

## **Appendix 2**

### **Wirral Local Involvement networks (LINKs)**

#### **Principles**

Below are principles identified in the Department of Health guidance (section 3.1) as common to all LINKs, in addition to these are principles identified by members of the Consultation and Development Group.

Wirral LINK will:

- Be an effective and credible independent watchdog, accountable to local community for representing their views on health and social care.
- Be open, inclusive, and accessible to all, including those with full-time jobs, those who feel excluded and those who might need support to participate.
- Reach out to all communities, looking for and collecting evidence of their views.
- Complement and support other involvement mechanisms and networks.
- Listen to and value the input of people.
- Recognise that tackling health inequalities, looking at public health issues and addressing the wider determinants of health are central to its role.
- Have a commitment to communicating the information they receive in a constructive way to service planners, commissioners and providers.
- Always feed back responses and outcomes to the wider community.
- Being able to adapt flexibly to change.
- Have a pro-active and creative approach.
- Continually work towards raising awareness and the profile of LINK.