCT and in particular the Wirral Holistic Centre who had identified new 
premises and were in talks with the Primary Care Trust. She would keep the 
Forum updated of any further developments.

**Minute 9 - Community Safety update**

Ian Lowrie outlined that the majority of peoples concerns currently seemed 
to be about Neighbour Nuisance, dog fouling and similar environmental 
issues. A 3 year audit has just taken place and identified that crimes are 
falling although there was some concern about violence in Wirral which is 
because of a different recording system appears to be increasing. The 
alleygating programme was progressing well across the area covered by this 
forum with the crime rates being targeted first.

Q - Philip Barton asked if the Local Authority had lists of rights of way for 
the area?

There is a definitive map of all public rights of way which is at Bebington, at 
present, but as this is no longer a public building people will have to either 
give details of their specific enquiry to the call centre on 606 2004 who will 
contact Shaun Brady and respond back to them directly OR they can wait 
until the move is complete and make an appointment to view the map at 
Cheshire Lines

In a subsequent discussion, the forum was interested to know which of the 
back entries remained unadopted. It was agreed to investigate if a list or 
map showing the location of unadopted entries was available.

Similarly there is a map of all adopted areas which is available to view on a 
PC at Cheshire Lines, anybody interested should contact the call centre also 
on 606 2004 and ask to view the maps but they may not be able to take 
copies away due to copyright.

A question was asked about the adequacy of lighting on the upper car park 
of Green Lane station.

It was agreed the matter would be referred to Merseytravel for them to 
respond to Val Simms.
Minute 10 - Future meetings/Presentations

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 7, June 2005 (Birkenhead Town Hall).

The Chair agreed that the next presentation should be Tranmere Together and they will be invited to make a presentation. Successful Community Initiatives Fund applicants will also be invited to receive their cheques by the Chair. The following meeting will have a presentation by the Lauries Limited Board.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the discussions. The Meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

Minute 11 - Any other business

Alan Stennard brought to the attention of the Forum the forthcoming Merseyfest. It is a Christian led event, and is encouraging communities to come up with projects to make a positive benefit to the community. A leaflet explaining the event was available for those interested.

All feedback for the Merseyfest should be passed to Maxine Joynson, who will pass the information on to Gail Jordon, the event co-ordinator.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Road</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>UKPMS Ranking</th>
<th>Other Priorities</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description of Works</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Street</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>100 (2003)</td>
<td></td>
<td>£70,000</td>
<td>Structural Carriageway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5030</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke Street</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>100 (2003)</td>
<td></td>
<td>£30,000</td>
<td>Structural Carriageway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5027</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Chester Road</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>£25,000</td>
<td>Structural Carriageway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Hill</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>£8,500</td>
<td>Structural carriageway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Hill</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to footway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedford Road</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>84</td>
<td></td>
<td>£20,000</td>
<td>Structural Carriageway</td>
<td>Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downham Road</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere /Rock Ferry</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>F *</td>
<td>£45,000</td>
<td>Structural footway</td>
<td>P/L &amp; L/R kerbs Remove flags &amp; construct flexible footway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keithley Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
<td>£4,000</td>
<td>Structural footway &amp; carriageway</td>
<td>Remove flags &amp; construct flexible footway Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell Road</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
<td>£2,500</td>
<td>Surface treatment to footway &amp; carriageway</td>
<td>P/L kerbs as req’d Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seymour Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
<td>Structural carriageway</td>
<td>P/L kerbs as req’d Resurface carriageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Length</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Lawn</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>£77,000</td>
<td>Structural footway &amp; carriageway P/L kerbs as required. Remove flags &amp; construct flexible footway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moorcroft Road</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>£6,000</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkside Road</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>£6,000</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany Road</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>£38,000</td>
<td>Structural carriageway Resurface carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany Road</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>£1,750</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to footway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richardson Road</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>£30,000</td>
<td>Structural footway P/L kerbs as required. Remove flags &amp; construct flexible footway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wordsworth Ave Ruskin Avenue</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>£30,000</td>
<td>Structural footway P/L kerbs as required. Remove flags &amp; construct flexible footway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Road North/Conway Street A553</td>
<td>Junction area Birkenhead &amp; Tranmere</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>£25,000</td>
<td>Structural Carriageway Resurface carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corinthian Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£2,500</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to footway &amp; carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howson Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£1,500</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ionic Street Doric Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£8,000</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to footway &amp; carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gothic Street</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>Surface Treatment to footway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lees Avenue</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£50,000</td>
<td>Structural footway &amp; carriageway P/L kerbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton Road</td>
<td>Part</td>
<td>Rock Ferry</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>£50,000</td>
<td>Structural footway &amp; carriageway P/L kerbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bebington</td>
<td>2004/2005 due to UU works</td>
<td>Reconstruct vehicle crossings. L/R Flags as required Resurface carriageway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SURFACE TREATMENT PROCESSES TO BE USED**

1. SLURRY SEAL  THIN VENEER BITUMINOUS OVERLAY THAT FOLLOWS EXISTING PROFILE OF SURFACE
2. MICRO ASPHALT  A SURFACING MATERIAL THAT CAN REGULATE SMALL DEPRESSIONS
3. SCHEMES IDENTIFIED WITH ANASTERISK * HAVE BEEN ASSESSED FOR EARLY ATTENTION.