



Local Strategic Partnership Executive Board (not a public meeting)

Date:	Wednesday, 31 March 2010
Time:	5.00 pm
Venue:	Mersey Maritime, Monks Ferry, Birkenhead

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AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES, INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Pages 1 - 8)**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4. MID LIFE PLANNING: PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT (Pages 9 - 12)**

Myrtle Lacey, Age Concern Wirral & Co-Chair of WCVS Network.
- 5. STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SAFEGUARDING ADULTS (Pages 13 - 20)**

Rick O'Brien, Department of Adult Social Services, Wirral Council.
- 6. LAA PERFORMANCE GRANT REWARD 2006/09 (Pages 21 - 26)**

Jim Wilkie, Wirral Council.
- 7. THIRD SECTOR REPRESENTATION - NETWORK UPDATE (Pages 27 - 30)**

Annette Roberts VCAW.

**8. WIRRAL MASTERS IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)
PROGRAMME (Pages 31 - 32)**

Jim Wilkie, Wirral Council

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS: VENUE MERSEY MARITIME

Wednesday 19 May 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 30 June 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 11 August 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 29 September 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 10 November 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 19 January 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 16 February 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 30 March 2011, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Agenda Item 2

Minutes - Local Strategic Partnership - Executive Board

(Not a public meeting)

Wednesday 17th February 2010

Present	
Chair	Cllr Steve Foulkes (Leader, Wirral Council)
Public Sector	Cllr Simon Holbrook (Deputy Leader, Wirral Council and Leader of Liberal Democrat Group) Cllr Jeff Green (Leader, Conservative Group, Wirral Council), Kathy Doran (Chief Executive, NHS Wirral), Mike Hagen (Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service), Jon Ward (Merseyside Police) Sue Allen (Job Centre Plus) Pat Higgins (Wirral University Teaching Hospital)
Voluntary Sector	Clint Agard (Wirral Voluntary and Community Sector Network)
Private Sector	
Advisors	Richard Perry (GONW)
Secretariat	Wirral Council - Jim Wilkie (Deputy Chief Executive), Carolyn Curr (Head of Policy and Performance), Kevin Adderley (Head of Strategic Development), Marie Armitage (Joint Director of Public Health, Wirral PCT & Wirral Council), Alan Stennard (Director of Regeneration), John Webb, (Director of Adult Social Services), Pete Molyneux (Chief Accountant), Brian Simpson (Wirral Partnership Homes), Howard Cooper (Director of Children's Services)
Other	Ngairé Waine (Merseyside Police), Bob Little (Information, Communication & Evaluation Manager, Wirral Council)
Apologies	Len Richards (Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust), Neil Dutton (Federation of Small Businesses), Alberto Bertali (Private Sector), Ken Davies (Wirral Chamber of Commerce) Myrtle Lacey (Wirral Voluntary and Community Sector Network)

Index to Minutes

Minute 193 - WELCOME, APOLOGIES, INTRODUCTIONS

Minute 194 - ACTIONS AND AGREEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minute 195 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 196 – STONGER COMMUNITIES

Minute 197 – WIRRAL LSP ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Minute 198 – PERFORMANCE & RISK REPORT QUARTER 3 (2009/10)

Minute 199 – LAA PERFORMANCE EXCEPTIONS

Minute 200 – LAA REFRESH 2010/11

Minute 201 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minute 202 - DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Apologies received as stated above.

The Chair welcomed Pat Higgins and Sue Allen to the meeting.

Minute 194 - ACTIONS AND AGREEMENTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- Wirral Equalities Forum to develop an Equalities Charter for Wirral LSP and that progress would be reported at a future executive board meeting
- Receive updates on performance of NI 68 in line with the agreed parameters
- Requested a report to come to a future executive board in relation to the work with NEET in those targeted/focus areas (NTG) and 'drilling' down activity
- In that same report to receive further details of 'churn' and aspects related to the length of time young people from different areas of Wirral spend as NEET
- The combined report should be presented at the March or May 2010 executive board meeting (*agenda dependant*)
- Note the ongoing development of LTP3 and the role of transport in relation to Wirral's SCS and LAA; and
- Further engagement be undertaken with each of the LSP Thematic Delivery Partnership Groups to identify what transport priorities best meet the needs of local priorities
- The outcome of this engagement to be reported back to a future Executive Board meeting
- Receive the planned presentation from Kathy Doran via email and respond direct to NHS Wirral

Minute Decision : Resolved that -

- 1) The minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true record

Minute 195 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received

Minute 196 - STONGER COMMUNITIES

Jon Ward (JW) presented the report and supporting presentation which informed LSP Executive Board of the work led by Wirral's Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) to identify vulnerable localities across Wirral.

JW emphasised that the proposal was about the Partnership making a difference collectively and that it was not necessarily about extra resources but better co-ordination of existing. The CDRP would identify any issues around resource implications that would be reported back to the Board. The project whilst still considering the night time economy, would concentrate on residential areas and engaging with local communities.

In response to Cllr Green's concern about where any extra policing resources would come from, JW gave assurance that it would not be from elsewhere in Wirral but that resources would be freed up from inside police stations and from across the force.

The Chair commented that the area, Morpeth Dock, was the gateway to the biggest planned developments in Wirral, Wirral Waters and Woodside and so the proposal was

particularly important as it would help to support these.

Cllr Green also questioned what success would look like and sought assurance that we would be honest about whether the approach worked; resources had been put into this area in the past. Ngaire Waine (NW) responded that success was for partners to agree and that lessons learnt, including implications for extending the approach to other areas would be identified. Other areas across Merseyside were also taking a similar approach including Huyton, Bootle and Speke so successes and learning could be shared.

Mike Hagen commented that the data appeared to be crime centred but there were also wider issues for this area about health inequalities and about the environment and that other areas such as Bidston and Rock Ferry also had similar issues. It was accepted that fire data had not been included. JW responded that we were making a start where problems were greatest and that partners should engage in order to achieve the wider objectives of the partnership.

Minute Decision:

Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed that:

- Morpeth Dock is identified as a priority location under “Stronger Communities” with the aim of “narrowing the gap” between this SOA and other SOAs within the Borough.
- Services and partners begin discussions to identify a lead person for the locality who will identify activity already taking place and work together to agree; success criteria, how the Stronger initiative should be coordinated, and gaps that need to be addressed in order to narrow the gap with other parts of Wirral.
- Wirral CDRP to take the lead in developing an action plan, and making recommendations for the coordination of the initiative and any resource implications, for future consideration of the LSP Executive Board.

Minute 197 - WIRRAL LSP ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Jim Wilkie (JW) presented to Executive Board members a proposed Economic Recovery Plan for Wirral. The report outlined a number of responsive measures to mitigate the impact of the recession on businesses and local residents, whilst at the same time maintaining focus on the medium and longer term economic goals of the Community Strategy.

Kathy Doran (KD) commented that the implications of the anticipated public sector recession such as reduced job opportunities and longer journey times to employment should be considered as part of any recovery plan. JW emphasised that all partners should identify any contributions their organisations could and were making to economy recovery and that these would be included in the Recovery Plan.

Cllr Green asked how we are preparing for those losing their jobs and for early retirement and the positive impact this could have on civic society such as volunteering. We should be considering how we can mitigate the human cost of the recession as well as the economic cost and how we can strengthen our approach with the Third Sector.

Clint Agard (CA) responded that a group that includes the Third Sector is involved in recession planning and considering how skills may be used to build capacity in

communities. The Chair also highlighted the support that CAB is giving to our local communities; Wirral CAB is one of the busiest bureau in the country.

Minute Decision:

Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed to:

- Endorse the Recovery Plan, subject to it being amended to incorporate the comments outlined above
- Quarterly updates be brought back to LSP Executive in order to:
 - Continue to understand changing economic conditions
 - Assess the impact of the proposed Recovery Plan interventions
 - Continue to develop appropriate and effective responses in the short, medium and long term

Minute 198 – PERFORMANCE & RISK REPORT QUARTER 3 (2009/10)

Carolyn Curr (CC) presented the report which provided the LSP Executive Board with an overview of performance against the 2008-2011 LAA at quarter three 2009/10. The report identified overall achievements for the partnership and outlined what was working well, in addition to identifying future challenges. The report provided a summary of performance against the LAA improvement targets and a summary of risks and performance for each of the six LAA themes. More detailed performance reports for those areas in exception were included on the agenda.

All partners were requested to identify any further action that their organisations could take in order to drive up performance.

Minute Decision :

Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed to:

- Accept the third quarter performance and risk report and identify any further action that partners could take to improve performance, particularly in those areas that are red.

Minute 199 – LAA PERFORMANCE EXCEPTIONS

- **NI 130 - Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (*Direct Payments and Individual Budgets*)**

John Webb (JW) presented the report that outlined the current position regarding NI130, Social care clients receiving self directed support, following two quarters where performance against the 2009-10 target had been reported as red.

The report stated the targets that would need to be achieved if the Council were to reach the national 2010/11 target of 30%. The Council was confident that this more cautious, robust approach would ensure a more broadly tested resource allocation system and there had been interest from the region in the way Wirral was developing

this. Other local authorities that had made faster progress had found their allocations to be too generous.

Minute Decision :
Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members accepted the report

- **Local PI 4266 – Warm Front**

Alan Stennard (AS) presented a report that outlined the current position on performance of PI 4266, Number of households assisted with at least one main energy efficiency measure under Warm Front. This followed one quarter where the target was reported as red and where red was forecast for the next quarter.

The LAA target is being reviewed in the light of the national changes to funding and is likely to be reduced for 2010/11.

Minute Decision :
Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed to:

- Note the increase in funding limits for thermal efficiency measures for individual homes, but also that there had been no corresponding increase in total funding available to support the Warm Front scheme
- Receive a further report setting out the results of discussions with Government Office and with EAGA along with any suggested variation to the target for PI 4266

Minute 200 - LAA REFRESH 2010/11

CC presented this report with the purpose that provided Executive Board members with the latest position for Wirral's Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2010/11 refresh negotiations. The report also outlined the process for refreshing LAA improvement targets and the timescales to complete this final refresh.

Kevin Adderley (KA) and Richard Perry (RP) outlined the targets that had been agreed for National Indicators 151, 153 and 171:

- The target contained in the LAA for NI 151 (overall employment rate) will be to maintain the gap of 2.6% below the regional average employment rate
- The target contained in the LAA for NI 153 (working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods) will be to maintain the gap of 3.7% below the regional average
- The target contained in the LAA for NI 171 (new business registration rate) will be 39.4 per 10,000 population, a 0.1 % increase on the 2008 figure.

For NI154 (net additional homes provided) data had been provided and we were waiting on ministerial comment.

For NI155 (number of affordable homes delivered gross) the definition of affordable home had changed, social housing was now being excluded and we were again waiting on ministerial comment but were not expecting any issues.

Cllr Green initiated a discussion on what all the targets / performance measures meant for local communities and how all the activity translated into perceptions and how people felt. JW responded that it was about how well we work together as organisations and the collective impact that we make. Ultimately, it was about the Partnership realising its ambition of an Equal and Prosperous Wirral. People's perceptions were measured by the biannual Place Survey, due Autumn 2010.

Cllr Green also raised "Total Place" and what it meant for Wirral and how we planned to make efficiencies. KD's presentation circulated after the previous meeting had outlined discussions that had taken place at the Health Summit in September 2009 around how the local authority and NHS Wirral could work together to plan for future financial constraints. Cllr Green emphasised the need for local authorities and other public sector bodies to seriously consider how they would share savings as a way of achieving cost reductions.

Steve Maddox (SM) is also Chair of the Efficiency Board that is considering shared back office functions across the Liverpool City Region. The Council would take note of the learning from the Total Place pilots that was beginning to emerge and a presentation would be made to a future meeting of the Executive Board.

Minute Decision : Resolved that -

1) Executive Board members agreed to:

- Note the latest negotiation position for the refresh of the LAA improvement targets and request that lead officers continue negotiation discussions with GONW
- Authorise the council's Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council / Chair of the Board to agree the final refreshed LAA, subject to any outstanding negotiation discussions following this evening's meeting.
- Receive a presentation on Total Place / the potential of shared services and the implications for Wirral at a future meeting.

Minute 201 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

An item was requested for a future meeting from Myrtle Lacey, to consider there had been no inflationary uplift in funding for Third Sector organisations for a number of years, in contradiction of the full cost recovery principles within the Compact. This item would be considered by the LSP Management Group then brought to a future meeting of the Board.

Minute 202 – DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Venue Mersey Maritime

Wednesday 31 March 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 19 May 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 30 June 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 11 August 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 29 September 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

Wednesday 10 November 2010, 5.00 – 7.00pm

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WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD**WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2010****REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF AGE CONCERN WIRRAL/CO-CHAIR OF WCVS NETWORK****MID LIFE PLANNING: PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT****1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 At a recent LSP Executive it was suggested that LSP members would benefit from access to a training and support course for their workforce, particularly those in the statutory sector facing worklessness resulting from the financial constraints of the current economic climate.
- 1.2 The course would support individuals to explore the options and choices available to them, with a particular emphasis on how they might utilise their life experience and professional skills in the future within the third sector, thus building the capacity of this sector to meet an expected greater demand for services in the long-term.
- 1.3 The existing Age Concern Wirral's 'Mid Life Interventions' Framework provides a proven model from which the requirements of LSP members could be met and the organisation is willing to develop this model in line with the specific objectives of LSP members.

2. AGE CONCERN WIRRALS MID LIFE PLANNING PROJECT

- 2.1 Age Concern Wirral has delivered a Mid Life Planning Project within the Borough since 2007. Arising out of an increasing awareness of the lack of support available for individuals aged 50 to 65 to make informed decisions about choices and options for the future, acknowledging the benefit of early intervention (based on feedback from traditional pre-retirement courses – *'too little, too late'*), the organisation developed a bespoke two day training package which took a holistic approach to later life issues. To date, the organisation has delivered the package to 500+ people in Wirral.
- 2.2 The project delivery model was designed to encourage alliances with local people, employers and a range of delivery partners and stakeholders, ensuring that the project compliments existing services and avoids duplication.
- 2.3 Since the expiry of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding for the project, several courses have been commissioned by Wirral University Hospitals Trust for their staff aged 50+. Feedback and testimonies are available upon request.
- 2.4 The rollout of Mid Life Interventions would represent a significant investment towards achieving future savings across the health and social care economy through a range of long term, high impact benefits, including:

- Increased volunteering
- Increased self-enterprise
- Increased physical and mental health during later years through positive lifestyle behaviours stimulated by participation in this intervention
- Reduced dependency upon social care services in the future through greater informed decision making prior to later life

3. THE FRAMEWORK

3.1 The Framework that Age Concern Wirral has been delivering thus far has included topics such as:

- **Individual Experience** – learning through the experience of a peer
- **Choices** – a range of options, including right to work, career changes, re-skilling, volunteering
- **Pensions & Benefits** – state and occupational pensions and welfare benefits
- **Legal Issues** – including Lasting Powers of Attorneys, Wills, Probate & Advance Directives
- **Managing the Process of Change** – exploring the psychology of change and techniques for preparation, transition and goal setting
- **Education & Learning** – introduction to the benefits of lifelong learning and information about the options available and how to access them
- **Preparing for Financial Implications** – budgeting for retirement, including income, investments, benefits and equity release
- **Health Promotion** – promoting a healthy body and mind, healthy eating, safe drinking, exercise and physical health, exercising the mind and mental health, holistic well-being, sexual health
- **Next Steps** – developing an action plan for moving forward, with follow-up after 6 months

4. BESPOKE PRACTICAL INITIATIVE

4.1 Each course is tailor-made to suit the needs of participants. Flexible approaches are used in the methodology, style, and topics of delivery, and blended learning concepts enable participants to take part in a range of learning activities to identify and address their individual needs at a pace best suited to their requirements.

4.2 Specific work has been undertaken in previous events, for example, with relevant Occupational Pension advisors to ensure that individualised information is available at seminars. Liaison with HR Departments has ensured that, for example, specific information about flexible working options has been made available during courses.



5. FEEDBACK FROM DELEGATES

- *'If this programme does not continue, there will be a massive gap in service provision for staff and other employees on Wirral, as I know of no other programme that provides the quality and diversity that this programme offers., Previous delegate*
- *'Everyone nearing retirement should have access to a course similar to this. Very informative – plenty of information and ideas...' Previous delegate*
- *'Very much enjoyed this course and very glad of the knowledge I have gained...' Previous delegate*

6. COST OF MID LIFE INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

- 6.1 There are a number of different models for costing the provision of Mid Life Planning courses, depending upon the level of and approach to commissioning, requirements in terms of hospitality etc. Age Concern Wirral is able to produce costings upon the provision of a service specification.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Executive Board members are requested to:

- Consider the proposal as outlined above and how LSP Partners may wish to develop this opportunity in the future

Myrtle Lacey

Chief Executive, Age Concern Wirral/ Co-Chair of WCVS Network

This report was prepared by Myrtle Lacey and Jamie Anderson, 0151 653 4404 and 0151 666 2220 respectively

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WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2010

REPORT OF WIRRAL COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE, NHS WIRRAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND MERSEYSIDE POLICE WIRRAL CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Wirral LSP Executive board members with a draft strategic approach for safeguarding adults in Wirral. This strategic approach has been widely circulated for comments across a range of agencies and is presented to Wirral LSP Executive Board for agreement.
- 1.2 LSP Executive board members are also asked to consider that the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board report directly to the LSP

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A multi-agency review of adult safeguarding began in February 2009 to ensure that processes and approaches to work were adapted in line with current guidance to ensure all people in Wirral can thrive and feel safe. Some people, particularly those who are vulnerable, may require additional support to protect them from harm. In Wirral our aim is to ensure **all** people feel safe and they know "Wirral Protects". Wirral's intentions are set out in a draft safeguarding adult strategy attached as **Appendix A**.
- 2.2 There were a number of key messages from the consultation of 'No Secrets' which have been further reiterated by the Department of Health Ministerial Statement issued in January 2010 which highlighted a number of conclusions. These include:
 - Government to introduce new legislation to strengthen the local governance of safeguarding by putting Local Safeguarding Adult Partnership Boards on a statutory footing. To reflect this strengthening of local governance it is suggested that Wirral's Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will report to the Local Strategic Partnership and Board membership is at a strategic level
 - Updating of 'No Secrets' guidance focussing on 'Safeguarding Adults' being everybody's business. This shift of emphasis is reflected in the terms of reference and wider membership of a revised Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and fits with the personalisation agenda
 - The voice of vulnerable people being heard much more than it currently is both in developing safeguarding policy and practice and in situations where people are victims of harm. This is reflected in the safeguarding adults

partnership board terms of reference, membership and revised practice documentation on safeguarding adults

3. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS: STRATEGIC APPROACH

- 3.1 This strategic approach is outlined in **Appendix A**. It has been circulated for comment to all partner agencies. Details about specific objectives to be delivered and by who will be set out in an action plan. The strategic approach sets out that Wirral's vision is to ensure **all** people feel safe and they know "Wirral Protects". Safeguarding adults will ensure that people are able to:-
- Better understand their situation
 - Know and explore options
 - Feel supported
 - Build confidence
 - **Take control** of their lives
- 3.2 Safeguarding is wider than "adult protection" which focuses on reacting to incidences of harm. This strategic approach is about addressing inequalities, creating a place where people feel safe and can live comfortably in environments where people's dignity is respected and individuals are free from discrimination, whatever their circumstances.
- 3.3 The Local Strategic Partnership is committed to working together to promote safety for all in every community in Wirral and will charge Wirral's Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board to develop a work plan adopting a strategic approach originally set out by the Improvement and Development Agency. This approach reinforces the message that:

"SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS".

- 3.4 This partnership approach will ensure that the aims of this strategic approach are delivered regardless of the economic and political changes that may occur in the future.

4. SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PARTNERSHIP BOARD

- 4.1 The terms of reference, membership and constitution of Wirral Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board has been subject to a review. This review has been done in consultation with existing board members with a clear recognition by all partners that the terms of reference need to be updated to reflect new policy agenda. There was also recognition that the membership of a revised board needs to be at a strategic level across a wider range of organisations to reflect the shift away from 'adult protection' towards 'safeguarding adults' being everybody's business. The main changes to the Board are that:-
- Membership will be at a strategic level (senior staff)
 - Broader representation including community safety, LINKs, Merseyside Fire and Rescue, Ambulance Service etc
 - An independent chair
 - Reporting to the Local Strategic Partnership



5. SAFEGUARDING REVIEW GROUP; CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

5.1 In addition Wirral Council is proposing the establishment of a Review Group on Safeguarding for the authority. The proposal is made in the light of changed statutory guidance in respect of safeguarding children, including specific requirements on the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive Officer and developing requirements in respect of vulnerable adults.

5.2 The Council has a principal responsibility to do all in its power to ensure that Wirral children and vulnerable adults are kept safe. It is the Children's Services Authority for Wirral and has the lead responsibility for child protection. It is the lead agency for adult social care and, through its partnership with NHS Wirral and others; it plays a leading role in the safeguarding of adults. The purpose of the Review Group is to ensure that the Council, through its leading Members and Chief Executive Officer, can undertake these duties.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Safeguarding Adults in Wirral, Health and Well-Being Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Wirral Council (2010)

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Executive Board members are requested to;

- Agree the draft strategy for safeguarding adults in Wirral
- Consider how board members can contribute to the wider, community based approach to safeguarding adults as described
- Agree that the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board report to the Local Strategic Partnership Executive Board

**Steve Maddox,
Chief Executive, Wirral Council**

**Kathy Doran,
Chief Executive, NHS Wirral**

**Jon Ward,
Chief Superintendent, Merseyside Police**

This report was prepared by Francesca Tomlin, 0151 666 5140

Appendix A

‘Wirral Protects’**Safeguarding Adults in Wirral
A Strategic Approach****2010 - 2013****Introduction**

We want all people in Wirral to thrive and feel safe. Some people, particularly those who are vulnerable, may require additional support to protect them from harm. In Wirral our aim is to ensure **all** people feel safe and they know “**Wirral Protects**”. Safeguarding adults will ensure that people are able to:-

- Feel supported
- Build confidence
- Better understand their situation
- Know and explore options
- **Take control** of their lives

Context

This strategic approach is supported by a national policy context. In 2000, the Government published a document called ‘No Secrets’. This document gives guidance to local authorities to develop and put in place policies and procedures to protect adults from abuse. The guidance clearly states that:

“There can be no secrets and no hiding place when it comes to exposing the abuse of vulnerable adults”.

In January 2010, a Department of Health Ministerial Statement highlighted that Government will introduce new legislation to strengthen the local governance of safeguarding by putting Local Safeguarding Adult Partnership Boards on a statutory footing.

Wirral has put into place the ‘No Secrets’ guidance. However, as well as making sure people are protected and supported, success is about preventing abuse happening in the first place. This strategic approach will help us to do this.

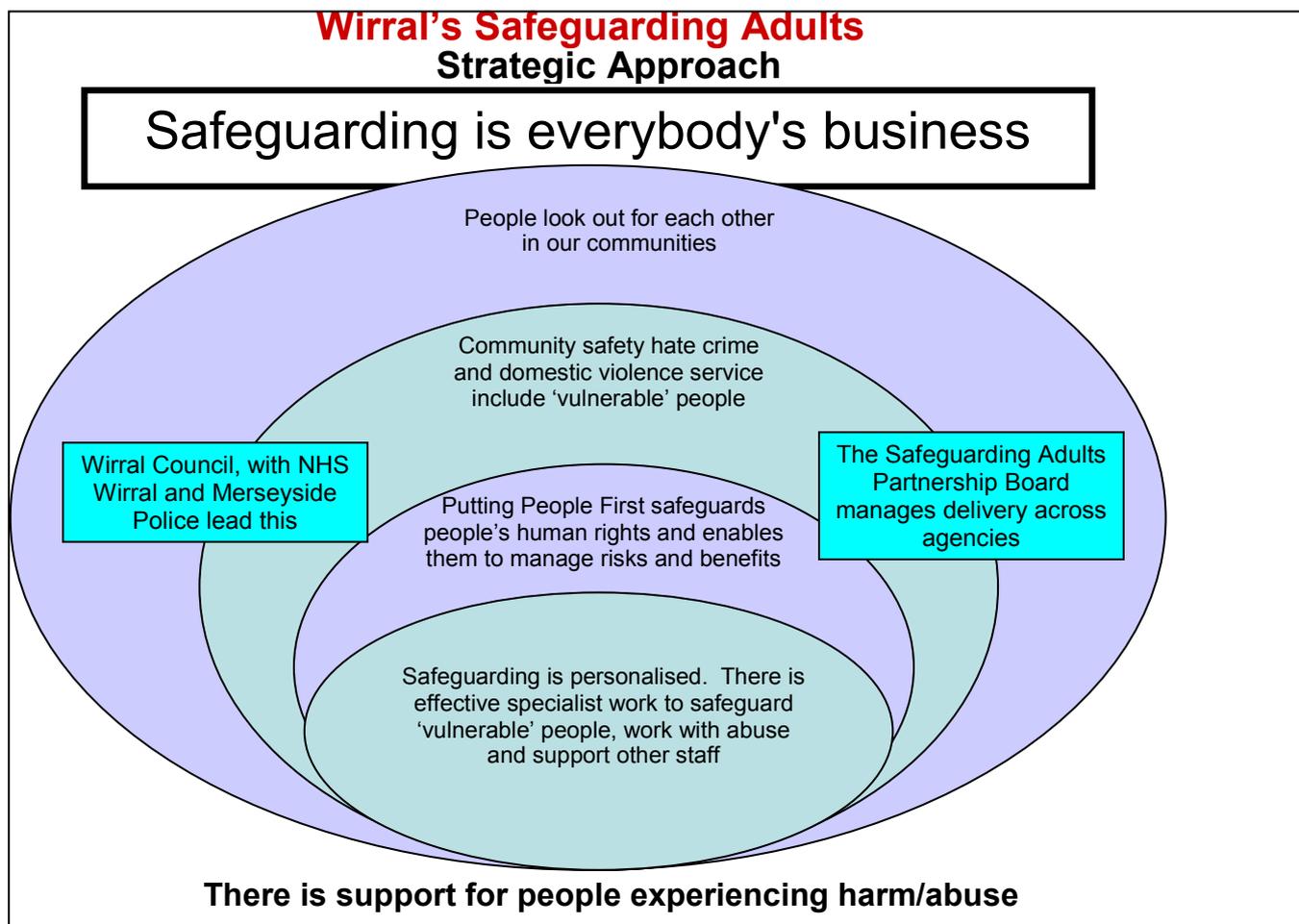
Safe Communities in Wirral

Safeguarding is wider than “adult protection” which focuses on reacting to incidences or allegations of harm. This strategic approach is about addressing inequalities, creating a place where people feel safe and can live comfortably in safe environments, where people’s dignity is respected and individuals are free from discrimination, whatever their circumstances.

The Local Strategic Partnership Board is committed to working together to promote safety for all people in every community in Wirral and has charged Wirral’s Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board to develop a work plan adopting a strategic approach originally set out by the Improvement and Development Agency. This approach reinforces the message that:

“SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY’S BUSINESS”.





Joined up service responses

Our approach starts with ensuring that everybody in Wirral, whether residents, visitors, businesses or members of organisations know what safeguarding adults is about. We will raise the profile of safeguarding adults through campaigns such as “**Wirral Protects**” and “**Dignity in Care**” working together with partners including the voluntary sector, community groups, user led organisations, Older People’s Parliament, Adults with Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Local Involvement Network. Through this we will ensure that people look out for each other in communities, understand their individual and collective roles to ensure all people regardless of their circumstances are safe.

Through our partnerships we will provide service responses to ensure vulnerable people are safe within our communities. We will ensure existing service responses are joined up and identify any gaps. There is a range of existing service responses for example:-

- Trading standards are creating no cold calling zones and approved trader lists
- Safeguarding adults awareness training is provided by the Department of Adult Social Services, NHS Wirral and Wirral University Teaching Hospital
- Wirral's Family Safety Unit is a central point of access for individuals and their children experiencing domestic violence. This service assists people to gain

safety from Domestic Violence/Abuse and to co-ordinate agencies to provide a package of support depending upon need and or risk

- The council works in partnership with Merseyside Police as a Community Safety Partnership to ensure that incidents of hate crime are dealt with appropriately. A Violent/Hate Crime Team are responsible for the recording/monitoring and investigating of all Race/Hate Crime

People focused

When people need to be supported we will 'Put People first' and safeguards will ensure a person's human rights, preserving their dignity and respect. People will be supported to be comfortable in the place where they choose to live their life and supported to have a social life contributing to the communities of their choice. Individuals, family members and carers will be supported and treated as experts and partners. Through this approach people will better understand their circumstances, feeling supported to explore options to manage risks and benefits this in turn ensuring people can build confidence and take control of their own lives.

This strategic approach to 'Putting People First' will ensure that the way we behave and deliver service responses and appropriate support is personalized to individuals, families and carers. We will ensure that our safeguarding adult processes and procedures are focused on individuals, are easy to access and timely. We will ensure that people working with individuals are appropriately skilled where specialist work to safeguard people is needed.

Wirral's Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board

Wirral's multi agency Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is responsible for delivering the aims of this strategic approach. The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board has developed local safeguarding arrangements. It is responsible for overseeing local safeguarding adult arrangements, which includes responding to reports about abuse, and creating strategies to prevent abuse. The Board has wide representation from a range of organisations and people who use services and carers sit on the Board.

The overall objectives of the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board are; to co-ordinate safeguarding and preventative work; to ensure the effectiveness of the work of each Board partner in relation to its safeguarding function; and to raise public awareness about safeguarding and responsibilities. To deliver the broader shift from 'adult protection' towards 'safeguarding adults' the board's wider brief is now to develop a work plan that will ensure '**Safeguarding is Everybody's Business**'.

The membership of the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will ensure the following:-

- Membership will be at a strategic level (senior staff)
- Broader representation including community safety, LINKs, Merseyside Fire and Rescue, Ambulance Service etc
- An independent chair
- Reporting to the Local Strategic Partnership

Membership is as follows:-

- Wirral Council (including Department of Adult Social Services, Children and Young People's Department and Department of Regeneration)
- NHS Wirral
- Merseyside Police
- Wirral University Teaching Hospital
- Cheshire and West Wirral Partnership Trust
- Department of Work and Pensions
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
- North West Ambulance Service
- Voluntary and Community Action Wirral
- Wirral Local Involvement Networks
- People Who Use Services
- Carers
- Private and Independent Sector Providers
- Care Quality Commission

Priorities 2010/11

To deliver the aims set out in this document the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will review its previous priorities by reviewing standards for safeguarding adults, studying information about incidents of abuse, looking at what needs to be done and involving local people, services and organisations. However, a number of priorities have already been identified from a review of adult safeguarding that was undertaken in 2009 and an improvement plan is in place. These priorities are:-

1. **To further develop our community awareness campaign.** To ensure people of Wirral to be able to recognise, prevent and report suspected abuse through 'Wirral Protects' and 'Dignity in Care'.
2. **To improve standards for agencies and organisations working with adults at risk.** To ensure quality systems and training is in place to prevent the abuse of adults at risk who use support services and organisations.
3. **To improve responses to reports of abuse.** To make it easier for people to report abuse and make sure they receive a good-quality service when they do. To assist adults at risk to recognise and prevent abuse and to put them in touch with a range of support services, including places where they can be safe from harm.
4. **To listen to people who are at risk of abuse.** To ensure people feel listened to and, most importantly, to feel safe. To learn from people's experience and continually improve the services that are provided.
5. **To create self-protection strategies.** To ensure adults at risk have access to advice, information and training to help them protect themselves from abuse.

6. **To support people who arrange their own support.** To ensure people who arrange their own support understand how to protect themselves and to know where to get help to do this.
7. **To work with abusers and those at risk of harming others.** We want to identify people at risk of abusing others and find ways to prevent them from abusing.
8. **To collect information about abuse.** We want to use information about abuse to improve how we work.
9. **To create the role of safeguarding adults champions.** To raise the profile of adult safeguarding in Wirral by the creation of safeguarding adult champions
10. **To create a safeguarding adults charter mark.** We want to recognise the achievement of groups and organisations who work hard to safeguard adults at risk.

An action plan will set out clear measurable objectives for these priorities and this strategic approach, priorities and action plan will be reviewed every year. Progress will be reported to the Local Strategic Partnership. We always look to improve how we work, and our annual plans will, where necessary, include new ideas and tasks we need to do as part of this strategic approach.

Steve Maddox, Chief Executive Wirral Council

Kathy Doran, Chief Executive NHS Wirral

Jon Ward, Chief Superintendent Merseyside Police

WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD**WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2010****REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES****LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT REPORT****1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. This report provides to LSP Executive Board members the final position on the actual Performance Reward Grant (PRG) that will be received.
- 1.2. The amount of **£7.933m** will be claimed as performance reward grant which equates to **80.76%** of the **£9.824m** available.
- 1.3. The claim for the first instalment of the PRG has been submitted in December 2009 and we await those funds from the Department of Communities & Local Government.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The LSP Executive Board has received regular reports on the progress made by partners toward achieving the stretch targets. This successful outcome is as a consequence of partnership working and a robust performance management framework.

3. FINAL PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT

- 3.1. The final PRG amount of **£7.933m** is based on the actual positions for each LAA reward element target. The reported performance has been subject to regular review and verification process by Wirral Council as accountable body. The Council's Internal Audit Team has undertaken the work to verify the final figures.
- 3.2. The outstanding stretch target work, and as a consequence the final PRG monies, have now been reported and verified. The target for the number of Attendance Allowance claimants in Wirral has been achieved with a PRG figure of £26,200 becoming available. The target for the number of Pension Credit claimants in Wirral did not achieve its target or the allocated PRG.
- 3.3. It is proposed that the additional £26,200 is allocated to the Third sector organisations that have directly supported the achievement of the attendance allowance stretch target. As previously reported for this amount will be available as 50% Capital and 50% Revenue, over two years.
- 3.4. Wirral Council submitted a claim for the first instalment of performance reward grant on the 16th December 2009.

- 3.5. Appendix A of this report sets out the amounts of Performance Reward Grant (PRG) for each stretch target.

4. PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT ALLOCATION

- 4.1. Performance Reward Grant (PRG) for the achievement of stretch targets is payable 50% revenue and 50% capital over two years (2009/10 and 2010/11) as was reported to the LSP Executive Board in November 2008.

The final allocations approved by the LSP Executive Board have been updated in **Table. 1** below based on final performance.

Table. 1

Partner / agency	Capital allocation	Revenue allocation	Total allocation
Wirral Council (incl support costs)	£2,942,618	£2,920,765	£5,863,383
NHS Wirral	£548,662	£504,248	£1,052,910
Wirral Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	£439,685	£406,140	£845,825
Drug and Alcohol Action Team	£22,551	£22,363	£44,914
3 rd Sector (Network)		£100,000	£100,000
3 rd Sector (agencies contributing to achievement of attendance allowance stretch target) (see table 2 below)	£13,100	£13,100	£26,200
Overall	£3,966,616	£3,966,616	£7,933,232

- 4.2. The proposal for the allocation of PRG in relation to the Third sector organisations that have directly supported the achievement of the previously outstanding target for attendance allowance stretch target is detailed in the **Table 2** below. Executive members are asked to approve this expenditure.

Table. 2

Partner / agency	Capital allocation		Revenue allocation		Total allocation
	Year One	Year Two	Year One	Year Two	
CAB	£1,703	£1,703	£1,703	£1,703	£6,812
Bebington TUC	£262	£262	£262	£262	£1,048
Age Concern	£3,275	£3,275	£3,275	£3,275	£13,100
Welfare Rights Unit	£1,310	£1,310	£1,310	£1,310	£5,240
Overall	£13,100		£13,100		£26,200



- 4.3. The CLG payment of Performance Reward Grant will be on the condition that in overall terms the grant is allocated 50% to revenue and 50% for capital. As accountable body, Wirral Council will be responsible for verifying that expenditure has met this requirement and would be liable for any breach in conditions.
- 4.5 In order to satisfy the grant requirement it is proposed that with the exception of the Third Sector recipients, the accountable body will distribute reward grant once confirmation has been received from partners that the monies have been expended in accordance with the grant conditions. Spot checks and/or the submission of supporting evidence may be required to verify compliance.
- 4.6 As cash flow is particularly important to Third Sector organisations and given the current economic climate it is proposed that these monies will be paid in stages in advance (early in 2010/11 and 2011/12). Appropriate guidance will be circulated and monitoring arrangements implemented to ensure that compliance to the grant conditions can be verified.

5. WIRRAL LAA 2008/11 – FUTURE PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT (PRG)

- 5.1. The final refresh of Wirral's 2008/11 LAA was submitted to GONW on 17th March 2010.
- 5.2. The performance of national indicators that attract PRG will be reviewed throughout the coming 12 months and reports will be submitted to future Executive Board meetings that detail the current and forecast outturn at the end of LAA period (after 31st March 2011) and the potential PRG associated to that forecast.
- 5.3. It should be noted that the comprehensive spending review has previously announced the provision of a third round of reward grant in order to ensure the new approach to LAAs is properly embedded. It has been confirmed that Wirral would be eligible to claim, if all targets are met by 2010-2011, the amount of £2,281,175.95.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2007/08 Financial Monitoring Report – May 2008
- Local Area Agreement Reward Element Report – May 2008
- Local Area Agreement Reward Element Report – June 2008
- LAA Financial Report – 19th November 2008
- LAA Pump Priming Grant Expenditure – 20th January 2009
- LAA Reward Element Targets Report - 18th February 2009
- Local Area Agreement Performance Reward Grant Report – 11th November 2009

7. RECOMMENDATION

7.1. Executive Board members are requested to:

- Note the final amount of performance reward grant achieved for the stretch targets
- Agree to the proposed allocation of the remaining £26,200 Performance Reward Grant monies as outlined in section 4.3.

Jim Wilkie

Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services

This report was prepared John Highton on 691 8522.



APPENDIX A - Performance Reward Grant achieved against each Stretch Target (2006/2009)

Target No.	PI	Indicator	LAA End Target	LAA End Actual	% PRG Achieved	£ PRG Available	£ PRG Achieved at LAA End	Comments
1	4046	Number of dwelling house burglaries in Wirral recorded by the Police	1500	893	100%	£163,727	£163,727	
	4101	Number of all woundings in Wirral recorded by the Police	3130	1687	100%	£286,522	£286,522	
	4102	Number of thefts of motor vehicles in Wirral recorded by the Police	1332	560	100%	£368,386	£368,386	
2	NI117	Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training	7.4%	9.1	0%	£818,635	£0.00	The end of year performance was achieved against a back drop of significant economic downturn. There was a significant reduction in the number of vacancies for young people in the borough. Focused Activity with the NEET cohort during December led to a return for that month of 8.49%, a 5 year low for NEET in the Borough. The September Guarantee thresholds have been met in Wirral this year. Targeted action with vulnerable young people and within NEET hotspot areas continues.
3	8134	No. of people from BME groups who attend NHS Stop Smoking Services who had set a quit date and who are still not smoking at 4 weeks, counted according to DH protocol	114	182	100%	£818,635	£818,635	
4	4103	No. of domestic violence in Wirral reported to Police	5522	5568	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
	4104	% of recorded domestic violence that are repeat incidents in the previous 12 months	26%	25%	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
5	8227	No. of emergency unscheduled acute hospital bed days occupied by older people aged 75+ in NHS hospitals in Wirral (excluding those admitted through fractured neck or femur), as measured by PCT data	126551	116378	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
	8228	No. of emergency unscheduled acute hospital bed days occupied by older people aged 75+ in NHS hospitals in Wirral who are admitted through fractured neck or femur, as measured by PCT data	10534	5613	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
6	1192	Average Point Score for all pupils at Key Stage 3 (average of English, maths and science) as measured by National Key Stage 3 Tests	35.6	35.7	100%	£818,635	£818,635	The 83% figure for Q1 3 forecast was based upon advice from GONW that an average performance level MAY be paid given that KS3 tests have been curtailed. CLG have confirmed since - via GONW - that for this indicator PRG will be based upon the full amount (100%) available for achievement up to the point of the tests being withdrawn.
7	8135	No. of people in vulnerable groups namely older people aged 65+ BME, and women in specialist alcohol treatment services	340	552	100%	£245,591	£245,591	
	8131	No. of drug users retained in structured drug treatment programmes	860	634	0%	£573,044	£0	Retention of drug users target will not be met due to issues over the methodology for this indicator, as previously reported. Wirral has high proportion of problem drug users in treatment and retains a high percentage; there is a declining number still to be engaged and therefore a declining number to be retained.
8	199a	The proportion of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus	14%	13%	100%	£818,635	£818,635	
9	4128	No. of new business start-ups supported through Wirral Biz or Business Link in Wirral as measured by data form both organisations	330	801	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
	4129	No. of new businesses supported through Wirral Biz or Business Link in Wirral still operating twelve months after commencement as measured by data form both organisations	264	445	100%	£409,318	£409,318	
10	1268	% of schools achieving Healthy School Status in the National Healthy School Programme	95%	100%	100%	£818,635	£818,635	All schools ie 100% have achieved HPSS status by Dec 09.
11	8233	No. of informal carers receiving an assessment or review as a % of the total number of clients and carers receiving assessment or review, as measured by data used for PAF D42	20%	18.54%	72%	£40,932	£29,307	This indicator steadily improved throughout the second half of the year, in part because of the input of the carer support workers. The indicator reached the threshold level that triggered LAA reward payments but narrowly failed to reach the figure that would have delivered the full reward grant. Carer support will continue to be part of the new LAA scheme but is PI is not going forward (it is replaced by NI 135).
	8232	No of carers receiving a specific carers service as a percentage of clients receiving community based services, as measured by PAF C62	12%	12.23%	100%	£368,386	£368,386	
	8854	No. of older people helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 and over, as measured by data used for PAF C32	100	56.68	0%	409,318	£0.00	People are supported to remain living independently at home with packages of support. This indicator has not met its target because the success of the HART service has resulted in fewer ongoing packages with individuals undergoing re-ablement in the community and of improved reporting procedures.
12	8229	No. of older people in direct receipt of Direct Payments per 100,000 of population, as measured by data used for PAF C51	100	142.15	100%	£712,213	£712,213	
	8421	No. of Attendance Allowance claimants in Wirral, as measured by DWP published quarterly statistics	13031	13130	100%	£28,652	£28,652	
	8422	No. of Pension Credit claimants in Wirral, as measured by DWP published quarterly statistics	20124	18040	0%	£77,770	£0.00	Target not achieved
Total =						£9,823,625	£7,933,232	
						100%	80.76%	% Level of PRG achieved from that available

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WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2010

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION WIRRAL (VCAW)

THIRD SECTOR REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE LSP STRUCTURE: NETWORK UPDATE

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report presents an update for Executive Board members on the representative function within Voluntary and Community Action Wirral (VCAW) to be known as Wirral 3rd Sector Assembly (3SA) formerly 'The Network'.
- 1.2 The report presents an alternative structure and examines this as an improved mechanism for engaging the voluntary and community sector in LSP structures.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The primary aim of the network is to allow the voluntary and community sectors within Wirral to engage with the Local Strategic Assembly / LAA process in a realistic and meaningful way so that network members can influence the decisions of statutory partners.
- 2.2 The Comprehensive Engagement Strategy, adopted by the LSP, November 2009, shows a clear intention from LSP partners to engage with both communities of interest and of place via VCAW.
- 2.3 VCAW has been tasked by the LSP to deliver a Network structure which would facilitate this.
- 2.4 A successful funding application was made by VCAW to the LSP to refresh its current structure for representation in line with the LSP governance review. The funding partners are Wirral Council, NHS Wirral and Merseyside Police. The funding secured covers the costs of a co-ordinator and a part time project support officer, project overheads as well as holding an additional £16,000 for capacity building initiatives.
- 2.5 Funding was secured in July 2009 and the project will continue until March 2011.
- 2.6 The first year of delivery focused on identifying the strengths and weaknesses of WVCSN which resulted in the proposal of a new way of working to ensure the Third Sector can effectively engage in LSP structures (Appendix 1).

- 2.7 Mapping has also been completed in year 1 to obtain details of all registered charities that work on Wirral. These were the respondents to the Third Sector survey which determined the NI 7 score for Wirral. Results from this survey showed a lack of awareness of support available for the Sector from local, regional and national agencies and this information will be used to as a marketing tool to encourage membership and involvement of Wirral 3SA.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 At a meeting with current representatives held on 10th March 2010, the proposed structure was agreed along with a change of name to reflect the fresh approach.
- 3.2 Wirral 3rd Sector Assembly is a project which will replace WVCSN. WVCSN has been in existence for approximately 7 years and was created to establish a model for representation for Wirral's VCS.
- 3.3 Wirral 3SA moves away from the old model of representation toward a new model of empowerment which encourages all members to take responsibility for the level of involvement that they would like. It creates a voice for the sector through people that the members can be confident have the skills and abilities to speak on their behalf.
- 3.4 All Third Sector organisations are eligible for membership which will allow VCAW to hold a current membership database for sharing information and encouraging signposting/partnership working.
- 3.5 Members will be able to choose their level of involvement; for example active involvement, attending meetings or conferences or simply being kept informed.

4. THE FUTURE

- 4.1 The proposal was presented to the Strategic Partnership Assembly on Tuesday 23rd March 2010. The Assembly were supportive of this change.
- 4.2 Currently a re-profile of members is underway whilst role descriptions are being developed in consultation with delivery partnership members.
- 4.3 Members will be asked to apply if they wish to become a 3SA delegate. Applications will be reviewed by a panel which could possibly be Merseyside Chief Officers Network. This has yet to be confirmed.
- 4.4 Alongside these applications there will also be the opportunity to be part of a 'buddying' scheme which means interested individuals and groups can be supported by delegates to apply in the future, firstly gaining an understanding of what the role would entail.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Executive Board members endorse the change of name and new approach of Wirral 3SA.

Annette Roberts

Chief Executive, Voluntary and Community Action Wirral

This report was prepared by Karen Livesey who can be contacted on 0151 645 4038 or karen.livesey@vcawirral.org.uk

LSP Assembly

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	Health and Wellbeing Partnership	Economic Development and Skills Partnership	Strategic Housing Partnership (SHP)	Children & Young Persons Trust	Environment and Liveability Partnership
2 Wirral Third Sector Assembly Delegates to attend each delivery partnership = 12 delegates					
Same 12 delegates also attend LSP Assembly Same 12 delegates elect LSP Executive Board Members from delegate group					

12 Role descriptions developed in consultation with delivery partnership chairs. Members can apply and will be chosen by an out of area panel dependent on skills and experiences

Wirral Third Sector Assembly					
VCS membership can select single or multiple areas of interest from the following:					
South Wirral	Birkenhead, Tranmere & Rock Ferry	West Wirral	Central Wirral	Wallasey and Moreton	Bidston, St James and Claughton
Housing Regeneration and Homelessness	Community Safety	Health and Wellbeing	Environment and Liveability	Employment, Learning and Skills	Children and Young People

Specialist or single issue groups/networks can be established from 3SA members if required for example, Wirral Advice Network, Older People Services Group, Single Equalities Forum, Wirral Faith Forum or Tenants and Residents Network



WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2010

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

MASTERS IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME, WIRRAL COUNCIL and NHS WIRRAL

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report provides Wirral LSP Executive board members with information on the Masters in Business Administration (MBA) Leadership Programme that is delivered through University of Chester and in which the Council and NHS Wirral currently participate.
- 1.2. The report also considers opportunities for the programme to be extended to partner organisations in the future.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The MBA programme began in 2007. To date, three cohorts have started the programme, one per annum. The total study period is for three years and results in a Masters in Business Administration qualification. Those who leave the course after completing the first year receive a Post Graduate Certificate or after two years, a Post Graduate Diploma. Year one cohort will graduate in March 2011.
- 2.2. The intention of the programme is to build leadership capacity within the Council and the Partnership. The programme has already been extended to include NHS Wirral which joined in the second cohort.
- 2.3. Study includes a number of taught modules, assignments and an open book exam. A project is also undertaken within the context of a Learning Support Group and a 15,000 word dissertation is completed in the final year. The project and dissertation subject matters are agreed between the participants and their managers and should have an impact on Council / NHS Wirral business activity.
- 2.4. Cohort one (2007) consisted of 27 employees; 20 remain in year three, 18 of which are Wirral employees. 3 people left the course at the end of year one with a Post Graduate Certificate; 1 person left the course after year 2 with a Post Graduate Diploma.
- 2.5. For cohort two, 20 delegates began in year one (2008) and 17 have continued to year two, 2 of which are NHS Wirral employees.
- 2.6. 25 delegates began the programme as cohort three in 2010, all of whom are Council employees.

3. THE PROGRAMME

- 3.1. Year 1 modules include strategic management, finance for managers, leading and managing change, marketing across boundaries, Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and research methods. Year 2 includes a “Measuring Business Impact Project” and Year 3 is a dissertation.
- 3.2. A Leadership Development Steering Group was recently formed and includes Wirral Council’s Chief Executive, Chief Officers, HR / Organisational Development and representatives from Chester University. This group will steer the development and evaluation of the programme, including linking learning to business outcomes and identifying future opportunities and activities.

4. BENEFITS

- 4.1. The opportunity to participate in joint learning, networking and to produce a project and dissertation on current, work based issues should have major organisational and partnership benefits and there are clearly opportunities to identify collaborative projects that would support the strategic objectives of the Partnership. Learning support groups have facilitated closer working relationships and improved communication between departments and organisations, breaking down barriers and enhancing learning about areas and organisations beyond delegate’s usual sphere of contact.
- 4.2. Participating organisations have received a substantial reduction on the cost of the programme compared to the usual rate. This has been possible through economies of scale. The current cost of the MBA programme per delegate for the Wirral Client group is £2,600 per stage, this compares with a comparable course with the Open University which would be in the region of £4,000 per stage.
- 4.3. Costs for future years are currently being determined and will be provided to the Board as soon as they are known. It is anticipated that the discounted rate will continue for future cohorts.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. Executive Board members are requested to consider the scope for partner organisations to participate in the Leadership Programme in the next intake which is likely to be September 2010.

Jim Wilkie

Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services

The report was prepared by Carolyn Curr, Head of Policy and Performance, Wirral Council, 691 8152