



Cabinet

Date: Thursday, 24 January 2013

Time: 6.15 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall

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AGENDA

1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Cabinet are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting have been printed and published. Any matters called in will be reported at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes be approved and adopted.

3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Response to Alcohol Consultation

FINANCE

4. FINANCIAL MONITORING - REVENUE (Pages 1 - 26)

5. FINANCIAL MONITORING - CAPITAL (Pages 27 - 40)

6. COLLECTION FUND 2012/2013 (Pages 41 - 44)

7. COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS - ANNUAL REVIEW

Report to follow

8. COUNCIL TAX BASE (Pages 45 - 50)

9. **SOCIAL FUND REFORM - LOCAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE SCHEME (Pages 51 - 94)**
10. **FAILURE TO RECOVER SOCIAL SERVICES BAD DEBT**
Verbal Report
11. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING (Pages 95 - 106)**
12. **BUDGET COUNCIL PROCEDURE (Pages 107 - 112)**
13. **COMMITTEE CALENDAR 2013/2014 (Pages 113 - 130)**

CORPORATE RESOURCES

14. **VACANT LAND AND BUILDING REVIEW - RANGERS COTTAGE, THURSTASTON (Pages 131 - 136)**

STREETSCENE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES

15. **LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND (LSTF) - PURCHASE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT TICKETS (Pages 137 - 142)**
16. **LOCAL TRANSPORT CAPITAL FUNDING AND THE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK (ITB) PROGRAMME 2013/2014 (Pages 143 - 166)**
17. **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE FUNDING AND STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2013/2014 (Pages 167 - 198)**

FINANCE

18. **THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF PAID SERVICE (Pages 199 - 202)**
19. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR (PART 1)**

To consider any other business that the Chair accepts as being urgent

20. **EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The following items contain exempt information.

RECOMMENDATION: That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the relevant paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest test has been applied and favours exclusion.

21. EXEMPT APPENDICES (Pages 203 - 204)

- Appendix to Agenda Item 14
Vacant Land and Building Review – Rangers Cottage
Thurstaston

Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 as it contains commercially sensitive information

22. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR (PART 2)

To consider any other business that the Chair accepts as being urgent

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT	REVENUE MONITORING 2012/13 MONTH 8 (NOVEMBER 2012)
WARD/S AFFECTED	ALL
REPORT OF	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION	YES

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out the revenue position for 2012/13 as at Month 8 (November 2012). It identifies the latest financial projections and prioritises the risks for ongoing management actions, to ensure no overspend at the year-end.

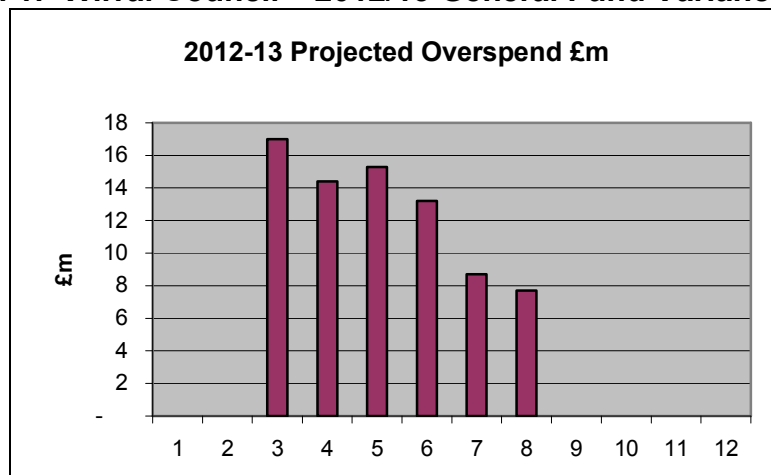
2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cabinet on 6 September 2012, when considering the Month 3 monitor, instituted a spending freeze, in the light of a £17m projected overspend. Items within the freeze agreed by 18 October, 8 November and 20 December Cabinets are included within the monitoring figures below. The outcome of weeks eleven to fifteen are reported within Appendix 7, attached.

OVERALL POSITION AT MONTH 8 (NOVEMBER 2012)

- 2.2 The projected revenue forecast for the year, at Month 8 (to end November 2012), shows a potential General Fund **overspend of £7.7m**, down £1m on the M7 projection of a £8.7m overspend. This improvement to the projected overspend is largely due to a reduced projected overspend within the Children and Young People department, plus a number of other departmental variations.

Graph 1: Wirral Council – 2012/13 General Fund Variance, by month



The Month 7 monitoring report outlined a series of factors which have contributed to the current overspend position. In addition work is continuing to examine the level of bad debt relating to income which has previously been included within the authority's accounts which had been assumed was collectable. The outcome of this work will very likely increase the size of the projected overspend. The release of an earmarked reserve, to cover this cost, has been identified (see 2.14).

- 2.3 In August, the Cabinet instructed the Chief Executive and the Interim Director of Finance to instigate an emergency response, in the form of a spending freeze and review of all major areas of spend. This has reduced the level of overspend, however, the situation remains critical given a number of anticipated adverse changes which will increase the projected overspend in coming months. These include the outcome of the social services care home fees consultation and issues relating to debt recovery detailed later in this report.

CHANGES TO THE AGREED BUDGET AND VARIATIONS

- 2.4 The Budget for 2012/13 was agreed by Council on 1 March 2012 and is detailed in Appendix 2; any increase in the Budget has to be agreed by full Council. Changes to the budget have occurred since it was set and these are summarised in the table below. They presently comprise variations approved by Cabinet / Council and will in future include approved virements relating to the use of the Efficiency Investment Fund, reserves, any budget realignments to reflect any changes to the departmental structure and responsibilities, expenditure freeze decisions as well as any technical adjustments. These are detailed in Appendix 3.

Table 1: 2012/13 Original & Revised Net Budget analysed by Department

	Original Net Budget	Approved Budget Virements Month 1-7	Freeze Decisions Weeks 1-10	Approved Budget Virements Month 8	Revised Net Budget
	£000	£000		£000	£000
Adult Social Services	66,660	-325	-85	-2	66,248
Children & Young People	73,665	-195	-172	-	73,298
Finance	24,610	-2,389	-493	-135	21,593
Law, HR & Asset Management	13,901	1,061	-54	122	15,030
Regeneration, Hsg & Planning	25,764	103	-962	27	24,932
Technical Services	59,478	215	-526	-37	59,130
Freeze Savings	-	-	2,292	-	2,292
Efficiency Fund	0	2,207	0	25	2,232
Net Cost of Services	264,078	677	0	-0	264,755

Note 1: the Month 8 virements are relatively minor and reflect movement of several employee posts between departments and the allocation of the Improvement Fund held within Finance. An additional £25,000 of the Efficiency Fund balance held within the Finance Department has been added to general fund balances following further work on determining outstanding commitments against the fund.

- 2.5. The main report will only comment on large variations (Red and Yellow items). The 'variations' analysis distinguishes between overspends and underspends and the proposed 'risk band' classification is:

- Overspends - Red (over +£301k), Amber (+£141k to +£300k)
- Acceptable - Green (range from +£140k to -£140k)
- Underspends - Blue (-£141k to -£300k),

- Yellow (over -£301k)

Table 2: RAGBY Classification of 2012/13 Departmental Projected General fund Budget variations (Month 7 in brackets)

Department	Number of Budget Areas	Red	Amber	Green	Blue	Yellow
Adults	4	2 (2)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (1)
Children & YP	7	3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (1)	2 (1)	2 (2)
Finance	6	0 (0)	1 (0)	1 (3)	1 (1)	3 (2)
Law, HR & AM	7	2 (2)	0 (0)	3 (3)	1 (1)	1 (1)
Reg, Hsg & Plan	5	0 (0)	0 (0)	3 (4)	1 (0)	1 (1)
Technical Servs	7	1 (2)	1 (0)	5 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)
TOTAL	36	8 (9)	2 (0)	13 (17)	5 (3)	8 (7)

- 2.6 The reporting process identifies over or underspends and classifies them into risk bands. The projection is for a total potential General Fund overspend of £7.7m across the six Directorates for 2012/13, as set out in the table below, which records four departments on red and two on yellow (unchanged from M7).

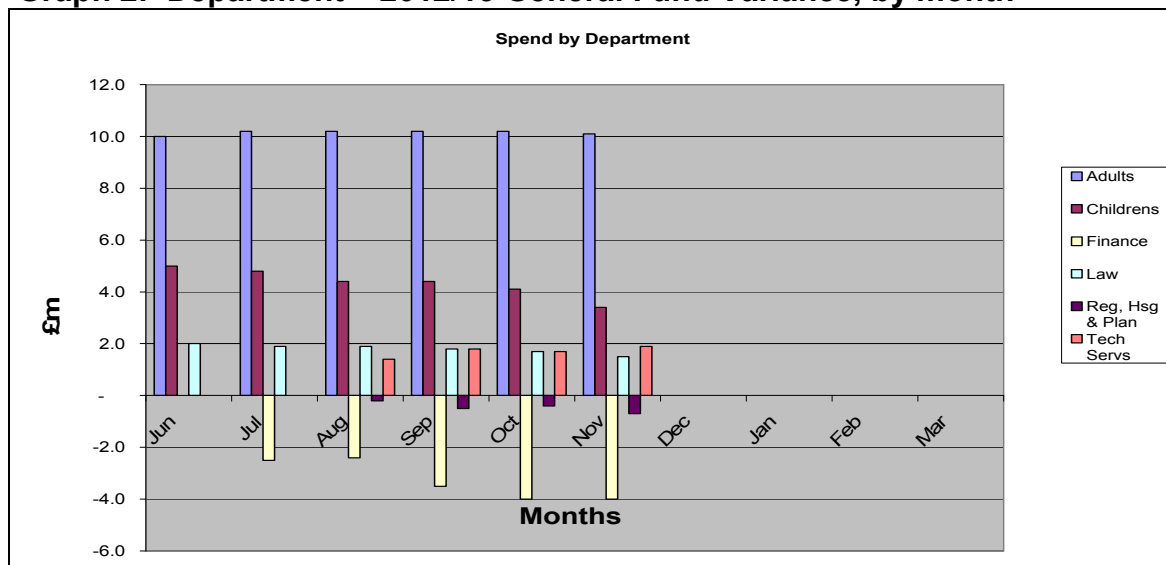
Table 3: 2012/13 Projected General Fund Budget variations by Department

Department	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	(Under) Overspend Month 8	RAGBY Classification	Month 7 (Under)/Overspend	Change
	£000	£000	£000		£000	£000
Adults	66,248	76,348	10,100	R	10,200	-100
Children & YP	73,298	76,698	3,400	R	4,100	-700
Finance	21,593	17,593	-4,000	Y	-4,000	-
Law, HR & AM	15,030	16,530	1,500	R	1,700	-200
Reg, Hsg & Plan	24,932	24,232	-700	Y	-500	-200
Technical Servs	59,130	61,030	1,900	R	1,700	200
Freeze wks	2,292	-	-2,300	n/a	-2,300	-
Efficiency Fund	2,232	-	-2,200	n/a	-2,200	-
TOTAL	264,755	272,431	7,700		8,700	-1,000

- 2.7 Within the various departments, there have been the following developments:

- **Adult Social Services** there is a potential overspend of £10.1m, an improvement of £0.1m since M7.
- **Children and Young People** there is a potential overspend of £3.4m, down £0.7m on M7.
- **Law, HR and Asset Management** there is a potential overspend of £1.5m, down £0.2m on M7.
- **Finance** is projecting a £4m underspend, no change on M7. Cabinet 8 November approved the removal of the Efficiency Fund base budget which was a corporate budget held within Finance. This has been shown within a separate line.
- **Regeneration, Housing and Planning** are forecasting a £0.7m underspend an improvement of £0.2m on month M7.
- **Technical Services** are forecasting a £1.7m overspend an improvement of £0.1m on M7.

Graph 2: Department – 2012/13 General Fund Variance, by month



2.8 To complete the analysis, the table below sets out the position by category of spend/income. The largest area of variance remains and supplies & services which incorporates the cost of care for adults and childrens.

Table 4: Projected Departmental Variations by Spend and Income

	Reported Budget	Virements Month 7	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance	R AGB Y	Change from Month 7
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Gross Expenditure							
Employees	141,926	412	142,338	143,625	1,287	R	-113
Premises	20,477	-	20,477	19,927	-550	Y	-950
Transport	7,187	-	7,187	8,510	1,323	R	13
Supplies and Services	113,555	-482	113,073	124,904	11,831	R	-533
Third Party Payments	72,981	1,305	74,286	74,001	-285	B	-285
Transfer Payments	170,810	-	170,810	170,586	-224	B	-171
Support Services	81,321	-1,131	80,190	77,934	-2,256	Y	-82
Financing Costs	71,376	-	71,376	69,839	-1,537	Y	-1
Schools Expenditure	442,596	-	442,596	441,046	-1,550	Y	-150
Total Expenditure	1,122,229	104	1,122,333	1,130,372	8,039		-2,272
Gross Income							
Schools Income	439,851	-	439,851	438,451	1,400	R	-
Government Grants	212,736	-	212,736	214,672	-1,936	Y	214
Other Grants and Reimbursements	17,769	-	17,769	20,648	-2,879	Y	-229
Customer / Client Receipts	45,917	54	45,971	42,166	3,805	R	1,005
Interest	1,005	-85	920	877	43	G	236
Recharge Other Rev A/c	140,196	135	140,331	141,072	-741	Y	59
Total Income	857,474	104	857,578	857,886	-308		1,285
Net Expenditure	264,755	-	264,755	272,486	7,731		987

- 2.9 Schools expenditure is funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant. As this grant is ringfenced any over/underspend will not impact on the General Fund financial position.
- 2.10 A number of virements have been made in the month. Exercises to realign budgets have taken place within a number of departments with a review of the treatment and classification of recharges leading to movement in budgets between premises and support service categories.

RAGBY REPORTING AND OTHER ISSUES

- 2.11 The Red and Yellow RAGBY issues that are the subject of corporate focus are detailed in the following sections by Business Area (by Department identifying the service) and then by Subjective Area (by the type of spend / income). The Business Areas are defined as the high level Objective Summary as per the Council Estimates (Blue Book).

2.12 Business Area Reds

Adult Social Services: Two of the Department's Business Areas remain reported as red (unchanged from month 7); Personnel Assessment and Planning; and Personal Support. A forecast overspend of £10.1 million is forecast for the department. The issues involve underlying pressures in Community Care, shortfall in 2011/12 re-provision and unachieved income which totals £6.55 million. There is slippage across a number of savings targets including market review £1.6 million, corporate EVR/VS £1.35 million and £0.7 million relating to staff savings targets

Children and Young People: Three of the Department's Business Areas are flagged as red (unchanged from month 7) with a £3.4 million overspend forecast for the department. The red areas are Children's Services, the Integrated Transport Unit, Capital and Support Services. Children's Services pressures relate in the main to social care costs and case numbers. The Children's Services overspend has dropped during the month due to a drop in the number of placements. Transport is provided by the department on behalf of all departments and the projected overspend remains at £1.1m. Capital and Support Services is overspending due to difficulties in achieving vacancy control targets which are held within this area.

Finance No Business areas are flagged as red.

Law, HR and Asset Management: Two areas remain flagged red (as per month 6) with a forecast overspend of £1.5m. The red areas are Asset Management and Human Resources. Both of these areas continue to report issues regarding the non-achievement of savings across a number of activities. These include business transformation and terms and conditions within Human Resources and facilities management, office rationalisation and asset disposal under Asset Management.

Regeneration, Housing and Planning: No Business Areas are flagged as red.

Technical Services: Only one area is flagged as red (one less than in Month 7). Parks and Open Spaces where income from golf and from cemeteries and crematoria is projected to be significantly underachieved has dropped to amber.

Engineers where shortfalls in car parking income and income relating to inspection and alteration of highways is significantly below target remains red.

Schools: The authority remains in discussion with the Department for Education regarding the possible loss of £1.4 million of grant for schools. Table 4 reflects a potential loss of grant with a corresponding reduction in schools expenditure.

2.13 **Business Area Yellows**

Adult Social Services: One area, Finance and Performance is flagged as yellow. However some of this budget related to amounts to be allocated against the Community Care budget area.

Children and Young People: Two areas remain flagged as yellow, LEA School Costs and Non-School Costs. LEA School Costs reflect the receipt of additional refund of deducted grant and fees in respect of Academies plus general expenditure savings. The non school variance is due to savings relating to Connexions expenditure and receipt of a Troubled Families Grant.

Finance: Three areas are flagged as yellow. Financial Services reflects savings on Treasury Management; lower borrowing costs will provide benefit of £1.5m. Benefits and Revenue Services are forecast to provide a further £1m of savings from additional grant receipts and £0.5 million relating to staffing savings through vacancy control. IT services are now forecast as yellow mainly due to savings on equipment costs.

Law, Human Resources and Asset Management: One area, Regulatory Services is flagged as yellow. The variation is due to higher than anticipated income for Community Patrol services and the Fair Trading scheme combined with an underspend within Environmental Health transport costs.

Regeneration, Housing and Planning: Housing and Regeneration Services are forecasted at yellow due to variances on Staff savings from recharges to projects and savings on regeneration implementation costs.

2.14 **Subjective Area Reds**

Employees. Departments have been allocated additional vacancy control targets for 2012/13 whilst for Adults there remains the achievement of savings expected from the Early Voluntary Retirement / Voluntary Severance Scheme. There are also savings targets under Employees Terms and Conditions and Business Transformation change projects which have yet to be progressed. The freeze decision regarding local pay and savings within Finance Department have helped to reduce the level of projected overspend within this area.

Transport. The Integrated transport unit is managed by Children & Young People and the budget continues to be under pressure as a consequence of the demands in respect of Adults Services and Special Education Needs.

Supplies and Services. The variation is mainly comprised of pressures within Adult Social Services and Children & Young People relating to care service costs.

An element of the overspend in expenditure is funded from health grants which show as a corresponding over achievement of income within the other grant income line.

Schools Income: Discussion has taken place with the Department for Education regarding potential loss of schools grant. Any shortfall will be met by a corresponding decrease in schools expenditure.

Customer and Client Receipts. This mainly reflects likely income shortfalls within a number of departments. Areas forecasting to underachieve budget include, car parking, Cultural Services, cemeteries and crematorium fees, highways inspection and alteration fees, building control and planning and social services fees. The position has shown a deterioration this month largely due to the need to write off a sizeable amount of irrecoverable income relating to a court case regarding New Road and Street Works Act invoices

As a result of the challenge process, a major risk has been brought to the attention of the Chief Executive and Interim Director of Finance concerning the reliability of fees and charges income, going back many years. It is clear from a system review of Social Services debt collection, that the process to enforce the payment of amounts owing is deficient. The process only consists of the production of reminder letters, with no recourse to the courts and enforcement to ensure payment. Officers have urgently put in place a system to ensure ongoing income is recovered, by implementing agreed policy. The release of an earmarked reserve, to cover this cost, has been identified. *[Text on where to be inserted]*

2.15 Subjective Area Yellows

Premises. This area has moved from a red to a yellow rating. The major reasons for the projected saving are the restrictions to highways and parks expenditure which is classed within this category together with projected savings on authority rates bills and a number of spending freeze decisions. Offsetting this is the delivery of savings under the rationalisation of office accommodation which is not progressing in accordance with the expected timetable.

Support Services Costs. The variation within this area is mainly due to the abolition of the Efficiency Fund. For reporting purposes the £2.2m unused budget has been left within the report totals rather than shown as a transfer to General Fund balances.

Financing Costs. Lower borrowing costs arising from slippage and reductions to the capital programme will result in savings of £1.5 million within this area

Government Grants. The Authority is forecasting an increased level of Housing and Council Tax Benefit grant receipts and Troubled Family Grant.

Schools Expenditure. The underspend in this area reflects reductions to compensate for a potential loss of grant within the year. There are some further savings in relation to asset costs.

Other Grants and Reimbursements: This includes additional monies received

including in respect of Academy funding plus monies from health which are partly funding the increased community care costs within the supplies and services line.

Recharge to other revenue Accounts: This variance is mainly due to the receipt of supporting people monies within DASS which is being used to fund care costs within supplies and services.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

2.16 The Departmental Directors and the Executive Team continue to seek to identify actions to keep spend within the Budget allocated – these actions are detailed in Appendix 4. Besides the normal Management actions to address the financial pressures, the spending freeze was implemented by Cabinet on 6 September 2012 and agreed decisions are reflected within the tables above.

2.17 A number of items have been identified as recurring issues, such as the inability to meet income targets in a range of service areas. An exercise has been undertaken to review the accuracy of budgets, in order to:

- Identify short-term funding for 2012/13, if there is a net increase in cost; and,
- As part of compiling next year's budget, propose growth or savings to ensure that the budget inaccuracies are corrected and budgets are soundly based,

a parallel review of Earmarked Reserves has been undertaken together with a review of the requirements of the 2012/13 policy options. Cabinet 8 November also agreed to remove the Efficiency Fund base budget and replace with a self replenishing fund initially funded from reserves.

2.18 A series of actions is being undertaken to produce a further reduction in the overspend in coming months. Future monitors will also include additional savings from the HR freeze process.

FREEZE PROCESS AND OUTCOMES

2.19 The Freeze process was agreed on September 6 and developed further as reported in the month 5 monitor. Adjustments of £2,291,867 have been incorporated into the current monitoring forecast representing decisions made by Cabinet on 18 October and 8 November. No additional items have been rejected in the month.

2.20 The whole point of the exercise is to reduce the projected overspend, which by Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003, is the duty of the Council, that is, all its Members. No items have been recommended under the revenue freeze process this month

2.21 An analysis by department of the freeze items so far agreed is detailed in the following table.

Table 5: Freeze savings analysed by department

Description	DASS	CYP	Finance	LAWHRAM	RHP	Tech Serv	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Weeks1-15	85,038	171,871	492,900	54,158	961,586	526,314	2,291,867

3 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 The possible failure to deliver the Revenue Budget will be mitigated by the monthly review by Chief Officers, charged with improving performance. There are a number of risks that may impact adversely on the forecast expenditure for the remaining months of the year including:-

- Individual budgets may turn out to be unsound, for the excess of codes has given scope to behaviours that have spread expenditure over inappropriate budgets. A review of codes has been put in place and will report back at the end of February 2013;
- Increased demand for services, particularly within Adult and Children's Social Care Services, where greater than forecast numbers coming into care services can impact significantly on financial forecasts. Cabinet on 18 October 2012 also considered a report on fees for residential and nursing home care. Cabinet, December 20th agreed, a revised fee proposal be subject to a four week consultation with providers. If agreed, this proposal would take effect from April 1st, 2012, and cost £985,169 per annum.
- The impact of the economic downturn significantly affects both the demand for services and also levels of income, such as fees and charges and arrears collection. This report already forecasts a potential under recovery of fees and charges which may need to be revised if the economic downturn was to worsen.
- The Council's arrangements for the implementation of a new pay and grade structure under Single Status are progressing and an earmarked reserve for the costs of implementation has been established. There remains uncertainty as to the likely final costs.
- There are budget saving options still to be delivered and these are detailed in Appendix 5. Those yet to be delivered are reflected in the forecast overspends of the Departments.
- There are a number of significant issues regarding outstanding debt owed to the Council which may result in increased costs if these costs are deemed to be irrecoverable.

3.2 The underlying level of under-budgeting remains an issue that will constitute an issue in 2013-14, as illustrated in the following table:

Table 6: Underlying level of under-budgeting £m

Overspends	M3	M8
Adults	10.0	10.1
Children's	5.0	3.4
Law, HR & AM	2.0	1.5
Technical Servcs	0.0	1.9
	17.0	16.9

The savings in 2012-13 will not be available in 2013-14 to fund under-budgeting, for two reasons:

- The underspends in two departments, amounting to £4.7m, will contribute to funding the 2013-14 base budget, rather than meeting under-budgeting;
- The one-off emergency measures, amounting to £4.5m – freeze and efficiency fund – are, again, built into resolving next year’s base budget.

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Options are included for Cabinet to consider on increasing the level of the General Fund balance.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 No consultation has been carried out in relation to this report.

6 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 As yet there are no implications for voluntary, community or faith groups.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL, IT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 7.1 The agreed minimum level of General Fund balance was set at £6m, as part of the March budget decision. The November 29 Cabinet revised the policy level so that it is set in relation to the risks the Council faces. For 2012/13 it has been calculated at £12.5m, and for 2013/14 at £21.1m. However there are a number of areas which could result in adverse future pressures on the budget and the General Fund Balance, in particular the emerging concern as to the reliability of fees & charges income, going back many years.

Table 7: SUMMARY OF THE PROJECTED GENERAL FUND BALANCES

Details	£m	£m
Projected balance 31 March 2013 when setting the Budget 2012/13		+8.8
Add : Increase following completion of 2011/12 accounts	+2.0	
Add : Council Tax re-imburement met in 2011/12 rather than budgeted 2012/13	+3.9	+5.9
<i>Sub total</i>		+14.7
Less : Cabinet decisions since the 2012/13 Budget was agreed	-0.7	
Add : Cabinet decision September 6 to release Earmarked Reserve	+7.0	
Cabinet decision November 29 th to further release Earmarked Reserves	+10.5	+16.8
Less : Potential overspends, at M8 (includes Efficiency Fund removal)		-7.7
Projected balance 31 March 2013		23.8

- 7.2 The current levels of Earmarked Reserves are shown in Table 8 with a full listing included at Appendix 6.

Table 8: Earmarked Reserves 2012/13

	Balance at 1 April 2012 £000s	Movement in year £000s	Current Balance 30 Nov 2012 £000s
Housing Benefit Reserve	11,155	(2,000)	9,155
Insurance Fund	9,635	(543)	9,092
Working Neighbourhoods Fund	7,959	(7,073)	886
Debt Restructuring Fund	7,941	-	7,941
Grant Reserves	1,884	(300)	1,584
Management of other risks	32,530	(9,558)	22,972
School Balances and Schools Related	15,144	(280)	14,864
Total Reserves	86,248	(19,754)	66,494

Note: Cabinet on 6 September 2012 agreed to release £7m of an Earmarked Reserve (Working Neighbourhood Fund), and on 29 November 2012 agreed to release various additional reserves, totalling £12.505m.

8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The whole report concerns the duty of the Council to avoid a budget shortfall as outlined at paragraph 2.20. This not just an academic exercise in balancing the books. The Chief Finance Officer is under a personal duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1988 section 114A to make a report to the executive if it appears to him that the expenditure of the authority incurred (including expenditure it proposes to incur) in a financial year is likely to exceed the resources (including sums borrowed) available to it to meet that expenditure.
- 8.2 If the Chief Finance Officer reports that there are insufficient resources to meet expenditure, the Council is prevented from entering into any new agreement which may involve the incurring of expenditure at any time by the authority, until the report is considered, and if the problem is ongoing until it is resolved. It is remarkably broad in its prohibition of new agreements, no matter what their scale. It would not only prevent the authority from hiring new staff or letting new construction contracts, but from ordering minor office supplies.

9 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 An Equalities impact assessment is attached to this report. This is essentially a monitoring report which reports on financial performance. However any budgetary decisions including freeze recommendations need to be assessed for any equality implications.

10 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

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

11 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

12 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 Cabinet is asked to note that:

- a) at Month 8 (November 2012), the full year forecast projects a potential General Fund overspend of £7.7m;
- b) there were no rejected freeze items in the month. Appendix 7 lists the items considered as part of the process.
- c) a major risk has just recently emerged concerning the reliability of fees & charges income, going back many years. Corrective action is being taken to maximise recovery. As better information becomes available, there will be further reports regarding this serious matter.

13 REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 The Council, having set a Budget at the start of the financial year needs to ensure that the delivery of this Budget is achieved. This has to be within the allocated and available resources to ensure the ongoing financial stability of the Council. Consequently there is a requirement to regularly monitor progress so that corrective action can be taken when required which is enhanced with the monthly reporting of the financial position.

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APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Revenue Monitoring and Reporting Timetable 2012/13.
Appendix 2 General Fund Revenue Budget for 2012/13 agreed by Council.
Appendix 3 Changes to the Budget 2012/13 since it was set.
Appendix 4 Management actions
Appendix 5 Progress on delivering agreed savings 2012/13
Appendix 6 Earmarked Reserves – General Fund
Appendix 7 Freeze outcomes, weeks 11 - 15

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Revenue monitoring reports have previously been submitted as part of the Performance & Financial Review presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis and from September 2012 are being submitted monthly.	

REVENUE MONITORING AND REPORTING TIMETABLE 2012/13

Budget Monitoring Timetable 2012/13

Period Number	Month	General Ledger Updated and Reports Available To Be Produced	Reports Available For The Executive Team	Reports Available For Cabinet	Reports Available For Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny Committee
			Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly
1	April	06-May		-	-
2	May	11-Jun		-	04-Jul
3	June	06-Jul	23-Aug	06-Sep	01-Oct
4	July	07-Aug	04-Oct	18-Oct	-
5	August	07-Sep	04-Oct	18-Oct	-
6	September	05-Oct	25-Oct	08-Nov	27-Nov
7	October	07-Nov	29-Nov	20-Dec	-
8	November	07-Dec	10-Jan	24-Jan	-
9	December	08-Dec	24-Jan	07-Feb	26-Mar
10	January	07-Feb	28-Feb	14-Mar	-
11	February	07-Mar	tbc	tbc	tbc
12	Outturn (Provisional)	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc

GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2012/13

AGREED BY COUNCIL ON 1 MARCH 2012

Department	Current Budget
Expenditure	£000
Adult Social Services	66,660
Children & YP (plus Schools)	73,665
Finance	24,610
Law, HR and Asset Mgt	14,151
Regeneration, Housing and Planning	25,764
Technical Services	59,905
Merseytravel	29,060
Local Pay Review + Low Pay	248
EVR/VS Scheme	(290)
Council Tax Reimbursement	3,990
Contribution from Balances	(10,282)
Budget Requirement	287,481
Income	
Government Grant	144,737
C/Tax Freeze Grant	6,573
Local Services Grant	1,805
Council Tax	132,911
Collection Fund	1,455
Total Income	287,481
Statement of Balances	
As at 1 April	18,405
Contributions from Balances	(9,605)
Balances	8,800

**CHANGES TO THE BUDGET AGREED SINCE THE 2012/13 BUDGET WAS SET
RELATING TO THE COMPLETION OF THE 2011/12 ACCOUNTS**

Cabinet	Items	£m
21 Jun 12	2011/12 Financial Outturn report resulted in an improvement in balances due to a net underspend in the year	-5.9
	OVERALL IMPACT OF THESE DECISIONS	-5.9

VARIATIONS TO THE APPROVED BUDGETS 2012/13

Cabinet	Items	£m
29 Mar 12	Pacific Road Theatre – Law/Technical Services Increase budget	+0.6
12 Apr 12	Streetscene Contract Review - Increase budget	+0.1
	OVERALL IMPACT OF THESE DECISIONS	0.7

VIREMENTS BELOW LEVEL REQUIRING CABINET APPROVAL

Cabinet	Items	£m
The following adjustments have no bottom line impact on the authority budget:		
n/a	Adjustment of Community Asset Transfer capital financing budget from LawHRAM to Finance	0.077
n/a	Employee budget transferred from LawHRAM to HRP	0.034
n/a	Employee budget transferred from Technical Services to LawHRAM	0.035
n/a	Technical Services reallocation of Internal Savings Targets within budget lines	1.4
n/a	Reallocation of Home Insulation Works within Regeneration, Housing and Planning between Supplies and Services category and Third Party payments	1.1
n/a	Movement of posts between departments relating to Building Control, Welfare Rights and Community Services personnel. The housing benefit review increase claims (transfer payments) and associated grant of £7.3 million, the reclassification of DASS transport recharge from transport to support services and adjustments for financing costs and grant receivable relating to regeneration schemes.	

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE TEAM / DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS TO REDUCE SPEND / INCREASE INCOME

Department	Items	£000
Children	Connexions – Further reductions in the contract costs (in excess of the agreed savings target)	500
	Troubled Families –Successful submission for Government Grant which will help meet some of the existing costs.	250
	Academies – Increased income being achieved through a review of charges to academies for services provided.	100
	Academies – additional monies received from refund of 'top slice from Department for Education	150
All	Reviews of on going expenditure across all departments	tbc
All	Review of budgets to improve monitoring through realignment	tbc
DASS	Review of all voluntary sector contracts	tbc
DASS	Overarching commissioning strategy developed	tbc
All	Spending freeze weeks 1-10 (including Policy Option Review)	2,292
All	Abolition of Efficiency Fund	2,200
	Total savings from these actions	5,492

PROGRESS ON DELIVERING THE AGREED SAVINGS 2012/13 £000's

Department	16,441	Comments / progress on implementation	RA GB Y	4,732	260	11,449
	100%			28.8	1.6	69.6
DASS				R	A	G
Commissioning Of Services	1,600	The Department is currently reviewing how services are commissioned to deliver savings of £1.6m. An overarching commissioning strategy has been developed and was presented to 21 June Cabinet	R	1,600		
Prevention Services	500	The Department is currently undertaking a review of all voluntary sector contracts and is seeking to re-commission this activity at a more efficient cost.	R	500		
Employee Budgets 2%	400	This saving is in addition to the Department's existing staff turnover target of £496,100. The shortfall against the total target of £896,100 is estimated at £700,000.	R	400		
Procurement	26	It is anticipated that this saving will be achieved	G			26
Austerity – Supplies	24	It is anticipated that this saving will be achieved	G			24
EVR Scheme	17	Saving have been achieved in full	G			17
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE						
Early Intervention Grant	1,000	Has been achieved	G			1000
Employee Budgets 2%	750	Progress remains difficult, with pressures on Social work.	R	750		
EVR Scheme	386	Staff who left were from self funded areas, so no budget saving possible.	R	386		
Connexions contract	250	Achieved, with a further £700k contract saving.	Y			250
Schools Intervention Funding	250	Achieved	G			250
Procurement	246	Allocated across Social Care	R	246		
Austerity – Supplies	16	Will be achieved within expenditure controls	G			G
FINANCE						
Efficiency Investment Budget	2,500	The Efficiency Investment Budget has been reduced	G			2,500
Housing Benefit	1,200	This has been built into HB budgets	G			1,200
IT and Printing Services	550	This is part of the departments strategic savings target	G			550
Employees Budget 2%	520	This is part of the departments strategic savings target	G			520
EVR Scheme	343	This is part of the departments strategic savings target	G			343
Procurement	189	This is part of the departments strategic savings target	G			189
Austerity – Supplies	8	This saving has been built into departmental budgets	G			8

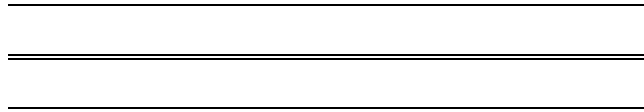
LAW,HR,ASSET MGT						
Facilities Management	500	£250k achieved through the reduction in Maintenance budgets, the balance remaining is to be identified.	R	250		250
Business Transformation	300	Target will not be achieved in 2012/13	R	300		
Employee Terms & Conditions	300	Target will not be achieved in 2012/13	R	300		
Employee Budgets 2%	260	Currently on target to be achieved in year.	A		260	
Office Rationalisation	260	Achieved	G			260
Disposal of Assets	100	Achieved.	G			100
Procurement	33	Budgets reduced to reflect these savings.	G			33
Austerity – Supplies	6	Budgets reduced to reflect these savings.	G			6
REG,HSG & PLANNING						
Broadband Facility	1,075	Achieved	G			1,075
Home Insulation Programme	1,000	Achieved	G			1,000
Employee Budgets 2%	160	On target to achieve	G			160
Supporting People Contracts	150	Achieved	G			150
Merseyside Info Service	50	Achieved	G			50
EVR Scheme	13	Achieved	G			13
Austerity – Supplies	8	Achieved	G			8
TECHNICAL SERVICES						
Procurement	745	Currently anticipated to be achieved. Biffa contract part of this	G			745
Employee Budgets 2%	380	Currently anticipated to be achieved.	G			380
EVR Scheme	150	Currently anticipated to be achieved.	G			150
Street Lighting	100	Currently anticipated to be achieved.	G			100
Highways Administration	80	Currently anticipated to be achieved.	G			80
Austerity – Supplies	12	Currently anticipated to be achieved.	G			12

EARMARKED RESERVES - GENERAL FUND

Earmarked Reserves	Balance 1 April 2012 £000	Movement In Year	Current Balance 30 Nov 12 £000
Schools Balances	11,767	-	11,767
Housing Benefit	11,155	(2,000)	9,155
Insurance Fund	9,635	(543)	9,092
Working Neighbourhood Fund	7,959	(7,073)	886
Debt Restructuring	7,941	-	7,941
Minimum Revenue Provision	4,400	(4,400)	-
Community Fund Asset Transfer	3,301	-	3,301
Intranet Development	3,161	-	3,161
Local Pay review	2,641	-	2,641
One Stop Shop/Libraries IT Networks	2,119	-	2,119
Supporting People Programme	1,505	(400)	1,105
Cosyhomes Insulation	1,244	(800)	444
School Harmonisation	1,241	-	1,241
Stay, Work, Learn Wise	908	-	908
Schools Capital Schemes	777	-	777
Matching Fund	558	(558)	-
20 MPH Zones	550	(500)	50
Home Adaptations	537	-	537
West Wirral Schemes	530	(300)	230
Merseyside Information Service	500	(500)	-
ERDF Match Funding	500	-	500
Strategic Asset Review	495	-	495
Planned Preventative Maintenance	483	-	483
Heritage Fund	420	(300)	120
Schools Automatic Meter Readers	415	-	415
Children's Workforce Development Council	399	-	399
Schools Contingency	370	-	370
Business Improvement Grant	342	-	342
Local Area Agreement Reward	322	-	322
Primary Care Trust Physical Activities	300	-	300
Schools Service IT	294	-	294
Schools Summer Term	280	(280)	-
Homeless Prevention	271	-	271
Other Reserves	<u>8,928</u>	<u>(2,100)</u>	<u>6,828</u>
	86,248	(19,754)	66,494

Note : Cabinet on 6 September 2012 agreed to release £7m of an Earmarked Reserve (Working Neighbourhood Fund), and on 29 November 2012 agreed to release various additional reserves, totalling £12.505m.

No freeze items submitted for consideration were rejected during the period



Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (from May 2012)

Section 1: Your details: Peter Molyneux

EIA lead Officer: Peter Molyneux

Email address: petemolyneux@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: Tom Sault

Chief Officer: Peter Timmins

Department: Finance

Date: 28 December 2012

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?
Revenue Monitoring (including freeze proposals)

Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?

Yes If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date
Cabinet 18 October 2012

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and->

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- ✓ **Services**
- ✓ **The workforce**
- ✓ **Communities**
- ✓ **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council (please tick relevant boxes)

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advances equality of opportunity
- ✓ Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 5: Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.
Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
All groups Page 23	Budgetary overspends will result in requirement to reduce expenditure in year with consequences on communities and staff. Rational decision making to tackle issues will enhance good relations and minimise negative impacts	Budgetary control including regular monitoring, freeze procedures and budgetary reviews will assist in limiting impact	Peter Timmins	On Going	Budgetary overspends would require funding from resources
All groups	Reduction in expenditure from freeze proposals could impact on services delivered to communities	Freeze process includes exemptions for critical service areas. Process allows for business case to be submitted to exempt expenditure from freeze	Peter Timmins	On Going	Freeze proposals will assist enabling control of expenditure

Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Monthly monitoring report to Cabinet. This will include recommendations for approval of spending freeze decisions

Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Budgetary forecast information

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Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes / No – (please delete as appropriate) No

If 'yes' please continue to section 8.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why: Urgent decisions required to tackle budgetary position. Freeze proposals undergo review process and involve officers and members

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for re-publishing.

Section 9: Have you remembered to:

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Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published (section 2b)

Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts? (section 5)

Send this EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?

Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT	CAPITAL MONITORING 2012/13– PERIOD 8 (NOVEMBER)
WARD/S AFFECTED	ALL
REPORT OF	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION	YES

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report informs Members of the current position regarding the Council's 2012/13 to 2014/15 capital programme. The report reflects:

- The re-profiled 2012/13 capital programme budget which incorporates previous decisions made by Cabinet to amend the programme;
- The expenditure to date, which continues to be less than it should be;
- Request for a revision to the capital programme to reflect slippage of £2.810 million of schemes into the 2013/14 financial year;
- Request for an increase in the programme of £0.530 million for schemes requiring no unsupported borrowing.
- The reduced cost of £0.673 million for the refurbishment of Wallasey Town Hall, of which £0.210 impacts in 2012-13. Details of the scheme have previously been reported to Cabinet on 8 November 2012;
- The projected outturn figures for 2012/13, which suggest an underspend of £3.573 million on the revised programme;
- The current funding of the programme and its future affordability.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 Cabinet on 6 September 2012, when considering the Month 3 monitors instituted a spending freeze, in the light of significant forecast revenue overspend and acknowledgement that unsupported capital financing contributes to revenue costs. Up to the report on 20 December Cabinet had considered the outcome of the first ten weeks of the freeze.

2.2 Cabinet on 29 November approved the report into the review of the capital programme which reduced the overall three year programme by £30.7 million.

2.3 The Council's capital programme is subject to a monthly review by a senior group of officers who form the Capital Steering Group, each project will be scrutinised as follows:

- Project approvals for financing, delivering corporate outcomes and delivery timetable;
- Financial appraisals for funding and ongoing revenue costs
- Spend profiles against delivery timetable
- End of project reviews;
- Delivery of Asset Management Plans and overall strategy.

2.4 ORIGINAL AND PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13

2.4.1 The capital budget for 2012/13 is subject to change. The Period 8 monitor detailed slippage of £34 million carried forward from 2011/12 plus an additional overall in year reduction of £24.3 million reflecting changes to slippage and revised programme approvals. Table 1 summarises the overall movement between that already approved and changes to Period 8 that require approval.

Table 1: Revised Capital Programme 2012/13 Period 8 (November) £000's

	Capital Strategy	Changes approved by Cabinet	Budget change to be approved by Cabinet	Revised 2012/13 Capital Programme
Adult Social Care	2,750	-2,025	0	725
Children's & Young People	21,481	1,038	-2,480	20,039
Finance	0	597	0	597
Law, HR & Asst Management	4,000	123	-210	3,913
Regeneration, Housing & Planning	6,079	7,511	0	13,590
Technical Services	7,668	2,453	200	10,321
Total Expenditure	41,978	9,697	-2,490	49,185

2.4.2 A summary of the significant changes to be approved by Cabinet for Period 8 are provided below:

Request for slippage to the 2012/13 Programme

A number of requests are included for slippage to the programme. These include:

Children and Young People.

- Ongoing reviews of the schools condition and modernisation programme will result in slippage of £1.500 million;
- Following ongoing discussions with the contractor responsible for the Pensby/Stanley school scheme a cash flow review has resulted in slippage £1.510 million

Technical Services

- The expenditure profile for the Integrated Transport Programme indicates that there will not be the level of slippage that was previously estimated and £0.200 million previously reported as slippage should be built back into the 2012-13 programme.

Request to increase the 2012/13 programme

Children and Young People

- Approval is sought for additional expenditure of £0.530 following the discovery of asbestos and dry rot at Birkenhead Girls Academy. The Education Funding Agency has agreed to provide additional grant funding to cover the cost.

2.5 ACTUAL SPEND TO DATE – IS THE PROGRAMME BEING DELIVERED TO PLAN?

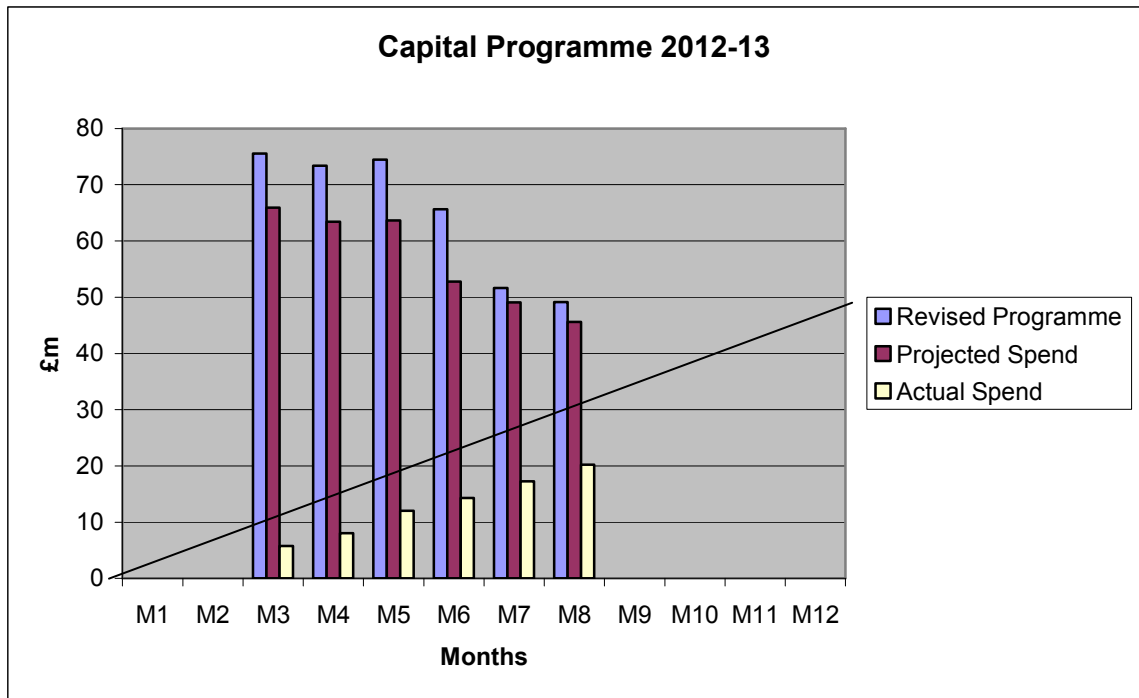
- 2.5.1 The actual capital expenditure at Period 8 is £20.2 million, which represents 41.1% of the revised capital programme budget, with 67% of the financial year having elapsed.

Table 2: Spend to date April to November (8/12 = 67%)

	Spend to date	
	£,000's	Per cent
Adult Social Care	55	7.6
Children's & Young People	10,263	51.2
Finance	28	4.8
Law, HR & Asset Management	1,749	44.7
Regeneration, Housing & Planning	4,497	33.1
Technical Services	3,608	35.0
Total Expenditure	20,200	41.1

- 2.5.2 The Period 8 figures include an additional £2.921 million of expenditure incurred during the month. The level of expenditure however continues to be less than anticipated with only 41.1% of the programme expended after 8 months. An element of this can be explained by the time lag between work being completed and invoices then being raised by contractors and then paid by the authority. The reduction in the programme agreed by Cabinet of 29 November 2012 has reduced the gap between the profiled percentage and actual percentage spend figure.

Chart 1: Capital Programme spend below line of best fit



2.5.3 A Capital Steering Group has been established and has examined current and future schemes. The recommendations of the group were reported and approved by Cabinet on 29 November 2012 as part of the period 7 monitor and are incorporated within this report. This will also result in a more accurate programme and improve the correlation between programme and actual expenditure.

2.5.4 A financial risk regarding costs and delays with the Pensby/Stanley School build within the Children and Young People’s capital programme was reported to Cabinet on 21 June 2012. Slippage of £1.510 million has now been identified and discussions are still continuing with the contractor. Cabinet will be kept informed of any future financial implications once quantified.

2.5.5 The likely outturn would be in the region of £45.6 million, not the £49.1 million planned. Table 3 sets out the variations derived from returns submitted from Departments.

Table 3: Projected Outturn compared to Revised Budget £000's

	Revised Budget	Projected Outturn	Variation
Adult Social Care	725	725	0
Children's & Young People	20,039	20,039	0
Finance	597	590	-7
Law, HR & Asset Management	3,913	4,044	131
Regeneration, Housing & Planning	13,590	10,253	-3,337
Technical Services	10,321	9,961	-360
Total Expenditure	49,185	45,612	-3,573

2.6 FINANCING OF THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

2.6.1 Table 4 summarises the financing sources and changes made to Period 8. The major changes since the capital programme was approved in March are slippages of funding following closure of the 2011/12 programme, changes in grant funding as reported in previous Cabinet reports, re-profiling of financing to 2012/13 and the decision of Cabinet on 29 November 2012 to reduce or cease £30.755 million of schemes from the programme. The period 8 amendments reflect requested slippage from 2012/13 to 2013/14 and the variations regarding Birkenhead Girls Academy and Wallasey Town Hall as outlined in paragraphs 1.1 and 2.3.2 above.

Table 4: Revised Capital Programme Financing 2012/13 £000's

Capital Programme	Capital Strategy	Changes approved by Cabinet	Budget changes to be approved by Cabinet	Revised 2012/13 Programme
Unsupported Borrowing	9,035	4,150	-10	13,175
Grant – Education	20,181	266	-2,480	17,967
Grant – Integrated Transport	1,155	5	0	1,160
Grant – Local Transport Plan	2,958	0	0	2,958
Grant – Local Sustainable Transport Fund	0	676	0	676
Grants – Other	5,349	2,452	0	7,801
Capital Receipts brought forward	3,000	0	0	3,000
Revenue Contributions	300	2,148	0	2,448
Total Financing	41,978	9,697	-2,490	49,185

2.6.2 Where there is a “cocktail” of funding to a scheme, the Council maximises the use of grant and other external resources before using its own receipts and borrowing. Capital receipts are used to minimise the impact on the revenue budget by being applied to schemes which would require a relatively significant minimum revenue provision to be made.

2.7 PROJECTED LONGER TERM CAPITAL PROGRAMME

2.7.1 Funding for the forecast 2012/13 to 2014/15 capital programme is shown in Table 5. This has been updated since the 2012/13 to 2014/15 Capital Programme Report was submitted to Council. It reflects decisions previously taken by this Committee regarding further slippage and approval of additional grant resources. Both the 2012/13 and 2013/14 financing forecasts have also been updated to reflect the variations requested for approval in Table 1 and paragraph 2.3.2. The financing for 2013/14 has been increased by £2.81 million to reflect the impact of slippage from 2012/13. This is subject to this Cabinet's approval.

Table 5: Capital Programme Financing 2012/13 to 2014/15 £000's

Capital Programme Financing	2012-13 Revised Estimate	2013-14 Revised Estimate	2014-15 Revised Estimate	Total Programme
Unsupported Borrowing	13,175	9,904	0	23,079
Grant – Education	17,967	8,250	0	26,217
Grant – Integrated Transport	1,160	1,155	1,155	3,470
Grant – Transport Local	2,958	2,864	2,699	8,521
Grant – Local Sustainable Transport Fund	676	676	676	2,028
Grants – Other	7,801	4,354	700	12,855
Capital Receipts brought forward	3,000	3,000	2,632	8,632
Revenue Contributions	2,448	888	0	3,336
Total Financing	49,185	31,091	7,862	88,138

2.7.2 The Capital Strategy needs to be made more affordable by delivering the planned capital receipts and reducing the element of unsupported borrowing and the associated ongoing revenue costs.

2.8 SUPPORTED AND UNSUPPORTED BORROWING AND THE REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF UNSUPPORTED BORROWING

2.8.1 The cost of £1 million of Prudential Borrowing would result in additional revenue financing costs of £100,000 per annum. As part of the Capital Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 the Council has included an element of prudential borrowing. At Period 8, there is a sum of £23.1 million of new unsupported borrowing included over the next three years, which will result in approximately £2.3 million of additional revenue costs detailed at Table 6, if there is no change in strategy.

Table 6: Revised Unsupported Borrowing Forecasts & Revenue costs £000's

	2012-13	2013/14	2014/15	2015-16	Total
	Estimate				
New Unsupported borrowing	13,175	9,904	0	-	23,079
Cumulative Annual Revenue repayment costs		1,318	990		2,308

2.8.2 Given the predicted revenue overspend previously reported, it is important to reduce the revenue costs of capital. A pause of two months in the start to new unsupported capital schemes was agreed by Cabinet on September 6. The reductions and cessation of schemes approved by Cabinet on 29 November 2012 have reduced future financing costs by £2.6 million and this has been reflected within the above tables.

2.9 CAPITAL RECEIPTS POSITION

2.9.1 The capital programme is reliant on the Council generating a limited amount of capital receipts to finance the future capital programme schemes. The Capital Receipts Reserve at 1 April 2012 contained £9.2 million of receipts. The current capital programme assumes that £3 million a year will be drawn from this reserve over a three year period. Table 8 below, summarises the current allocated and projected capital receipted position across 2012/13 to 2014/15. The latest receipts assumptions follow on from a review of possible land sites that could be sold. A similar review of buildings will be undertaken early in 2013.

Table 7: Projected capital receipts position – funding requirement £000's

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Capital Receipts Reserve	9,237	8,237	7,737
Receipts Assumption	2,000	2,500	tbc
Funding assumption	(3,000)	(3,000)	(2,632)
Closing Balance	8,237	7,737	5,105

2.9.2 Any projected receipts will be reviewed in future periods, along with other strategic site availability, to maximise the offset of unsupported borrowing and so reduce future revenue growth. There are also options for using a greater proportion of the reserve to generate savings in borrowing. Any decision however also needs to take account of savings that can be achieved from using capital receipts against schemes which would otherwise incur a high minimum revenue provision charge.

2.9.3 There is a high level of risk in these projections as they are subject to changes in legislation, property and land values, the actions of potential buyers and being granted planning permission on sites.

2.10 FREEZE PROCESS AND OUTCOMES

2.10.1 The freeze process was agreed on September 6 and developed further as reported in the Month 5 monitor. As at the end of November £0.9 million has been slipped into 2013/14.

2.10.2 The whole point of the exercise is to reduce the projected overspend, which by Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003, is the duty of the Council, that is, all its Members. No items have been frozen during the period.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 The possible failure to deliver the Capital Programme will be mitigated by the monthly review by a senior group of officers, charged with improving performance. They will also be able to improve the affordability of the programme.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 No consultation has been carried out in relation to this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 As yet, there are no implications for voluntary, community or faith groups.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The whole report is about significant resource implications.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 An Equality impact assessment is attached to this report.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 None.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 That Cabinet is asked to:

- a) Agree the revised Capital Programme of £49.185 million.
- b) Agree slippage in the programme of £2.810 million from 2012/13 to 2013/14.
- c) Agree an increase to the programme of £0.530 million for Birkenhead Girls Academy which does not require financing from unsupported borrowing.
- d) Note the spend to date at Month 8 of £20.200 million, which represents 41.1% of the revised capital budget, with 67% of the financial year having elapsed.
- e) Note the work of the Capital Steering Group to detail the schedule of sites to validate the estimate of capital receipts.

13.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 Regular monitoring and reporting of the capital programme will enable decisions to be taken faster which may produce revenue benefits and will improve financial control of the programme.

REPORT AUTHOR: Reg Huyton
Group Accountant
Telephone: 0151 666 3403
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SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Capital monitoring reports have previously been submitted as part of the Performance & Financial Review presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis and from September 2012 are being submitted monthly	

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (from May 2012)

Section 1: Your details: Reg Huyton

EIA lead Officer: Reg Huyton

Email address: reghuyton@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: Tom Sault

Chief Officer: Peter Timmins

Department: Finance

Date: 19th December 2012

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?
Capital Monitoring (including any freeze proposals)

Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?

Yes

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date
Cabinet 24 January 2013

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/finance>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- ✓ **Services**
- ✓ **The workforce**
- ✓ **Communities**
- ✓ **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council (please tick relevant boxes)

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advances equality of opportunity
- ✓ Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 5: Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.
Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
All groups Page 38	Budgetary overspends will result in requirement to reduce expenditure in year with consequences on communities and staff. Rational decision making to tackle issues will enhance good relations and minimise negative impacts	Budgetary control including regular monitoring, freeze procedures and budgetary reviews will assist in limiting impact	Peter Timmins	On Going	Budgetary overspends would require funding from resources
All groups	Reduction in expenditure from freeze proposals could impact on services delivered to communities	Freeze process includes exemptions for critical service areas. Process allows for business case to be submitted to exempt expenditure from freeze	Peter Timmins	On Going	Freeze proposals will assist enabling control of expenditure

Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Monthly monitoring report to Cabinet. This will include recommendations for approval of spending freeze decisions

Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Budgetary forecast information

Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes / No – (please delete as appropriate) No

If 'yes' please continue to section 8.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why: Urgent decisions required to tackle budgetary position. Freeze proposals undergo review process and involve officers and members

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for re-publishing.

Section 9: Have you remembered to:

- a) Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published (section 2b)
- b) Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts? (section 5)
- c) Send this EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?
- d) Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT	COLLECTION FUND 2012/13
WARD/S AFFECTED	ALL
REPORT OF	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report estimates the Collection Fund position for the year ending 31 March 2012.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the declaration of an estimated nil balance position for the Collection Fund for the year ending 31 March 2013 which is in accordance with current budget assumptions be noted.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 In accordance with the Local Authority (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992, the Authority must annually estimate the likely surplus or deficit on its Collection Fund for the current financial year. The estimate should be made on, or as close to, the 15 January as possible but cover the period up to 31 March. The Authority must notify the precepting Authorities of the Fund within 7 days of the 15 January and the estimated surplus or deficit can then be taken into account by the precepting bodies in setting their Budget and likely precept requirements on the Collection Fund for the following year.

4.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The Council has to keep a Collection Fund to record the Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates collected and paid to the precepting authorities and to the Government National Non-Domestic Rate pool. The Non-Domestic Rates collected are currently paid to the Government. From 1st April 2013 a new Local Government Finance System will see authorities retaining a proportion of locally raised business rates with either a tariff paid or a top-up received to ensure a comparable starting position between the two funding systems. The Council Tax collected is paid to the precepting authorities based upon their initial precepts with any surplus / deficit at the end of each financial year paid to / recovered from the precepting authorities.

4.2 Council Tax income is currently in excess of £150 million per annum. In January 2012 the forecast Collection Fund outturn for 2011/12 was for a surplus position of £1.7 million therefore resulting in a distribution to the precepting bodies.

4.3 The actual position on the Collection Fund as at 31 March 2012 was a surplus of £2.3 million. This was mainly as a result of higher council tax receipts being received in 2011/12 due to windfall receipts from empty property exemptions changes.

- 4.4 Budget options for 2013/14 onwards may impact upon the level of discounts awarded and subsequent collection Fund income. Any decision will not however effect the Collection Fund surplus/deficit position for 2012/13.
- 4.5 A reassessment of the level of bad debt provision is required to reflect the impact the longer term impact of recent changes to empty property discounts and also the ongoing economic climate. Council Tax collection rates are currently 0.5% below the corresponding period for last year.
- 4.6 Any surplus or deficit on the Fund must be shared pro-rata to the existing precepts on the Fund. Based upon the 2012/13 precepts and taking the above factors into account the Collection Fund balance for the year ending 31 March 2012 is estimated to be nil. Any surplus or deficit position would be allocated to precepting bodies on the follow basis:-

Precepting Authority	% share	£
Wirral Council	85.18	0
Police and Crime Commissioner for Merseyside	10.24	0
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Services	<u>4.58</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>100.00</u>	<u>0</u>

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 5.1 In estimating the end of year position on the Collection Fund the actual position could be either a deficit position, requiring recovery from the precepting authorities in 2013/14, or a larger surplus requiring to be distributed during 2013/14. To mitigate the risks, the estimate takes account of past performance and current known collection levels.

6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 There are no other options considered in this report.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Merseyside Police Authority and Mersey Fire and Rescue Service will be informed of their share of the declared surplus by 22 January 2012.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 8.1 There are none arising directly out of this report.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 9.1 Wirral Council will neither receive any additional distribution or pay an additional contribution on the basis of the estimated 31st March 2012 position.
- 9.2 The 2013/14 Council Budget assumptions assume a nil balance at 31 March 2013. The estimate is therefore in line with this assumption.
- 9.3 There are no IT, staffing or asset implications arising directly from this report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Under the Local Authority (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992, the Authority must annually estimate the likely surplus or deficit on its Collection Fund for 2011/12 and notify the precepting Authorities of the Fund by 22 January. 2012.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly out of this report.

11.2 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are none directly arising out of this report.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are none directly arising out of this report.

REPORT AUTHOR: **Peter Molyneux**
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REFERENCE MATERIAL

Statement of Accounts 2011/12: Additional Financial Statements: Collection Fund

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet - Collection Fund 2008/09	15 January 2009
Cabinet - Collection Fund 2009/10	14 January 2010
Cabinet - Collection Fund 2010/11	13 January 2011
Cabinet - Collection Fund 2011/12	12 January 2012

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	COUNCIL TAX BASE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION?	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Authority is required to annually determine its Council Tax-base. This is in order to determine the appropriate levels for Wirral, the Precepting Authorities (Police and Fire and Rescue) and the Environment Agency (Flood Defence). The Council Tax-base has a direct impact on the Council Tax that will be levied for Wirral for 2013 and the level of Revenue Support grant received from Central Government. There are significant changes this year in how it is calculated.
- 1.2 The Council Tax-base 2013/14 for Wirral will be set and the figure used for calculating Council Tax charges for 2013-14.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 An analysis of the Council Tax bands within Wirral are shown below:

Band	Value £	Ratio to Band D	2012/13	Band %	Increase on 2011/12	Decrease on 2011/12
A	<£40,000	6/9	58,950	40.3	173	
B	£40,001-£52,000	7/9	31,354	21.4	147	
C	£52,001-£68,000	8/9	27,182	18.6		43
D	£68,001-£88,000	1	13,070	8.9	31	
E	£88,001-£120,000	11/9	8,086	5.5	43	
F	£120,001-£160,000	13/9	4,230	2.9		46
G	£160,001-£320,000	15/9	3,093	2.1		3
H	>£320,000	18/9	270	0.2	1	
TOTAL			146,232			

- 2.2 As at 14 September there were 146,232 properties within the Wirral area compared to 145,929 last year. This is an increase of 303 properties representing a 0.2% increase overall. Wirral has 80% of its properties in Band A to C.
- 2.3 The calculation methodology has changed considerably this year due mainly to the abolition of Council Tax Benefits and the introduction of a localised Council Tax Support Scheme which is counted as a discount rather than a payment of benefits. This then impacts on the taxbase. The calculation process is then as follows:
- Calculate the number of properties at 14 September 2012;
 - Adjust for changes due to demolitions, new builds, discounts, exemptions and disabled relief.
 - Add in any changes expected over the year and reflect the increased level of discounts due to the localised council tax support scheme.
 - Convert the number of “discounted” dwellings in each Council Tax Band to Band D equivalent;
 - Adjust the total number of Band D equivalents by the estimated Council Tax collection rate for the year. The amended calculation is as below and will be utilised in calculating the Council Tax charge for 2013-14
- 2.4. The calculation is as follows with only the Council tax support scheme included and no discount and exemptions change from current levels:

Band	Band D equivalent as at 14 September	Change due from Council Tax Support Scheme only - Band D equivalent	Net Band D equivalent
A	32,572	13,686	18,886.00
B	21,482.8	3,055.1	18,427.69
C	21,776.2	1,648.9	20,127.33
D	11,907.3	537.05	11,370.25
E	9,112	231.03	8,80.97
F	5,673.4	99.65	5,573.75
G	4,795.4	36.65	4,758.75
H	459.0	0	459.00
Band A Disabled 1/9 th of Band A	55.7	0	55.70
Total	107,833.8		88,539.45
Collection Rate 97.50%		Adjusted Council Tax Taxbase figure	86,325.96

- 2.5. The calculation is as follows with the Council Tax Support Scheme included and the discount and exemptions charges maximised for 2013/14:

Band	Band D equivalent as at 14 September	Changes of discounts exemptions Council Tax Support scheme Band D equivalent	Nett Band D equivalent
A	32,572	13,1926.00	19,379.40
B	21,482.8	2,774.79	18,708.01
C	21,776.2	1,471.36	20,304.84
D	11,907.3	457.15	11,450.15
E	9,112	182.26	8,929.74
F	5,673.4	70.18	5,603.22
G	4,795.4	2.65	4,792.75
H	459.0	0	459.00
Band A Disabled 1/9 th of Band A	55.7	0	55.70
Total	107,833.8		90,042.81
Collection Rate 96.75%		Adjusted Council Tax Taxbase figure	87,116.4

- 2.6 The collection rate is based upon taking into consideration previous experience and current collection rates the outcome of which is a change in the projected collection rate from 98.5% to 96.75% if discounts and exemptions are changed or 97.5% if no change is made to discount and exemption levels.
- 2.7 This is a significant drop from the high levels achieved of 98.5% over many previous years. The reduction reflects the anticipated substantial impact on late and non-payment due to the introduction of the Localised Council Tax Support scheme, affecting over 20,000 cases replacing the previously fully funded Council Tax Benefit. It is expected that £1m equivalent to 1% will not be paid.
- 2.8 There is another significant factor and that is the proposed changes to Council Tax Exemptions and Discounts, affecting over 13,000 properties, from 1 April 2013. Although this raises substantial amounts of Council Tax it is expected that £750,000, equivalent to 0.75% will not be paid if this change is taken on and charge levels are maximised.

- 2.9 The collection rate is the rate that best reflects collection over more than just the current year and will therefore take longer than the financial year to achieve. All previous year collections have ultimately met or exceeded projections and this rate should be achieved for 2013-14 despite the significant changes previously explained.
- 2.10 The level of Council Tax is set at each Budget Council. The Budget Council for 2013/2014 is scheduled for 5 March 2013.
- 2.11 This decision may be delegated under Section 84 of the Local Government Act 2003 amended section 67 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 which means that a full Council meeting is no longer required to adopt the Council tax base. Instead the Council can delegate the tax base determination function in accordance with section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972. This matter is being considered as part of the review of the current scheme of delegation.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 If the Council Tax base figure is not declared by 31 January 2013 the Council and Precepting Authorities will be unable to make considered budgetary decisions that could delay the Council Tax bills for 2013/14.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 None required in calculating this figure.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 None.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS, FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 7.1 The Council Tax Base is used to calculate Council Tax levels for 2013/14. Failure to comply with timescales could delay Council Tax bills with the potential to affect collection and cash-flow.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The legislation requiring this calculation is the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992. This requires the Authority to declare, by means of Council resolution, the Tax Base it will use to calculate the tax level. Council must make this resolution no later than 31 January in the year preceding the Tax.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are none arising from this report and an Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising from this report.

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are none arising from this report.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

13.1 That the figure be approved as the Council Tax Base for 2013/14 taking account of which tax base members approve in light of their prior decision on discounts and exemption levels.

14.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

14.1. To allow Members to agree and be aware of the Council Tax taxbase for 2013/14 and the changes that have been taken account in its calculation.

FNCE/xxx /12

REPORT AUTHOR: **Neil Powell**
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APPENDICES None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Department for Communities and Local Government;
CTB1 form and accompanying documentation,
Local Government Finance Act 1992 and 2003

Valuation Office Agency; Valuation List.

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet	11 December 2011
Cabinet	9 December 2010
Cabinet	9 December 2009

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	SOCIAL FUND REFORM LOCAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE SCHEME
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	ACTING CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION?	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the proposed year one policy for a new local discretionary support scheme “Local Welfare Assistance” to be administered by the local authority from April 2013 to replace the crisis loans and community care grants currently administered by the Department for Work and Pensions. This report was previously considered by Council Excellence Overview and Scrutiny on 27 November 2012 (minutes 42) and their views are included here. Cabinet is asked to approve the scheme for consequential approval by Council to allow scheme to become operable.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Government published the White Paper “Universal Credit: welfare that works” on 11 November 2010 which set out proposals to reform the welfare system and which included reform plans for the Social Fund. The subsequent Welfare Reform Act 2012 included powers to end the discretionary elements of the Social Fund.
- 2.2 With effect from April 2013 the discretionary Crisis Loans for Living Expenses and Community Care Grant elements of the Social Fund administered by the Department of Work and Pensions will be abolished. Funding is being transferred to Local Authorities for them to provide a replacement local scheme.
- 2.3 Crisis Loans were intended for people who were unable to meet their immediate short terms needs in an emergency or as a consequence of disaster, and they were awarded for immediate living expenses in order to avoid serious damage to the health and safety of the applicant or a member of their family. Community Care Grants were primarily intended to help vulnerable people live as independent a life as possible in the community and were dependant on receipt of income related benefit.
- 2.4 The Department for Work and Pensions will continue to administer the discretionary Crisis Loan Alignment and Budgeting Loans which they will be replacing with new national schemes for Short Term Advances and Budgeting Advances, as well as continuing to administer the regulated elements of the Social Fund (Funeral Payments, Cold Weather Payments, Winter Fuel Payments and Sure Start Maternity Grants).

- 2.5 The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) does not want or expect Local Authorities to replicate the current Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant Schemes as provisions will need to be flexible to meet the needs of local communities. However they do anticipate that local provision will consider the scheme's original purpose when developing local schemes.
- 2.6 The funding provided for the scheme is less than the current DWP spend on Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants, and it will therefore be necessary to create a robust scheme that prioritises those most in need. The DWP expects the funding to be concentrated on those facing greatest difficulty in managing their income and to enable a more flexible response to unavoidable need.
- 2.7 Following consultation with key internal and external stakeholders a policy has been drafted, and members' are asked to approve this policy.
- 2.8 The policy is intended as a year one scheme that takes into account the need to stretch the finite resources of the budget to support as many people as possible and considers what is feasible to have in place by April 2013. The scheme will be closely monitored during year one to identify any changes and development for incorporation for year two.
- 2.9 The policy has been designed with a view to being able to continue to provide support for a wide range of needs which are currently supported by the DWP. To be able to do this we are proposing to change the way in which awards are provided. The DWP currently make a cash payment to the applicant under the existing schemes which will either be based upon a percentage of benefit payment for living expenses, or using a catalogue of items and values for items such as furniture and white goods. We will be looking to avoid cash payments where possible for two main reasons.
- Cash is attractive and more open to abuse and if this is removed then the scheme will be less appealing for any fraudulent applications.
 - If we purchase or can access good quality refurbished items then this can be more cost effective than providing cash to buy new items and those items are less likely to be sold on.

Where refurbished items are not available we will seek to purchase a new item on behalf of the applicant which ensures that the award is used on what it was intended for. We recognise that this would not eradicate fraudulent applications as items can be sold on, but it does mitigate it further than at present.

- 2.10 It is hoped that through providing awards in a more cost effective way that the number of awards we are able to grant to people who meet the basic eligibility criteria will be maximised. However there is still a high probability that legitimate demand may exceed available funding. The policy makes reference that this will be addressed by prioritising eligible applications through a risk assessment based on the severity of the likely impact if the need is not met. The design of that risk assessment will take place as part of the next phase of the implementation and will form part of the operational procedures that will be produced to support this policy.
- 2.11 Another key consideration has been whether to provide the awards as a grant or as a repayable loan. DWP have the advantage of being able to recover the crisis loans

directly from ongoing benefits and so they are assured of recovery which they can then utilise for future awards. If we were to loan awards then we would not have this advantage and would need to recover any loans via an invoice which would be administratively costly, particularly given the relatively small value of awards for living expenses. The latest data available from DWP shows that the average award for living expenses in Wirral is £54.88. It is therefore proposed that for the year one scheme all first applications will be provided as a grant and so the applicant will not be expected to repay any amount.

- 2.12 The policy does however allow consideration to be given to providing an award as a loan in certain circumstances. Primarily this will be where financial circumstances are expected to change, for example where capital is not currently realisable. Latest DWP data shows that this type of application forms 16% of the current crisis loan awards (excluding alignment which is remaining with DWP) and amounted to £42.5k in the first six months of 2011/12. This approach ensures that those people with resources are still supported to meet their short term needs, but at the same time are not taking funding away from the scheme as they will be repaying their award.
- 2.13 The policy also allows for consideration to making an award as a loan for repeat applications within two years of any previous award. This provision has been included in the policy due to limitations in the data available from DWP to be able to understand the reasons for any repeat applications. We are therefore not in a position to explicitly say that all repeat applications would be denied at this time. Applications will need to be considered to understand whether there is any link to the previous award, why the applicant is in a situation of requiring support through the scheme again, and the implications if the application were refused. There may be circumstances where it is felt that the applicant has not taken steps to avoid the situation they are in but the implications of not providing any support would cause a significant risk to their health and wellbeing, and particularly that of any dependants. However we would expect the award to be repaid to the Council where it can be allocated back into the fund to benefit other applicants. Such loans will only be made where it is assessed that the applicant can make a repayment from their income. Data for any repeat applications will be closely monitored in order to be able to make informed decisions in this area for the year two policy.
- 2.14 We are working towards a fully accessible scheme that will meet the urgent needs of the most vulnerable quickly and effectively. By utilising existing resources we aim to minimise administrative costs as well as acknowledging the Council's financial situation.
- 2.15 Access to the scheme will be available via all Council libraries and one stop shops. Customers identified by library staff as being potentially eligible for support under the scheme will be helped to make an on-line application, or provided with telephone access if they prefer not to use the on-line tool. Those presenting themselves at a one stop shop will be helped through the application process.
- 2.16. Face to face interviews will take place in a number of one stop shops, all of which have private interview facilities. The privacy requirements are no different to those for the delivery of Housing Benefits and Social Services, which are already delivered via our website, one stop shops and call centre.

- 2.17. One stop shop appointments will be offered to address any underlying issues identified, for example money and debt management or benefits maximisation as well as signposting to partner organisations, for example for support in finding work or health issues such as stopping smoking.
- 2.18. The impact and implications of the scheme will be closely monitored in the initial stages to ensure that any issues are quickly addressed. Customers who make applications under the scheme will be surveyed to ensure that the process works effectively for them.
- 2.19. The impact of the scheme on staff working in the libraries, one stop shops and call centre as well as other customers will also be monitored to ensure that any negative impact on service standards is minimised. In order to provide a level of flexibility which allows for changes to be quickly implemented, only a small number of one stop shop staff will initially be involved in the delivery of the scheme. It is likely that face to face interviews will initially take place in a small number of one stop shops, where the service can be more easily controlled and monitored.
- 2.20. A communication plan for this project has been developed. The scheme has to be targeted at those most in need and those looking for support following a crisis will easily be able to find out about and access the scheme whether they go on-line, phone the call centre or visit a library or one stop shop. This will be achieved by:
- ensuring that the web content is clear and customer focussed, and using Voluntary and Community Action Wirral (VCAW) to carry out independent testing of the web navigation to ensure that the content is easy to find
 - ensuring that all library staff, one stop shop and call centre advisors are aware of the scheme and how to access it
 - ensuring that partner organisations including the Citizens Advice Bureaux, Job Centre Plus, the prison service, Connexions and Health colleagues are aware of the scheme and how to access it
- 2.21. As with other services delivered in the one stop shops and call centre, comprehensive guidance will be available to staff via the in house on-line customer service toolkit.
- 2.22. This report was presented to Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny on 27 November 2012 (minute 42). Whilst approving the general principles and administration of the scheme the Committee's comments are noted to assist Cabinet in its consideration. Members were keen to see plain English information support available to applicants which will be provided along with staff training. The environment for dealing with these applications at One Stop Shop and Libraries was also an issue and the needs of all service users ensuring a secure, welcoming and supportive environment will be balanced to ensure they are reasonably met.
- 2.23. Members were also concerned as to the range of face to face access points for applicants to meet trained staff, set against the issue of travel costs of those who would generally be the most in need. Officers will keep this under review to maximise access points by use of face to face appointments as well as telephone support and website application support, utilising the co-ordinated range of contact points the authority has available.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 A number of key risks associated with the design and implementation of a new scheme have been identified. These are:

- The value of eligible applications could exceed the allocated budget. The DWP currently refuses all applications once the budget has been spent; the aim of this scheme is to continuously monitor and scrutinise spending, and adjust the eligibility criteria to fit the budget available. This may mean that those items that are lower down the list of priorities, such as travel and some items of furniture (eg wardrobes) may no longer be included in the scheme if the budget cannot accommodate them.
- The number of applications for the new scheme could escalate as other welfare reforms are rolled out.
- The lack of meaningful data on existing DWP awards mean that we have not been able to model options for the scheme and identify key areas to be addressed.
- There is a limited budget, and we cannot anticipate demand against that budget until the scheme goes live.
- Unable to accurately estimate resources required to administer the scheme.
- As demand levels are not fully anticipated then staff resources could be insufficient to process applications within required timescales.
- Timescales for implementation are very tight.
- Access to the service could present a risk to frontline staff, as Job Centre Plus experience indicates that applicants can become aggressive when requests are declined.
- Capacity for other service areas and external organisations to support the scheme e.g. ability of organisations to support referrals into the scheme, ability for the scheme to make referrals for support such as food bank.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Another delivery option considered was to divide the funding between existing services and duties such as Section 17 payments and the Housing Priority fund in order to increase their capacity. However we do not have the data available to be able to determine how the funding would be allocated, or the capacity to co-ordinate this level of delivery within the timescales.

4.2 We are not required by law to have a scheme, however offering no support at all would significantly impact on other areas of the Council e.g. homelessness, crime, child welfare and mental health services.

4.3 A further option could have been to outsource the scheme and delivery, however at this time it felt that the Council is best placed to deliver and keep close control of the scheme as we can provide a range of support options which are already in place across the Council.

4.4 We could have also replicated the existing schemes by only awarding cash payments, however this is considered to not be suitable as detailed in 2.9 above which is also supported by consultation feedback.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation has taken place through an event held with a number of key external

stakeholders from the community and voluntary sector and other organisations such as NHS and Job Centre Plus. An event was also held with a range internal Council staff from related service areas such as Housing, Adult Social Services, Children's and Young People's Department. Subsequently a survey along with a draft policy was made available to external stakeholders and a mix of staff from Council departments. 34 people completed the survey, the results of which are provided in Appendix 2.

5.2 Survey results show that the areas of unanimous agreement were:

- That the best way of prioritising need is to carry out a risk assessment based upon the individual circumstances of the applicant and their needs.
- To provide good quality refurbished items rather than new items in order to stretch the budget further and help as many people as possible
- That financial support should not normally be considered for people who have income or savings which they could use to meet their needs

5.3 Other areas highly supported were:

- That the eligibility criteria should be dependent upon evaluation of need and level of risk, rather than focusing on eligible groups of people (94%)
- That the scheme should only be accessible to Wirral residents, or in the case of those who are homeless or leaving an institutional establishment, have established links in Wirral, i.e. it would not support people who live outside of Wirral (94%)
- To provide goods rather than cash to meet the needs of applicants where possible (91%) (3% had no opinion)

5.4 There was significant divide in whether essential travel costs should be provided through the scheme, with 34.4% saying they should not be included. With a higher share (65.6%) agreeing that they should be included and taking into account comments provided against this question this provision has been left in the policy. However, when prioritising applications such requests will be given a lower priority.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 The authority has engaged with representative bodies as part of the consultation exercise detailed above.

6.2 The welfare reforms are likely to impact on the capacity of voluntary groups, and the Wirral Foodbank has already indicated that it will not be able to enter into a formal partnership with the Council to deliver the scheme due to the anticipated level of demand for support. Work is under way with colleagues in housing related services to develop a framework for the provision of reconditioned furniture and white goods at low or no cost via the voluntary sector, social enterprise and faith groups.

6.3 To further support the scheme working is ongoing with Voluntary and Community Action Wirral to develop an on-line directory of support services available to those in need. This will be used by advisors to signpost to other support available, and further work will be undertaken with a number of key organisations to develop referral mechanisms into their services.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

7.1 The programme funding for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15 is £1,345,925 per

annum which is £229,575 less than the DWP's full year expenditure against Crisis Loans and Community care Grants in 2011/12.

- 7.2 Should awards exceed the DWP grant this money would have to be found from the Council current budgets, and while all applications will be considered under this policy, officers will be mindful of the impact of awards exceeding grant.
- 7.3 The budget will be closely monitored, and the Capita system provides budget monitoring functionality which replicates that used successfully for the Discretionary Housing Payment scheme. Numbers of applications and budget spend will be closely monitored, particularly in the initial stages, to ensure that the scheme is meeting its stated intention to provide support to the most vulnerable.
- 7.4 Set up funding of £13,459 has been provided, along with £284,404 administrative funding for 2013/14 and £260,687 for 2014/15.
- 7.5. A specific software solution is required for delivery of the scheme. Having evaluated the IT options available, the Capita solution has been chosen to support the delivery of the scheme. The Council already uses the Capita products to support the delivery of the Housing Benefits and Discretionary Housing Payments schemes, and the Local Welfare Assistance add on module will provide linkages to these existing systems.
- 7.6. The scheme will be managed and administered within the Finance Department utilising the Benefits section for processing and the Customer Service units in the Call Centre and One Stop Shops for front line claim handling. The quantity of staff resources required is not yet defined and will be scoped over the coming months.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There is no duty on local authorities in respect of the new provision as government views that authorities need to be able to be flexible to provide this support in a way that is suitable and appropriate to meet the needs of local communities.
- 9.2 We anticipate that the scheme will be high profile and therefore legal opinion will be sought as we draft the scheme delivery processes.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 A specific Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken as part of Wirral's scheme development and design, and is appended / can be accessed through the following link <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/finance>
- 10.2 A national EIA for Welfare Reform can be assessed through the following link: - <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/legislation-and-key-documents/welfare-reform-act-2012/impact-assessments-and-equality/>

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are none arising out of this report.

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are none arising out of this report.

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 That Cabinet approves the policy as outlined in Appendix 1 as the authority's year one Local Welfare Assistance Scheme for 2013/14.

13.2 That a further report be submitted reviewing the first six months of the 2013/14 scheme providing analysis and recommendations for the year two policy.

14.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 The recommended policy provides a scheme that continues to consider applications for a wide range of support needs. Given the uncertainty of demand levels the policy allows for prioritisation of applications in order to protect the finite funding available for the scheme.

14.2 Operation of this policy will allow meaningful analysis and interpretation of data from applications received, the reasons why those applications are made, the type of awards being made, and the reasons why any applications are refused. This will allow us to develop and refine the scheme policy for future years.

FN/2012

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 *Wirral Local Welfare Assistance Scheme Policy 2013/14*
Appendix 2 *Consultation survey results*

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny (min 42)	27/11/12
Cabinet (min 51)	19/07/12
Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny (min 98)	26/03/12
Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny (min 138)	17/11/11
Cabinet (min 118)	22/09/11
Council Excellence Overview & Scrutiny (min 64)	16/03/11

**WIRRAL LOCAL
WELFARE ASSISTANCE
SCHEME
POLICY
2013/14**

CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Purpose of the Scheme**
- 3. Financial Constraints**
- 4. Eligibility & Assessment Criteria**
- 5. Accessing the scheme**
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- 7. Appeals**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Government published the White Paper “Universal Credit: welfare that works” on 11 November 2010 which set out proposals to reform the welfare system and which included reform plans for the Social Fund. The subsequent Welfare Reform Act 2012 included powers to end the discretionary elements of the Social Fund.
- 1.2 With effect from April 2013 the discretionary Crisis Loans for Living Expenses and Community Care Grant elements of the Social Fund administered by the Department of Work and Pensions will be abolished. Funding is being transferred to Local Authorities for them to provide a replacement local scheme.
- 1.3 The Department for Work and Pensions will continue to administer the discretionary Crisis Loan Alignment and Budgeting Loans which they will be replacing with new national schemes for Short Term Advances and Budgeting Advances, as well as continuing to administer the regulated elements of the Social Fund (Funeral Payments, Cold Weather Payments, Winter Fuel Payments and Sure Start Maternity Grants).
- 1.4 The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) does not want or expect Local Authorities to replicate the current Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant Schemes as provisions will need to be flexible to meet the needs of local communities. However they do anticipate that local provision will consider the scheme’s original purpose when developing local schemes.
- 1.5 The funding provided for the scheme is less than the current DWP spend on Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants, and it will therefore be necessary to create a robust scheme that prioritises those most in need. The DWP expects the funding to be concentrated on those facing greatest difficulty in managing their income and to enable a more flexible response to unavoidable need.
- 1.6 Crisis Loans were intended for people who were unable to meet their immediate short terms needs in an emergency or as a consequence of disaster, and they were awarded for immediate living expenses in order to avoid serious damage to the health and safety of the applicant or a member of their family. Community Care Grants were primarily intended to help vulnerable people live as independent a life as possible in the community and were dependant on receipt of income related benefit.

- 1.7 This document sets out the year one policy of the Council's provision which will be reviewed and further developed for subsequent years.

2. Purpose of the scheme

- 2.1. The scheme will aim to provide emergency support to people who have insufficient resources to meet their own or their family's immediate short term needs, which if not met would pose a serious risk to their health and wellbeing, or would put at risk their ability to remain or establish themselves in the community.
- 2.2. The scheme will not be appropriate where the authority considers that the applicant has alternative means of addressing those needs.
- 2.3. Consideration will also be given to those applicants with an identified immediate need that cannot be met through any other channel, and which the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to fund themselves.
- 2.4. The scheme will only be appropriate where the support required is not available through any other provision. Applications received which are covered through other provisions will be refused and the applicant will be appropriately signposted and supported to access that provision.
- 2.5. The scheme intends to avoid cash payments - the intention is to meet the presented needs through the provision of goods or services rather than with cash awards. Cash will only be considered as a last resort where there is no other way of meeting the need.
- 2.6. Support will be targeted at those most in need through consideration of the circumstances of each application, as explained in section 4.
- 2.7. In the longer term, the scheme will aim to provide long term solutions where applicable by addressing any underlying issues identified during the application process. Working with partner organisations we aim to develop a network of support which can be accessed by referral via the scheme.

3. Financial Constraints

- 3.1 Government funding of the scheme is finite and is unlikely to be adequate to support all applications for support through this scheme.
- 3.2 Close and regular financial monitoring of the scheme will take place to understand the pressures on the scheme and to inform the extent to which the scheme can support applications.
- 3.3 The eligibility criteria in section 4 defines the basic criteria required in order for an application to be considered. Having met those basic criteria, decisions on support or awards which can be provided from this scheme will be dependant on the level of resources available.
- 3.4 As this is a new scheme demand levels cannot be fully anticipated, therefore if legitimate demand levels of applicants meeting basic eligibility criteria significantly outweighs available funding then the basic eligibility criteria may need to be amended.

4. Eligibility & Assessment Criteria

4.1 The eligibility criteria for support under this scheme is focused upon the circumstances, presenting need and level of risk rather than focusing on eligible groups of people.

4.2 To be eligible for access to the scheme **all** of the following criteria must be met:

- Aged 16 or over
- Be a Wirral resident or, in the case of those who are homeless or leaving an institutional establishment, have established links with Wirral
- Support is required to address essential needs of yourself and/or your dependants
- It is demonstrated that there are no other resources or other ways of meeting this need

4.3 In order to be eligible for essential immediate support the applicant would also need to be able to demonstrate that there would be a serious risk to the health and wellbeing of the applicant and/or his or her dependants if those needs are not met.

4.4 Examples of essential immediate support needs are:

- Essential food
- Heat/electricity
- Essential supplies associated with infants/children

This list is not exhaustive and applications for other needs claimed as essential and immediate will be considered.

4.5 To be eligible for support to remain or become established in the community where the applicant cannot reasonably be expected to fund items themselves, the following criteria must be met:

- The applicant has been referred to the scheme by an organisation which supports vulnerable people, **and**
- The applicant is due to leave a care home, hospital, or prison within 6 weeks, **and**
- The applicant has essential items or costs associated with establishing or maintaining residence in the community, **and**

- It is demonstrated that there are no other resources or other ways of meeting this need

Or

- The applicant has to replace essential items following a disaster or unforeseen event, **and**
- It is demonstrated that there are no other resources or other ways of meeting this need

4.6 Examples of items or costs that would be considered are:

- Essential domestic appliances¹
- Essential domestic furniture²
- Essential heating appliances
- Essential bedding

This list is not exhaustive and applications for other items or expenses claimed as being required to maintain health and wellbeing in the home or in the community will be considered.

4.7 Applications for support to meet essential travel costs may be considered under this scheme. Travel costs will only be considered for travel within the United Kingdom, overseas travel will not be considered due to the financial constraints of this scheme. Examples of travel that would be considered are:

- Travel to attend the funeral of a close relative³
- Travel to visit a close relative in care or another institution

This list is not exhaustive and applications for other travel costs will be considered.

4.8 The scheme will not be considered for the following:

- Those applicants who have an income or savings which they could use to meet their needs
- To buy (or repair) TV or satellite equipment

¹ ie a microwave or cooker, a washing machine for those with dependant children or a disability which increases laundry requirements, a fridge for those applicants who cannot shop on a daily basis or who need to store medication in a fridge.

² A bed and a form of comfortable seating e.g. sofa/arm chair are considered essential, other furniture such as dining table and chairs, and storage will also be considered but will be given a lower priority.

³ A close relative is defined as a spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child or grandchild or the spouse of any of these relatives.

- To meet contract costs for TV packages, mobile phones, broadband etc
- 4.9 If the basic eligibility criteria are met then an application will be risk assessed to quantify the level of priority of the need. This risk assessment will be based upon the severity of the likely impact if the need is not met.
- 4.10 Outcomes from risk assessments will be utilised if legitimate demand levels for support from the scheme outweigh the finite level of support available through the schemes budget. There may therefore be instances where the basic eligibility criteria above are met but an application may be refused because the priority of that application is lower than the scheme's budget can accommodate.
- 4.11 In the longer term an element of the assessment process will be the identification of the underlying causes of the crisis. Applicants will be offered a range of services to support them including benefit maximisation, energy efficiency, debt management and support in finding work or accessing training.

5. Accessing the Scheme

- 5.1 Applications to access the scheme will be accepted by referral from a range of partner organisations and Council services where an applicant either has an existing relationship with that organisation, or has approached them for guidance and support. This is a requirement for applications for support to remain or become established in the community.
- 5.2 For essential immediate support needs the applicant or an authorised representative will also be able to apply for that support directly without the need for a mediated (referring) service.
- 5.3 Applications and referrals will be available through a number of channels to maximise accessibility.
- 5.4 Applicants will need to provide evidence of their identity and residency and, where appropriate, evidence that they meet the eligibility criteria and presenting circumstances.
- 5.5 Initial screening questions will be asked to determine whether
 - an exceptional need has occurred,
 - the basic eligibility criteria are met, and
 - some support can usefully be put in place
- 5.6 Those applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will have their application reviewed with priority given to those requiring emergency support. The scheme will aim to provide a same day decision and award for such emergency cases.
- 5.7 Where appropriate an appointment will be made to review the application, the circumstances of the applicant and the potential options available.
- 5.8 Where it is not possible for the applicant to attend an appointment, alternative arrangements will be put in place to gather sufficient information to allow an assessment to be made.
- 5.9 This service will not be available out of hours. However the Council's Emergency Duty Team will continue to respond to the needs of vulnerable adults and children out of hours.

6. **Methods of Award**

- 6.1 Where a need is identified that cannot be met by any other scheme, consideration will be given to the provision of goods and / or services to meet that need.
- 6.2 In order to maximise the number of people that can be supported by this scheme, where goods are required we will look firstly to provide second hand refurbished furniture and white goods rather than new items.
- 6.3 Where goods cannot be provided directly, consideration will be given to vouchers to enable the purchase of such goods. These vouchers must be used for the purpose for which they have been requested.
- 6.4 Where a voucher is issued, this may not offer a choice of providers / stores. However the Council will work to ensure that the goods offered by any provider it specifies are of acceptable quality and offer good value to the customer.
- 6.5 Cash will only be issued where there is no identifiable alternative to meeting the need of the applicant.
- 6.6 Where cash is awarded, the sum provided will be sufficient to meet the minimum needs of the applicant and his or her dependants for the period until the applicant's circumstances can reasonably be expected to have changed. This sum will be calculated according to a schedule of rates determined by the Council and will be reviewed at regular intervals.
- 6.7 Repeat applications within 2 years will generally be denied unless the reason for the application is unrelated to the previous award. Where a repeat application is awarded then consideration may be given to providing the award as a loan rather than grant depending on the applicant's ability to repay the award value. The value of the loan will be the cost of the goods and / or service provided by the Council, or the amount of the cash awarded where applicable.
- 6.8 It is unlikely that any further loans will be made whilst a previous loan has an outstanding balance payable, however we will consider the individual circumstances of the application including whether there has been an effort to repay the loan and the amount outstanding.
- 6.9 Where a loan has been made to a couple, both partners will be deemed to be liable for the repayment of the loan.

6.10 Where it is likely that an applicant's circumstances will quickly and significantly improve (e.g. a person whose access to bank funds has been temporarily suspended), the first award may be designated as repayable.





6.11 Awards may be made to a person other than the applicant where they are:

- Enduring Power of Attorney
- Lasting Power of Attorney for Property and Affairs
- Department of Work and Pensions Appointee
- Housing benefit appointee provided there is no conflict of interest





7. Appeals

- 7.1 Applicants will have a right of appeal if they do not agree with a decision made as to their eligibility. They will also be able to appeal against a decision not to make an award due to budgetary constraints.
- 7.2 All appeals will need to be made at the time of receiving the decision, and will be considered by a more senior member of staff.
- 7.3 Those appeals of decisions where the need is immediate (i.e. food, essential provisions or heating) will be prioritised, and we will aim to make decisions on the same day where the appeal is made by 1pm, and by 1pm of the following working day where the appeal is lodged after 1pm.
- 7.4 Where the need is for essential items of furniture or support with travel costs, we will aim to review the decision within 5 working days.
- 7.5 There will be no right of appeal against the initial screening process, which is administered on our behalf by partner organisations and services. However any complaints received by the Council about this process will be handled according to the Council's complaint policy, and used to inform future amendments to arrangements, training and communication requirements with our partners and partner services.
- 7.6 Applicants will not be able to appeal against the amounts laid down in the schedule of rates, or about any other matter laid out in this policy. Any disputes relating to the content of this policy will be treated as a complaint and handled according to the Council's complaint procedure.




1. Your contact details:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		100.0%	34
Organisation:		94.1%	32
Email Address:		97.1%	33
Phone Number:		88.2%	30
		answered question	34
		skipped question	3





2. The eligibility criteria of the scheme should be dependent upon evaluation of need and level of risk, rather than focusing on eligible groups of people?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		39.4%	13
Agree		54.5%	18
No opinion		0.0%	0
Disagree		3.0%	1
Strongly disagree		3.0%	1
		answered question	33
		skipped question	4





3. The scheme should only be accessible to Wirral residents, or in the case of those who are homeless or leaving an institutional establishment, have established links with Wirral i.e. it would not support people who live outside of Wirral.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		54.5%	18
Agree		39.4%	13
No opinion		0.0%	0
Disagree		6.1%	2
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			33
skipped question			4

4. The scheme should be aimed at supporting applicants who can demonstrate that they are without immediate resource to meet the basic needs of themselves or their dependents, and can demonstrate that there are no other ways of meeting this need.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		39.4%	13
Agree		51.5%	17
No opinion		3.0%	1
Disagree		6.1%	2
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0
answered question			33
skipped question			4

5. As funding is limited, the scheme will prioritise meeting the needs that pose the most serious risk to the applicant or his or her dependents.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		39.4%	13
Agree		51.5%	17
No opinion		0.0%	0
Disagree		6.1%	2
Strongly disagree		3.0%	1
answered question			33
skipped question			4

6. Do you agree that support should cover the provision of the following?

	Yes	No	Response Count
Essential food	93.9% (31)	6.1% (2)	33
Heating or electricity	97.0% (32)	3.0% (1)	33
Essential travel costs	65.6% (21)	34.4% (11)	32
Essential clothing	78.1% (25)	21.9% (7)	32
Essential household items (eg bedding, crockery etc)	87.9% (29)	12.1% (4)	33
Essential medical costs not met through NHS	71.0% (22)	29.0% (9)	31
Essential domestic appliances for food preservation and cooking	96.9% (31)	3.1% (1)	32
Essential domestic furniture	90.9% (30)	9.1% (3)	33
Essential heating appliances	97.0% (32)	3.0% (1)	33
Is there anything else you think should be included in this list?			11
		answered question	33
		skipped question	4

7. Do you agree that travel costs should be covered for the following:

	Yes	No	Response Count
Travel to attend the funeral of a close relative	59.4% (19)	40.6% (13)	32
Travel to visit a close relative in care or another institution	64.5% (20)	35.5% (11)	31

Is there anything else you think should be included in this list? 12

answered question 32

skipped question 5

8. What domestic furniture or appliance do you consider to be essential for this scheme within the limited budget available?

	Yes	No	Response Count
Bed	100.0% (33)	0.0% (0)	33
Comfortable seating e.g. sofa/armchair	81.3% (26)	18.8% (6)	32
Dining table and chair	51.9% (14)	48.1% (13)	27
Wardrobe	44.4% (12)	55.6% (15)	27
Chest of drawers	44.8% (13)	55.2% (16)	29
Washing machine	71.0% (22)	29.0% (9)	31

Is there anything else you think should be included in this list? 18




answered question 33

skipped question 4

9. Do you agree that financial assistance or support should NOT normally be considered for customers:

	Yes	No	Response Count
Who have an income or savings which they could use to meet their needs	100.0% (33)	0.0% (0)	33
To buy (or repair) TV or satellite	90.9% (30)	9.1% (3)	33
To pay housing costs or rent arrears	57.6% (19)	42.4% (14)	33
To meet motor vehicle expenses	72.7% (24)	27.3% (9)	33
Where the customer is experiencing hardship as a result of sanctions imposed by the DWP	60.6% (20)	39.4% (13)	33
Are there any other circumstances, not included in the policy where you think awards should not be given?			14
		answered question	33
		skipped question	4

10. The best way of prioritising need is to carry out a risk assessment based on the individual circumstances of the applicant and their needs.






		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		48.5%	16
Agree		48.5%	16
No opinion		3.0%	1
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0

If you disagree how would you suggest that the assessment is made to ensure that the budget is able to support as many applicants in real need as possible? 2

answered question 33

skipped question 4

11. The scheme should be used to try to address the underlying reasons why people apply for help.






		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		27.3%	9
Agree		57.6%	19
No opinion		6.1%	2
Disagree		6.1%	2
Strongly disagree		3.0%	1

If you disagree please tell us why: 5

answered question 33

skipped question 4

12. Do you agree with our proposals for accessing the scheme as outlined in section 5 of the draft policy?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		3.1%	1
Agree		75.0%	24
No opinion		15.6%	5
Disagree		3.1%	1
Strongly disagree		3.1%	1

Do you have any comments you would like to add? 10

answered question 32

skipped question 5

13. Do you think that your organisation will be looking to make referrals into this scheme?





		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		71.9%	23
No		28.1%	9

Do you have any other comments? 6



answered question 32

skipped question 5




14. Do you agree with our proposal to provide goods rather than cash to meet the needs of applicants where possible?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		54.5%	18
Agree		36.4%	12
No opinion		3.0%	1
Disagree		6.1%	2
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0
If you disagree please tell us why:			7
answered question			33
skipped question			4

15. Do you agree with our proposal to provide good quality refurbished items rather than new items in order to stretch our budget further and help as many people as possible?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		51.5%	17
Agree		48.5%	16
No opinion		0.0%	0
Disagree		0.0%	0
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0
If you disagree please tell us why:			5
answered question			33
skipped question			4

16. Do you agree with our proposal to provide a voucher rather than cash?





		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		57.6%	19
Agree		33.3%	11
No opinion		0.0%	0
Disagree		9.1%	3
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0

If you disagree please tell us why: 4

answered question 33

skipped question 4

17. In some instances the Council may consider providing some awards as a loan rather than a non-repayable grant. This has been reflected in 6.7 to 6.9 of the draft policy. Do you agree with this approach?






		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		21.2%	7
Agree		60.6%	20
No opinion		9.1%	3
Disagree		9.1%	3
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0

If you disagree please tell us why: 10





answered question 33

skipped question 4


18. The Council may also consider making some awards conditional to the applicant undertaking an activity aimed at addressing the underlying causes of the need which is outlined in 6.10 of the draft policy. Do you agree with this?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		27.3%	9
Agree		48.5%	16
No opinion		9.1%	3
Disagree		12.1%	4
Strongly disagree		3.0%	1
If you disagree please tell us why:			10
answered question			33
skipped question			4

19. Do you agree with our proposals for an appeal process as outlined in section 7 of the draft policy?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly agree		6.3%	2
Agree		71.9%	23
No opinion		15.6%	5
Disagree		6.3%	2
Strongly disagree		0.0%	0
If you disagree please tell us why:			5
answered question			32
skipped question			5

20. Please provide your e-mail address if you would like Wirral Council to send you updates about Council services and future consultations. Your information will be managed in accordance with the Council's Data Protection policy and will never be passed on to any unauthorised third party.

		Response Percent	Response Count
E-mail address:		100.0%	21
		answered question	21
		skipped question	16

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (from May 2012)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Tim Games

Email address: timgames@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: Malcolm Flanagan

Chief Officer: Peter Timmins

Department: Finance

Date: 2/11/12

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

The introduction of a new, localised scheme of welfare assistance to be administered from April 2013. The scheme will aim to provide emergency support to people who have insufficient resources to meet their own or their families short term needs, which if not met would pose a serious risk to their health and wellbeing, or would put at risk their ability to remain or establish themselves in the community.

In October 2011 the Department for Work and Pensions completed a national EIA considering Local welfare assistance replacing Social Fund Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans for general living expenses.

www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/eia-social-fund-localisation-wr2011.pdf

Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?

Yes If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 27th November 2012
Cabinet 24th January 2013

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/finance>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** - Partners, Voluntary & Community Sector

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council (please tick relevant boxes)

- Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advances equality of opportunity
- Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 5:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Socio-Economic Status;	Positive – 1) Families under exceptional pressure approaching local authority for welfare assistance will receive a holistic review of needs e.g. Benefit check, Welfare advice & Housing information (Property Pool Plus). 2) Corporate channels commitment to signposting to relevant support organisations e.g. CAB, DWP, Child Poverty Organisations, HMRC (Tax Credits) Negative – 1) Potential for high demand of local welfare assistance in areas of existing deprivation and poverty.	Review eligibility criteria periodically- to see if support is being targeted effectively at people in need.	Nicky Dixon	Ongoing	

Religion/belief	<p>Negative</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Particular religious dietary requirements may be difficult to cater for from food banks 	<p>Discussions with the Food bank ongoing regarding capacity & requirements.</p> <p>Food banks are one of a range of options being considered to provide welfare assistance.</p>	Vicki Booth / Toni Bosworth	December12	
Disability	<p>Service Users accessing Council Offices</p> <p>Positive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All of Wirral Council OSS sites can be accessed by those with a disability. 2) Voluntary Sector Orgs will be able to apply on behalf of users who are unable to attend Council Offices. 				
Age	<p>Positive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) People of all ages approaching local authority for welfare assistance will receive a holistic review of needs e.g. Benefit check, Welfare advice, Social Services. 2) Post needs assessment there is an authority commitment to signposting to relevant support organisations e.g. Age UK & Pensions Service; Response Service. <p>Negative</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Qualitative evidence indicates that older people have been cautious in respect of seeking assistance from the Social Fund and tend to underestimate their needs. DWP initiatives to promote take up with older people has had limited success, making the challenge 	<p>Communications strategy will consider engagement with older people.</p> <p>Assistance from Voluntary Sector Orgs such as Age Concern will be able to</p>	<p>Diane Eusoof</p> <p>Vicki Booth / Toni Bosworth</p>	<p>December 12</p> <p>March 13</p>	

	for local authorities to succeed in engagement considerable.	inform older people in need and apply on their behalf. Data monitoring used to review engagement.		Ongoing	
Race	Marketing of LWA scheme Negative 1) Individuals in need who do not have English as first language may be unaware of assistance program.	Engagement with BME groups e.g Wirral Change and Wirral Multicultural Organisation Use of language line facility in OSS & Call Centre	Nicky Dixon Julie Williams	Ongoing Ongoing	

All Groups	<p>Positive-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All protected groups approaching local authority for welfare assistance will receive a holistic review of needs. 2) Corporate channels commitment to signposting to relevant support organisations 3) Local Authority accessibility to services offer a commitment to equality and diversity as 'integral to delivering excellent service, responsive to reaching all our customers'. <p>Negative-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Funding arrangements are cash limited and any proposed new scheme may be unable to provide financial assistance as previously available through the national scheme (this will not however disadvantage one protected group over another). 	<p>Clear access routes and applications process for a local scheme.</p> <p>Robust monitoring of applicants and awards to ensure funding is available across the financial year to all groups avoiding discrimination.</p> <p>Regular engagement with internal & external stakeholders to ensure capacity to provide support and assistance is ongoing.</p> <p>Signposting to other internal/external funding & assistance</p>	<p>Vicki Booth / Toni Bosworth</p> <p>Nicky Dixon</p> <p>Nicky Dixon</p>	<p>March 2013</p> <p>Ongoing from April 2013</p> <p>Ongoing from April 2013</p>	
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Vicki Booth /
Toni
Bosworth

March 2013

Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

A monitoring group will review monthly.
Policy will be reviewed quarterly during 1st year to ensure scheme is meeting the needs of service users.

Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

N/A

Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Research

National and local statistics for discretionary social fund loans provided by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have been reviewed.

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/local-authority-staff/social-fund-reform/>

Liaison with related Council service areas and key external organisations to identify priorities and design options.

Benchmarking with neighbouring authorities.

INetwork Knowledge Hub – Local Welfare Assistance Network

Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes - Completed

If 'yes' please continue to section 8.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

Stage 1 - Consultation with local stakeholders including Age UK, Wirral CAB, NHS Wirral and other groups who provide support and assistance to those who access current Social Fund Scheme was undertaken on 26/9/12. Information obtained from this consultation was used to develop a draft Policy.

Stage 2 – Consultation event held with internal Council staff from related service areas on 19/10/12.

Stage 3 – Stakeholders involved in Stage 1 & 2 were invited to comment on the draft policy using an online survey. The results of this survey led to amendments to the Policy.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for re-publishing.

Section 9: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2b)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 5)
- c) **Send this EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

COUNCIL

11 FEBRUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	<i>NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING – FORGING A MODERN RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND RESIDENTS</i>
WARD/S AFFECTED:	<i>ALL</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</i>
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	<i>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</i>
KEY DECISION?	<i>YES</i>

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for the development of a neighbourhood working approach across constituencies in Wirral, in order for services and community engagement to be more effectively and efficiently configured, targeted and delivered.
- 1.2 The proposed neighbourhood working approach will help to develop a closer relationship between the Council and residents, promote improved partnership working across the public sector and ensure future service delivery reflects an improved understanding of resident views through consultation and participation.
- 1.3 The proposed neighbourhood working approach also potentially offers a more cost effective approach to the future delivery of services by joining up front line delivery and tackling issues at their source. It is about changing ways of working for all public, private, social sector providers to deliver improvements for neighbourhoods.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Localism Act gives councils more freedom to work together with others in new ways and has introduced new rights for communities: including a 'Right to Buy' public assets and increased opportunities for participation in the delivery of services. Locally this presents opportunities to forge new partnerships with communities to evidence, shape and deliver public policy and services across the borough.
- 2.2 Strong neighbourhood working can provide the basis for the Council, public services and the wider community to facilitate a more flexible response to residents' issues through co-ordinated services and involving residents in shaping decisions and services. Local Councillors have a significant leadership role to play in this process.
- 2.3 The proposed method of neighbourhood working will operate across organisational boundaries ensuring residents and services work together to improve their neighbourhood. Positive discussions have taken place with the Police, Fire and Health partners who regard this new model as one which they intend to fully participate in.

- 2.4 A range of public, private and social sector community services can be linked together in terms of their operational activities on these Constituency footprints. Council Departments can reconfigure their delivery to fit this geographical model and deliver better coordination across Council services and improved multi-agency working.

The benefits of neighbourhood working include:

- Greater opportunities for Ward Members to lead and influence local service delivery within their localities and to respond to local needs and priorities
- Increasing community confidence to explore creative and innovative approaches to meet local needs
- Increased multi agency working so delivering better value for taxpayers' money by reducing duplication across service areas
- A local focus on the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery by bringing the Council closer to the needs and priorities of local communities

3.0 PROPOSED APPROACH TO NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING

- 3.1 It is proposed that a neighbourhood working structure replaces the current Area Forum arrangements, and is established based upon Wirral's four Parliamentary Constituency boundaries, with staff and services being located within Constituencies and a Constituency Committee established for each area.
- 3.2 Each Constituency will also have a Public Service Board which will bring together bodies including the Council, Police, Fire and Health services, to co-ordinate the strategic delivery of a Constituency Plan and report progress to the respective Constituency Committee.
- 3.3 Constituency Committees (see Appendix 2) will be responsible for producing the Constituency Plan (Appendix 3), that will outline priorities for each area. It is proposed that each Committee would consist of local Councillors and Voluntary and Community and Faith Sector Representatives. Consideration could also be given to the local MP being invited to participate.
- 3.4 A Strategic Director will be responsible for ensuring implementation of each Constituency plan, and for ensuring that the interface between each Constituency Committee and the Constituency Public Service Board is aligned and effective. There will also be officer support to ensure that constituency arrangements operate effectively and that full engagement takes place with the wider community.

4.0 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS AND REPRESENTATION

- 4.1 Good governance, transparency and accountability are essential for the Council and a cornerstone for improving public services. The Council is accountable for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards. The Council must also ensure that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.
- 4.2 This proposal will include putting in place robust arrangements for the governance of neighbourhood working and the stewardship of resources allocated to it.
- 4.3 Underpinning the governance arrangements for neighbourhood working will be the principles of enhancing civic life, deepening democratic participation, strengthening community voice and strengthening the Council's responsiveness to residents.

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 5.1 A robust risk register will underpin the implementation of the proposed neighbourhood working approach. The risk register will be developed and monitored in line with the project management arrangements which will be put in place.

6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 A range of options which operate in other Local Authority areas have been reviewed in order to develop the recommended approach set out in this report (Appendix 1). On consideration of best practice elsewhere it is recommended that the Constituency footprint provides the most effective footprint to achieve the benefits of neighbourhood working outlined within the resources available to the Council at a time of budget constraint.
- 6.2 It would not be possible to adopt a new model of working utilising the existing 11 Area Forum boundaries for the following reasons:
- a) 11 separate forums are costly to administer (currently £1300 per annum, per resident who attends, per Area Forum).
 - b) The Area Forum footprints are too small to co-ordinate services more effectively.

However, embedded neighbourhood officers with the responsibility to engage with all residents will ensure that the needs of all wards and communities are reflected in Constituency planning.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.2 The recent 'What Really Matters' consultation included questions on future working models. It is proposed that the Democracy Working Group be fully involved in taking the proposals forward and that further consultation takes place with partners and the Community Voluntary and Faith Sector.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY AND FAITH SECTOR

- 8.1 The proposed model for neighbourhood working will strengthen the Council's partnership relationship with the voluntary and community sector, and will enable a more effective Wirral Compact.
- 8.2 A new social cohesion / social value model of commissioning neighbourhood services will need to be developed in order to promote sustainability and meet desired outcomes based upon a 2030 vision for Wirral. This would create more sustainable funding options currently open to voluntary and community sector organisations.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 9.1 This proposal will help to support efficiency savings in the following areas:
- a) Shared structures, services, budgets and assets
 - b) Eliminating duplication
 - c) Greater integration of services
 - d) Joint tendering programmes
 - e) Value for money and savings
 - f) Shared outcomes
 - g) Integrating council officers and communications across Constituencies

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 New governance arrangements will be developed to ensure participation of citizens, elected members and partners.
- 10.2 The proposal will enable the Council to deliver on the Localism Act and Social Value Act.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(a) Yes and the phase 1 equality impact assessment is attached to this report. The equality impact assessment will also be published on the following link:

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/corporate-services>

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

12.1 The proposal will encourage sharing of community assets, therefore supporting carbon reduction.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There will be positive implications arising from this proposal as local communities will have a greater role in commenting on planning proposals and having a more immediate and direct influence regarding community safety implications.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 Cabinet endorses the proposals to establish a new neighbourhood working approach across constituencies in Wirral and refers this report to Council for consideration and agreement.

14.2 Cabinet requests that a special meeting of the Democracy Working Group be held to discuss this report and make comment prior to the referral of this recommendation to Council on Monday 11th February.

15.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

15.1 For services to be more effectively and efficiently configured, targeted and delivered.

REPORT AUTHOR: Emma Degg
Head of Neighbourhoods and Engagement
telephone: (0151) 691 8688
email: emmadegg@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Neighbourhood Working – Other Local Authority Examples
- Appendix 2 Neighbourhood Working – A Structure for Vibrant and Active Neighbourhoods
- Appendix 3 Constituency Plans – Proposed Themes

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet – What Really Matters Consultation Findings	08/11/12

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (Phase 1)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Jacqui Cross

Email address: jacquicross@wirral.gov.uk

Head of Section: Emma Degg

Chief Officer: Graham Burgess

Department: Chief Executives

Date: 1 November 2012

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

A new Neighbourhood Working Model (Phase 1 EIA)

Section 2b: Will this EIA be submitted to a Cabinet or Overview & Scrutiny Committee?

Yes / No

If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date

Cabinet on 13 December 2012

Please add hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/corporate-services>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- √ **Services**
- √ **The workforce**
- √ **Communities**
- √ **Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)
Public sector, private sector, voluntary and community sectors, residents

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4: Does the proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance the way the Council (please tick relevant boxes)

- √ Eliminates unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- √ Advances equality of opportunity
- √ Fosters good relations between groups of people

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 5.

- No** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 5:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any of the protected groups (race, gender, disability, gender reassignment, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
All	Positive Impact – services more effectively and efficiently configured, targeted and delivered Positive Impact – outcomes focussed services and engagement		Strategic Director	From 1 April 2013	To be confirmed
All	Negative Impact – loss of jobs across the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair redundancy criteria 	Head of HR & OD	By 1 April 2013	To be confirmed

Section 5a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

Via implementation and reporting of the Wirral Improvement Plan and Corporate Plan

Section 5b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

Not applicable

Section 6: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Localism Act, Social Value Act, Compact, Council budget cuts, 'What Really Matters' consultation, neighbourhood working best practice examples

Section 7: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

No (Phase 1)

The results of the 'What Really Matters' consultation have been utilised in designing this proposal.

Yes (Phase 2)

The Council will drive the necessary changes required in order to adopt this proposed model of working across Wirral, in partnership with residents, public sector, private sector, and social sector.

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 8: How will consultation take place and by when?

Phase 1

Not applicable (completed via ‘What Really Matters?’)

Phase 2

Consultation and engagement of residents, public sector, private sector, and social sector as part of reconfiguring public services across Constituencies

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it’s legal requirements. The EIA will be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 5. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk for re-publishing.

Section 9: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Add appropriate departmental hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published (section 2b)**
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts? (section 5)**
- c) **Send this EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 5 once consultation has taken place and sent your completed EIA to equalitywatch@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**

1. Salford Council and neighbourhood partners adopted a whole system approach focussing on five pathways to poverty (family breakdown, addiction, educational failure, debt, and economic dependency and worklessness). One troubled family used to cost £155,000 per annum to support. The new partnership approach has reduced this amount to £30,000 so far this year.
2. Cumbria County Council's Barrow neighbourhood partnership now provides joint advice and information services. This approach led to successfully dealing with 236 incidents of debt totalling £3.1 million from October 2010 to September 2011.
3. Tameside Council's Employment Partnership brokered job interview guarantee schemes and pre-recruitment training within neighbourhoods. In 2011, over 93% of jobs were obtained by local residents, and nearly 28% of the jobs were obtained by residents in priority neighbourhoods.
4. Bolton Council's neighbourhood approach with the wider public sector and voluntary and community sector to establish the Big Bolton Fund to award grants for community projects, has grown from £25,000 initial council investment to £145,000 in 2012 through donations from individuals and businesses.
5. Bradford Council, via a neighbourhood scheme introduced a resident-led 'street reps' initiative. Street reps are residents who volunteer to act as the 'eyes and ears' for their street, helping neighbours and reporting issues to the relevant council services.
6. Walsall Council was informed of anti-social behaviour near a recently installed play area, close to a number of homes. Residents had repeatedly complained to their Councillors. Partners met on site to experience the problems first-hand and work with residents to jointly agree a solution. This resulted in the play equipment being removed, outreach workers delivering diversionary activities, and the police increasing patrols to monitor the situation. Residents are now planning to form their own group to manage the site.

Constituency Committee (x4)
Council Strategic Director, Councillors, Voluntary,
Community and Faith representatives, MP

Resources
Economy, neighbourhood budget / assets, local fundraising, Payment by Results, social value / accounting, Wirral Foundation, etc.

Area Development
Local profiles, needs assessments, Right to Challenge / Bid / Build, social cohesion, emergency planning, immigration, environment, etc.

Social Cohesion Programme
National Citizen Programme, Operation Black Vote(+), Fairness Commission, volunteering, timebank, consultation, engagement, etc.

Neighbourhood Justice
Anti Social Behaviour, Hate Crime, graffiti removal, dog fouling, fly tipping, community safety, reporting neighbourhood issues, etc.

Services Hub
Advice / information, advocacy, community spaces, recreation, prevention & early intervention, service user panels, education, training, employment, etc.

Proposed Constituency Plan Themes

Constituency Management Arrangements

Constituency Manager

Neighbourhood Officer

Community Groups & Volunteers

Appendix 3

Constituency Plans – Proposed Themes

Theme	Ideas to include:
<p>Resources (delivering local priorities and aspirations)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local economy • Cross sector and community partnerships • Neighbourhood budgeting • Neighbourhood Dividends • Shared assets • Social value commissioning • Local fundraising • A Wirral Foundation
<p>Area Development (planning reform and decision making)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local profiling • Needs assessments • Community right to challenge / bid / build (Localism Act) • Emergency planning • Asset transfer • Environment
<p>Social Cohesion Programme (promoting rights and responsibilities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro social behaviour • National citizen programme • Operation Black Vote • Fairness Commission • Volunteering timebank • Consultation and engagement
<p>Neighbourhood Justice (addressing local justice and safety issues)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti social behaviour • Hate crime • Graffiti removal • Dog fouling • Fly tipping • Community safety • Reporting neighbourhood issues
<p>Service Hubs (strengthening welfare and reducing inequalities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and information • Advocacy • Community spaces and leisure • Community safety • Prevention and early intervention services • Environmental services • Streetscene services • Education and training • Employment • Service user panels • Shared services

Cabinet

24 January 2013

SUBJECT:	Budget Council Procedure
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All
REPORT OF:	Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Leader of the Council
KEY DECISION?	No

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report proposes a procedure for the Budget meeting of the Council.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 Standing Order 13 provides that the Director of Law, H.R. and Asset Management “shall, prior to the Budget meeting of the Council, consult with the Leaders of each political group and submit to the Cabinet and Council a suggested procedure to be adopted at the budget meeting, but if no such procedure is adopted the normal procedures of the Council in relation to amendments to Cabinet recommendations will apply”.

2.2 The Budget meeting of the Council is scheduled to take place on 5 March 2012.

3.0 Proposed procedure

3.1 The procedure for the Budget meeting of Council is set at Appendix 1 to this report and has been prepared following consultation with all the three Political Group Leaders.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

4.1 The Council is under a legal obligation to set a lawful budget. The proposed Budget Council Procedure seeks to facilitate and assist the Council in this regard.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No other options were considered given that all three Political Group Leaders were consulted in relation to the proposed Council Budget Procedure.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 All three Political Group Leaders were consulted in relation to the proposed Budget Council Procedure.

7.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

7.1 None.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

8.1 None.

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

9.1 There are no such implications arising directly from this report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The legal implications are set out in the main body of the report.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No such implications arise.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 None

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 None

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 Cabinet approves the Budget Council Procedure set out at Appendix 1 to this report.

14.2 Cabinet recommends to Council the adoption of the Budget Council Procedure set out at Appendix 1 to this report.

14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 To give effect to paragraph 13 of the Council Procedure Rules – Standing Orders set out in the Council’s Constitution.

REPORT AUTHOR: Surjit Tour
Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management
telephone (0151) 691 8498
email surjittour@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Budget Council Procedure

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

BUDGET COUNCIL PROCEDURE

COUNCIL
5 March 2013

1. Mayor's communications

2. Declarations of Interest / Restrictions on voting

3. Petitions

Note: if a petition relates to the setting of the Budget, the member who presents it should be given the opportunity during the main debate to speak about it, in order that the Council can take account of it in that context.

4. Matters requiring approval by the Council

BUDGET

The Leader will formally move the Cabinet's Budget recommendations, with any additional paragraphs (e.g. those relating to precepts), together with any other minutes from the Cabinet meeting on 18 February 2013 that require approval by the Council.

Minutes formally seconded.

Budget debate

Any alternative Budget proposals/amendments to those of the Cabinet should have been lodged with the Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management by **12.00noon on Thursday 28 February 2013**.

Process

1. Cabinet Budget Proposal

- a. The Cabinet's Budget proposal is formally moved by the Leader of the Council.
 - b. The Cabinet Budget proposal is formally seconded.
- This is now the Motion on the floor.

2. Amendments

- a. The Mayor will advise Council that amendments are to be proposed in relation to the Cabinet Budget proposal by both the other two Political Group Leaders.

First Amendment

- b. The Mayor will invite the Group Leader of the largest opposition political group to first move his amendment.
 - c. The Group Leader of the largest opposition political group will move his amendment.
 - d. The amendment will be formally seconded.
- This is now the amendment on the floor and the Motion becomes the 'Substantive Motion'.
 - No other amendment will be moved.

Debating and Voting

- e. The amendment will be debated (in accordance with the Rules of Debate set out below) and a vote then taken in relation to the proposed amendment.
- f. The debate on amendments shall end seconders, **unless** they have spoken earlier.
- g. In the event that the amendment is carried, the Substantive Motion will become the new Motion and replaces the original Motion moved by the Leader of the Council.
- h. If the amendment is lost, the original Motion stands.

Second Amendment

- i. The Mayor will invite the Group Leader of the other opposition political group to move his amendment to the Motion on the floor (this of course could be the new Motion referred to above).
 - j. The Group Leader of the other opposition political group will move his amendment.
 - k. The amendment will be formally seconded.
- This is now the amendment on the floor and the Motion again becomes the 'Substantive Motion'.
 - No other amendment will be moved.

Debating and Voting

The procedure/steps set out at paragraphs e, f and g above shall be followed.

NOTE: It shall be taken as read that relevant representations and points made in relation to the first amendment shall stand in relation to the second amendment. The Mayor will ask for representations not already heard by Council.

3. Speakers

Mayor will decide the order of other speakers.

Mayor will call speakers:

The Leader of the Council speaking to the Cabinet Budget proposal	15 minutes
The Leader of the Council – right of reply	5 minutes
The Group Leaders of the opposition political groups speaking to their respective amendments	15 minutes
The Group Leaders of the opposition political groups – right of reply	5 minutes
The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (by virtue of speaking on the Schools' Budget element)	5 minutes
The Seconder of the Cabinet Budget proposal	7 minutes
Seconder of the Opposition amendments	5 minutes

Decision

If all amendments to the Budget fall, minute xxx of the Cabinet will be **taken as approved, without the need for any further vote**, in accordance with Standing Order 7(1).

If the proposed budget is amended, wholly or partly, that will be regarded as an in-principle decision, which will automatically come into effect five working days from the date of that decision, **unless** the Leader of the Council informs the Acting Director of Law, H.R. and Asset Management in writing within that time that he objects to the decision becoming effective and provides reasons why.

In such circumstances, the Budget and Policy Framework provides for the Director to call another meeting of the Council within a further five days. The Council will then be required to reconsider its decision, and the Leader's written submission, within a further five working days. The actual position is that a reserve date (**Monday 11 March 2013**) has been set aside for considering any objection by the Leader. At that second meeting the Council can:

- (i) accept the Cabinet's recommendation, without amendment or objection; or
- (ii) approve a different decision that does not accord with the recommendation of the Cabinet, by a simple majority of votes cast at the meeting.

Other objections

The Council will then debate, in the normal manner, any objections to other minutes that are subject to Council approval.

5. Vacancies

6. Any other business

WIRRAL COUNCIL

Cabinet - 24 January 2013

SUBJECT:	COMMITTEE CALENDAR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2013/14
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All Wards
REPORT OF:	ACTING DIRECTOR OF LAW, HR AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR PHIL DAVIES
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report recommends dates for Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings for the municipal year 2013/2014. The proposed calendar is set out in Appendix A. The report also describes various issues that have been taken into account in compiling it.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The attention of all Members of the Council is being drawn to this report. They will be asked to let me have any comments that they might have, particularly if they believe there are strong reasons for making any changes to the calendar.
- 2.2 With regard to requests to change dates of meetings during the course of the municipal year, members will be aware that they can cause difficulties. Under the scheme of delegation, I have authority to approve amendments to the calendar after consultation with the leaders of the political groups. In practice, changes are usually left to the relevant committee officer in consultation with the spokespersons, and he/she can be put in an invidious position in trying to explain why a change is being requested by a single member. Every Committee has a panel of deputies, and also should have appointed a Vice-Chair.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 There is a requirement under the Council's Constitution that the Cabinet, Regulatory Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees meet a certain number of times in the year to discharge the Council's functions. It is proposed that the Cabinet has eight ordinary meetings and three budget meetings (see paragraph 3.2 below) during the year and this would be subject to an amendment to the Council's Constitution Executive Procedure Rules.
- 3.2 If the Budget Consultation process were to be replicated in 2013/14, an additional two Budget Cabinets would be required and a series of Overview and Scrutiny Budget Consultation meetings. Dates for these have been included in the draft calendar and are marked 'Budget Special' or 'Budget Consultation'.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 No other options were considered beyond those outlined in the report.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Leader of the Council has been consulted and agreed the Cabinet dates. The draft calendar has also been circulated to Chief Officers and all Party Leaders and all Members' attention will be drawn to this report in advance of the Cabinet meeting.

6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

6.1 There are no outstanding previous actions.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

7.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

8.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and impact review has been sent to the Equality and Diversity Co-ordinator.

10.2 The scheduling of meetings may have implications for carers and families, depending upon individual circumstances (and for that reason a carer's allowance has been included in the Members' Allowances Scheme), but none specifically for older people, people with disabilities and those from ethnic minorities.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 That the calendar of meetings for the municipal year 2013/2014, attached as Appendix A, be approved.

13.2 That the Council's Constitution be amended to reduce the number of Cabinet meetings to 8 ordinary meetings, plus 3 budget meetings during the municipal year.

14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 The calendar has been prepared on the basis that in 2013/2014 there will be the same number of Regulatory Committees and Overview and Scrutiny Committees. As in previous years these would meet in 5 cycles through the year. A date has also been set aside for the Youth Parliament / Council meeting (12 November). The dates for Cabinet meetings have already been agreed with the Leader in accordance with Executive Procedure Rule 1.6. and, as referred to in paragraph 3.1, this rule would be subject to amendment to reduce the required number of Cabinet meetings.

13.2 In addition to the Council, Cabinet and Standing Committees, I have included also dates set aside for pre-Council group meetings and Area Forums.

13.3 Dates have been included in the calendar for Member training, for which a programme will be drawn up by the Member Training Steering Group.

REPORT AUTHOR: Andrew Mossop
Principal Committee Officer
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Email: andrewmossop@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Draft Calendar of meetings

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

Previous reports on the draft Committee Calendar and previous calendars of meetings

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet (minute 425)	12 April 2012
Cabinet (minute 351)	17 March 2011
Cabinet (minute 360)	18 March 2010
Cabinet (minute 414)	19 March 2009

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MAY**2013**

Wednesday	1	
Thursday	2	
Friday	3	
Saturday	4	
Sunday	5	
Monday	6	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	7	
Wednesday	8	
Thursday	9	
Friday	10	
Saturday	11	
Sunday	12	
Monday	13	ANNUAL COUNCIL (PART 1)
Tuesday	14	
Wednesday	15	
Thursday	16	Members' Training
Friday	17	
Saturday	18	
Sunday	19	
Monday	20	ANNUAL COUNCIL (PART 2)
Tuesday	21	
Wednesday	22	Licensing Act 2003; Licensing, Health & Safety and GP
Thursday	23	Planning
Friday	24	
Saturday	25	
Sunday	26	
Monday	27	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	28	
Wednesday	29	
Thursday	30	
Friday	31	

Saturday	1	
Sunday	2	
Monday	3	
Tuesday	4	Children and Young People O&S
Wednesday	5	Economy and Regeneration O&S
Thursday	6	Employment and Appointments
Friday	7	
Saturday	8	
Sunday	9	
Monday	10	Audit and Risk Management
Tuesday	11	Area Forums
Wednesday	12	Area Forums
Thursday	13	Cabinet
Friday	14	
Saturday	15	
Sunday	16	
Monday	17	Health and Well Being O&S
Tuesday	18	Area Forums
Wednesday	19	Area Forums
Thursday	20	Sustainable Communities O&S
Friday	21	
Saturday	22	
Sunday	23	
Monday	24	Pensions
Tuesday	25	Area Forums
Wednesday	26	Area Forums
Thursday	27	Planning
Friday	28	
Saturday	29	
Sunday	30	

Monday	1	
Tuesday	2	Standards
Wednesday	3	Council Excellence O&S
Thursday	4	Members' Training
Friday	5	
Saturday	6	
Sunday	7	
Monday	8	Group Meetings
Tuesday	9	Employment and Appointments (Reserve)
Wednesday	10	Scrutiny Programme Board
Thursday	11	Cabinet
Friday	12	
Saturday	13	
Sunday	14	
Monday	15	COUNCIL
Tuesday	16	
Wednesday	17	
Thursday	18	
Friday	19	
Saturday	20	
Sunday	21	
Monday	22	
Tuesday	23	
Wednesday	24	
Thursday	25	Planning
Friday	26	
Saturday	27	
Sunday	28	
Monday	29	
Tuesday	30	
Wednesday	31	

AUGUST

2013

Thursday	1	
Friday	2	
Saturday	3	
Sunday	4	
Monday	5	
Tuesday	6	
Wednesday	7	
Thursday	8	
Friday	9	
Saturday	10	
Sunday	11	
Monday	12	
Tuesday	13	
Wednesday	14	
Thursday	15	
Friday	16	
Saturday	17	
Sunday	18	
Monday	19	
Tuesday	20	
Wednesday	21	
Thursday	22	Planning
Friday	23	
Saturday	24	
Sunday	25	
Monday	26	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	27	
Wednesday	28	
Thursday	29	
Friday	30	
Saturday	31	

SEPTEMBER**2013**

Sunday	1	
Monday	2	
Tuesday	3	Economy and Regeneration O&S
Wednesday	4	
Thursday	5	Cabinet
Friday	6	
Saturday	7	
Sunday	8	
Monday	9	Health and Well Being O&S
Tuesday	10	Members' Training
Wednesday	11	Licensing, Health & Safety and GP
Thursday	12	
Friday	13	
Saturday	14	
Sunday	15	
Monday	16	Pensions
Tuesday	17	Sustainable Communities O&S
Wednesday	18	Audit and Risk Management
Thursday	19	Planning
Friday	20	
Saturday	21	
Sunday	22	
Monday	23	Children and Young People O&S
Tuesday	24	Employment and Appointments
Wednesday	25	Standards
Thursday	26	
Friday	27	
Saturday	28	
Sunday	29	
Monday	30	

OCTOBER**2013**

Tuesday	1	Council Excellence O&S
Wednesday	2	Area Forums
Thursday	3	Area Forums
Friday	4	
Saturday	5	
Sunday	6	
Monday	7	Group Meetings
Tuesday	8	Area Forums
Wednesday	9	Area Forums
Thursday	10	Cabinet
Friday	11	
Saturday	12	
Sunday	13	
Monday	14	COUNCIL
Tuesday	15	Scrutiny Programme Board
Wednesday	16	Area Forums
Thursday	17	Area Forums
Friday	18	
Saturday	19	
Sunday	20	
Monday	21	Employment and Appointments (Reserve)
Tuesday	22	
Wednesday	23	
Thursday	24	Planning
Friday	25	
Saturday	26	
Sunday	27	
Monday	28	
Tuesday	29	Members' Training
Wednesday	30	
Thursday	31	

NOVEMBER

2013

Friday	1	
Saturday	2	
Sunday	3	
Monday	4	Health and Well Being O&S; Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Tuesday	5	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Wednesday	6	Lic Act 2003; Lic, H&S GP; Budget Consultation O&S Cttee
Thursday	7	Cabinet
Friday	8	
Saturday	9	
Sunday	10	
Monday	11	
Tuesday	12	Council (Youth Parliament)
Wednesday	13	Economy and Regeneration O&S
Thursday	14	Employment and Appointments
Friday	15	
Saturday	16	
Sunday	17	
Monday	18	Children and Young People O&S
Tuesday	19	Pensions
Wednesday	20	Sustainable Communities O&S
Thursday	21	Planning
Friday	22	
Saturday	23	
Sunday	24	
Monday	25	Audit and Risk Management
Tuesday	26	Standards
Wednesday	27	Council Excellence O&S
Thursday	28	
Friday	29	
Saturday	30	

DECEMBER**2013**

Sunday	1	
Monday	2	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Tuesday	3	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Wednesday	4	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Thursday	5	Members' Training
Friday	6	
Saturday	7	
Sunday	8	
Monday	9	Group Meetings
Tuesday	10	Scrutiny Programme Board
Wednesday	11	
Thursday	12	Cabinet
Friday	13	
Saturday	14	
Sunday	15	
Monday	16	COUNCIL
Tuesday	17	
Wednesday	18	Cabinet (Budget Special)
Thursday	19	Planning
Friday	20	
Saturday	21	
Sunday	22	
Monday	23	
Tuesday	24	Christmas Eve
Wednesday	25	Christmas Day
Thursday	26	Boxing Day
Friday	27	
Saturday	28	
Sunday	29	
Monday	30	
Tuesday	31	

JANUARY

2014

Wednesday	1	New Years Day
Thursday	2	
Friday	3	
Saturday	4	
Sunday	5	
Monday	6	
Tuesday	7	
Wednesday	8	
Thursday	9	
Friday	10	
Saturday	11	
Sunday	12	
Monday	13	Health and Well Being O&S
Tuesday	14	
Wednesday	15	Economy and Regeneration O&S
Thursday	16	Cabinet
Friday	17	
Saturday	18	
Sunday	19	
Monday	20	Pensions
Tuesday	21	Children and Young People O&S
Wednesday	22	Licensing, Health & Safety and GP
Thursday	23	Planning
Friday	24	
Saturday	25	
Sunday	26	
Monday	27	Sustainable Comm O&S; Budget Consultation O&S Cttee
Tuesday	28	Audit and Risk Management; Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Wednesday	29	Council Excellence O&S; Budget Consultation O&S Cttee
Thursday	30	Employment and Appointments
Friday	31	

FEBRUARY

2014

Saturday	1	
Sunday	2	
Monday	3	Group Meetings
Tuesday	4	Cabinet (Budget Special)
Wednesday	5	Standards; Area Forums
Thursday	6	Area Forums
Friday	7	
Saturday	8	
Sunday	9	
Monday	10	COUNCIL
Tuesday	11	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Wednesday	12	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Thursday	13	Budget Consultation O&S Cttees
Friday	14	
Saturday	15	
Sunday	16	
Monday	17	Cabinet (Budget)
Tuesday	18	Members' Training
Wednesday	19	Area Forums; Employment and Appointments (Reserve)
Thursday	20	Planning
Friday	21	
Saturday	22	
Sunday	23	
Monday	24	
Tuesday	25	Area Forums
Wednesday	26	Area Forums
Thursday	27	Area Forums
Friday	28	

MARCH

2014

Saturday	1	
Sunday	2	
Monday	3	
Tuesday	4	BUDGET COUNCIL
Wednesday	5	
Thursday	6	Economy and Regeneration O&S
Friday	7	
Saturday	8	
Sunday	9	
Monday	10	BUDGET COUNCIL (RESERVE)
Tuesday	11	Health and Well Being O&S
Wednesday	12	Licensing, Health & Safety and GP
Thursday	13	Cabinet
Friday	14	
Saturday	15	
Sunday	16	
Monday	17	Children and Young People O&S
Tuesday	18	Audit and Risk Management
Wednesday	19	Sustainable Communities O&S
Thursday	20	Planning
Friday	21	
Saturday	22	
Sunday	23	
Monday	24	Pensions
Tuesday	25	Standards; Council Excellence O&S
Wednesday	26	Scrutiny Programme Board
Thursday	27	Employment and Appointments
Friday	28	
Saturday	29	
Sunday	30	
Monday	31	

APRIL

2014

Tuesday	1	
Wednesday	2	
Thursday	3	
Friday	4	
Saturday	5	
Sunday	6	
Monday	7	
Tuesday	8	
Wednesday	9	
Thursday	10	
Friday	11	
Saturday	12	
Sunday	13	
Monday	14	
Tuesday	15	
Wednesday	16	Planning
Thursday	17	
Friday	18	Good Friday
Saturday	19	
Sunday	20	Easter Sunday
Monday	21	Easter Monday
Tuesday	22	
Wednesday	23	
Thursday	24	
Friday	25	
Saturday	26	
Sunday	27	
Monday	28	
Tuesday	29	
Wednesday	30	

MAY**2014**

Thursday	1	Local Elections
Friday	2	
Saturday	3	
Sunday	4	
Monday	5	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	6	
Wednesday	7	
Thursday	8	
Friday	9	
Saturday	10	
Sunday	11	
Monday	12	ANNUAL COUNCIL (PART 1)
Tuesday	13	
Wednesday	14	
Thursday	15	
Friday	16	
Saturday	17	
Sunday	18	
Monday	19	ANNUAL COUNCIL (PART 2)
Tuesday	20	
Wednesday	21	
Thursday	22	
Friday	23	
Saturday	24	
Sunday	25	
Monday	26	Bank Holiday
Tuesday	27	
Wednesday	28	
Thursday	29	
Friday	30	
Saturday	31	

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	<i>VACANT LAND AND BUILDING REVIEW – RANGERS COTTAGE, THURSTASTON</i>
WARD/S AFFECTED:	<i>WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>ACTING DIRECTOR OF LAW HR AND ASSET MANAGEMENT</i>
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	<i>COUNCILLOR ADRIAN JONES CORPORATE SERVICES</i>
KEY DECISION?	<i>NO</i>

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to declare the Rangers Cottage No. 2, Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston a surplus asset and seek authority to dispose of the freehold interest at auction.
- 1.2 The report contains exempt information, set out in Appendix 1, detailing the auction reserve price, the publication of which could affect the sale price achieved, if known by potential purchasers.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 A review has recently been undertaken in respect of the Council's vacant land and buildings to determine whether they are required by the Council or whether they are surplus to requirements. As part of the review it has been established that the Rangers Cottage No. 2, Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston is not required for Council purposes and is considered appropriate for sale.
- 2.2 The Rangers Cottage No. 2 has been identified as part of the review and is considered appropriate for sale. The dwelling and grounds is shown heavily edged on the attached plan and comprises approximately 1,500 sqm. It has been occupied under service tenancies since the establishment of Wirral Country Park and was vacated when the former Senior Ranger recently left the service.
- 2.3 An adjacent plot of land, formerly used as a wildlife sanctuary, is to be retained. This land has been shown by hatching on the plan and rights of access in favour of the Council will be included in the transfer. Some wildlife pens straddle the boundary of the Rangers Cottage No. 2 and will be removed prior to auction in order to make the property more attractive to potential purchasers. The cost of removal will be deducted from the receipt and is estimated to be in the region of £2,200 and should represent no more than 2% of the price realised.

2.4 The purchaser will have to make their own arrangements for the supply of utilities and will be expected to erect a suitable fence along the boundary with the retained plot of land.

2.5 It is proposed that the property be offered for sale at auction on 18 April 2013 with Sutton Kersh auctioneers. The auctioneer has recommended that the property be offered for sale with a reserve price as set out in the exempt Appendix 1.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

3.1 There is a risk that the property will not sell at auction, however, the Council will only be charged a fee if the sale is successful.

3.2 Whilst there are no known repair and maintenance liabilities at present, the sale will remove the risk for any future liability.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 As the property is not required by the Council, a sale by auction is considered to be the most appropriate manner of disposing of it. Consequently no other options have been considered.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Director of Law HR and Asset Management has consulted with other relevant Council departments and the Asset Review Board. In addition, the auctioneer will undertake a promotional exercise to advertise the availability of the property at its auction, which will include promotion through its website, auction catalogue and for sale board.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 The property is not considered to be suitable for transfer or disposal to voluntary, community or faith groups, although such groups would be able to bid at the auction.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

7.1 Should the property sell at auction, it will generate a receipt in excess of the reserve price detailed in the exempt appendix.

7.2 Sale will also remove any potential maintenance liability, such as the clearing of the site resulting from fly tipping, for which there is currently no budget available. In addition the purchaser will pay to the Council 2% of the gavel fee, with a minimum of £1,000, towards the Council's fees. If the property does not sell, no costs will be charged to the Council.

7.3 The cost of clearing the grounds prior to sale is estimated to be in the region of £2,200 and should represent no more than 2% of the price realised. The only quantifiable running costs at present are:

- i. Electricity Standing Charges – approx £90 at current rates
- ii. Council Tax Liability - £1307.72 per annum

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The disposal will require the preparation of appropriate legal documentation.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No because there is no relevance to equality.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no carbon reduction implications arising directly from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The property is located in the Green Belt and has an established residential use as a dwelling house. Any future proposals would need to be assessed against local and national Green Belt planning policy.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

12.1 That the asset be declared surplus and authority be given to its disposal by auction on the basis described.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 To make the best use of the council's property assets by declaring the property surplus and to seek authority to a disposal by auction.

REPORT AUTHOR: *Mike Penny*
Valuation Assistant
telephone: (0151 666 3885)
email: mikepenny@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Location plan.

Appendix 1 – Exempt information

REFERENCE MATERIAL

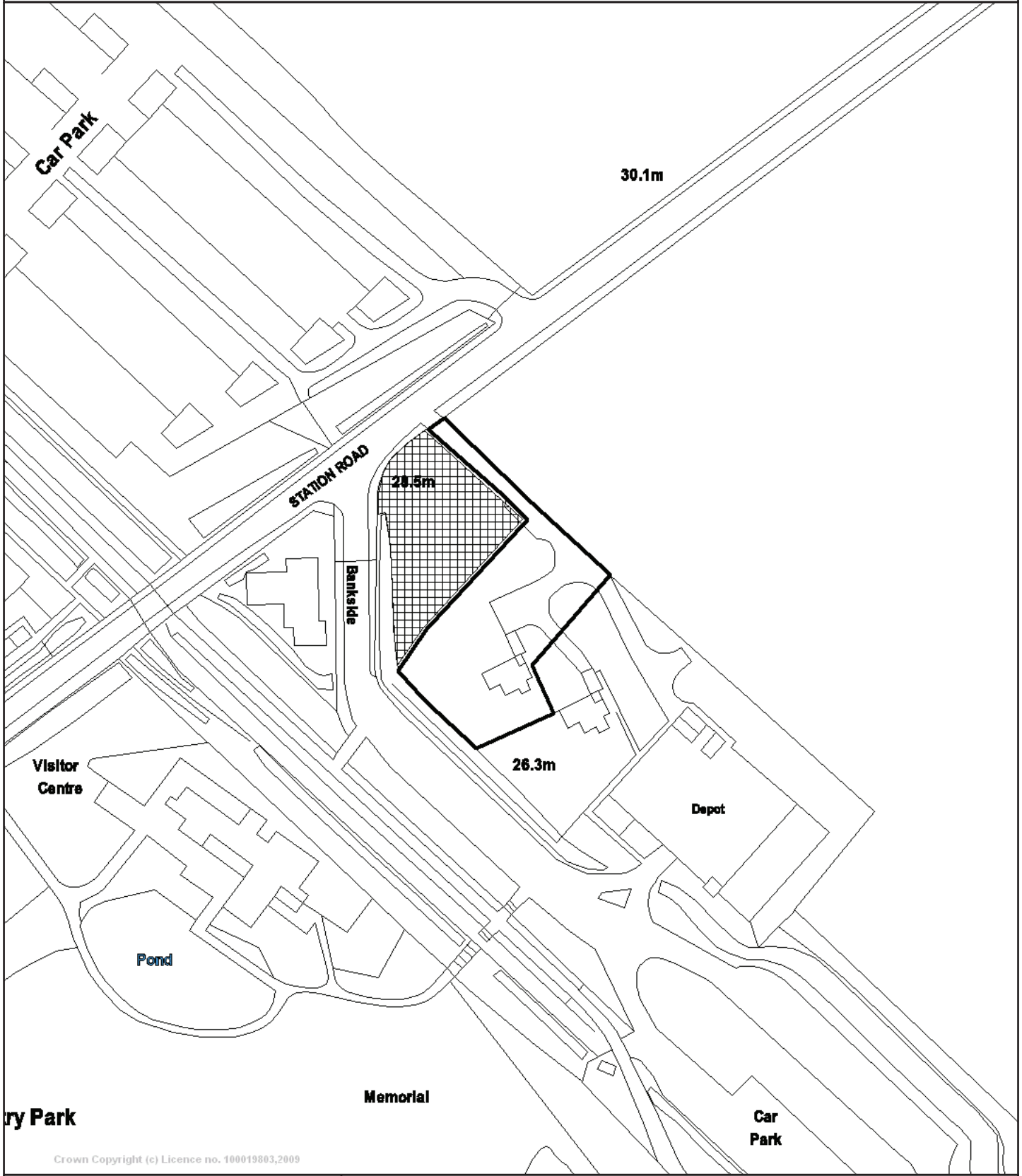
No reference material has been used in the preparation of this report.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

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Rangers Cottage No 2, Thurstaston



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Ordnance Survey 100019803

Scale 1/1250 Date 7/12/2012
Centre = 323878 E 383532 N
MGP

Asset Management Section, Dept. of Law, HR and Asset Management, Cheshire Lines Building, Canning Street, Birkenhead, CH41 1ND
Tel: 0151 666 3882, Fax: 0151 606 2090



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WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24TH JANUARY 2012

SUBJECT:	LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND (LSTF) – PURCHASE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT TICKETS
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR HARRY SMITH STREETSCENE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that Members approve the purchase of public transport tickets valued at up to £30k for the remainder of 2012/13, up to £55k for 2013/14 and up to £55k for 2014/15 (i.e. up to £140k in total) from Merseytravel in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 21 “Exceptions to Procurement Procedure”.
- 1.2 The report also recommends that Members approve the purchase of rail only passes up to a maximum value of £10,000 over the three financial years 2012/13 – 2014/15 from Merseyrail in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 19.1 “Procurement valued at less than £50,000”.
- 1.3 The reason for procuring these tickets from Merseytravel and Merseyrail outside of normal procurement procedures is because it is not possible to purchase the public transport tickets, the rail only passes or any comparable travel tickets, from any other source and therefore there is no genuine competition. Even so, Merseytravel and Merseyrail operate successfully within a competitive market environment.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 On the 18th October 2012 Cabinet approved the acceptance of £3.2 million of Local Sustainable Transport (LSTF) Major Bid Funding. This was in addition to £810k of Key Component Local Sustainable Transport Funding, which had previously been accepted by Cabinet on the 24th November 2011. The LSTF funding is both revenue and capital.
- 2.2 The LSTF revenue funding was allocated as per the Department for Transport (DfT) approved bid which, as part of the overall project, included two specific projects aimed at removing or lowering transport barriers for individuals to offer them support to access employment.
- 2.3 The funding for the 2 projects is detailed as follows:

Name of project	Funding Source	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Travel Solutions	LSTF Key Component	75	95	95	90
Community Travel Hub	LSTF Major	0	242	257	237
Total		75	337	352	327

- 2.4 The “Travel Solutions” scheme encompasses various interventions that assist to remove transport barriers for people seeking to access employment. Interventions include the provision of information, advice and guidance such as personalised journey planning, and one to one travel training to provide people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to use public transport. Other interventions include a cycle to work scheme which offers people a bicycle, training and equipment, and a scooter scheme which provides the 6 month loan of a 50cc scooter to people whose new place of employment is not suitably served by public transport. Cost is also a major barrier to people using public transport and the scheme also offers travel cards to individuals to assist with the first month of employment prior to them receiving their first month of pay.
- 2.5 These interventions are currently being delivered to clients under the Key Component element of the LSTF project.
- 2.6 The additional funding secured under the major bid project of “Community Travel Hub” allows the expansion of the Travel Solutions scheme, with additional staff resources as well as significant additional funding to increase the number of interventions that can be delivered. The funding for the two projects will be combined and the project will continue to be marketed and promoted under the banner of “Wirral Travel Solutions” as this brand is now well recognised by our partners and local agencies.
- 2.7 Due to the increase in funding available as a result of securing the major bid, and in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules, separate tender/quotation exercises are being undertaken for:
- Bike to Work Scheme – Provision of cycles and equipment;
 - Scooter Scheme – Provision of Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) and additional road safety training;
 - Scooter Scheme – Provision of new scooters, maintenance of new and existing scooters, and provision of equipment.
- 2.8 The Travel Card element of the Travel Solutions scheme involves the bulk purchase of Travelcards from Merseytravel using the LSTF funds, which are then issued to eligible individuals who meet the agreed criteria. The majority of the travelcards purchased will be TRIO travelcards which provide free travel for 1 month on all buses, ferries and trains in Merseyside. A smaller number of other travel cards e.g. SOLO tickets, or Saveaway tickets may be purchased depending on the individual needs of the clients. These travelcards are only available to be purchased in bulk from Merseytravel as they are Merseytravel products.
- 2.9 It is anticipated that there would be a maximum spend of £50k p.a. on travelcards (TRIO, SOLO and Saveaways) to deliver the Travel Solutions Project and it is also proposed that a maximum of £5k p.a. of travelcards are purchased to support the Business Travel Support project, which is a separate LSTF project.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION UNDER CPR 21 'EXCEPTIONS TO PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE'

- 3.1. Merseytravel are the only organisation which sell travelcards (TRIO, SOLO and Saveaways) in bulk. TRIO tickets are integrated season tickets which can be used on buses, trains and Mersey Ferries in Merseyside, no matter which operator runs the service. Saveaway tickets are day tickets (after 9.30am) for bus, rail and ferry, and SOLO tickets are all operator bus season tickets.
- 3.2. Other types of Travel tickets can be purchased from some individual operators e.g. Arriva or First for buses, but there are restrictions to the use of these tickets i.e. certain routes or valid for bus only. Other operators do not offer season tickets at all and will only accept cash payments on the bus. Where season tickets can be purchased these are generally only available to be purchased on the bus, or at specific local shops. Other types of ticket are not available for bulk purchase.
- 3.3. There are no alternatives to the Merseytravel tickets that provide the same levels of service and convenience, and therefore in order to operate the project efficiently and offer the best solution to meet the needs of the clients, Officers have determined that the Merseytravel public transport tickets are the only products that should be purchased.
- 3.4. As such, and based on discussions with Corporate Procurement it has been concluded that Merseytravel are the only organisation which provides the product that is required to deliver the Travel Solutions Scheme. Therefore and in accordance with CPR 21.1.1 (i) applying to the procurement of goods and/or services valued at £50,000 or more:
- "Where this is only one viable contractor and there would be no genuine competition",*
- 3.5. It should also be acknowledged that Merseytravel are not a contractor in the true sense, but are a Statutory Body with Merseytravel being the operating name for the Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) and Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive (PTE). As the Authority, Merseytravel are responsible for leading on transport planning across Merseyside, with the districts and a wide range of private and public sector bodies. As the Executive, they oversee the public transport network and are responsible for coordinating bus and rail services, maintaining transport infrastructure, providing public transport information and operating the Mersey road tunnels, the Mersey Ferries and their associated visitor attractions.
- 3.6. Merseytravel do not undertake a procurement exercise for the ticket itself as this is considered a commercial product, however Merseytravel review their ticket prices on an annual basis. The most recent review took place in August 2012 and a report to Merseytravel's Strategy and Finance Committee set out that ticket prices have been reviewed on the basis of:
- Operators overheads have increased;
 - Operators had concerns regarding prepaid ticketing reimbursement;
 - Ensuring Merseytravel ticketing remains competitive in the market;
 - Ensuring continued and successful engagement with transport operators on ticketing developments and future products;

Previous reports state that reviews have been undertaken with regard to:

- Increases in fuel price; and
- Protecting operator participation.

3.7. It should also be noted that Merseytravel's Corporate Social Responsibility Policy (June 2012) sets out Merseytravel's approach to ensuring it is a corporately responsible organisation through embedding corporate responsibility in all its work, services and operations. Relevant to this report are the following aspects of the policy:

Achieving Value for Money: Merseytravel maximises commercial opportunities and strives for efficiencies through sustainable procurement, smarter working and environmental/resource efficiency. Savings made are invested back into travel products and services, which along with our assets and infrastructure are designed and run in a sustainable manner. We're also working towards a clear vision for ethical financial management and investment

Providing Integrated Travel Solutions: Merseytravel provides and promotes sustainable transport solutions, which support sustainable economic growth, address carbon reduction, improve health and wellbeing and tackle inequality and social exclusion.

3.8 Overall, even though value for money is more difficult to measure, Merseytravel operates successfully within a competitive market environment hence value for money can be demonstrated based on the commercial success of the organisation.

3.9 The total expenditure for this project is £150,000 (over a 3 year period) and it is therefore below the threshold which would require the publication of a contract notice within the Official Journal of the European Union. Any planned or unplanned extension to this project of 6 months or more would exceed the threshold based on the annual expenditure.

4.0. RECOMMENDATION UNDER CPR19 'PROCUREMENT VALUED AT LESS THAN £50,000'

4.1. Some clients have job offers in the Chester or Ellesmere Port area and therefore they require travel outside of the Merseyside area. Merseyrail offer rail only passes which allow travel to these areas and in some instances separate rail only passes have to be purchased direct from Merseyrail to facilitate these journeys. It is not anticipated that the value of these rail only passes would exceed £10,000 during the LSTF time period

4.2. Merseyrail are the only organisation which sell Railpass tickets. These are season tickets for use on the Merseyrail trains in Merseyside and as far as Chester, Ellesmere Port and Ormskirk.

4.3. These tickets are the best solution to meet the needs of the clients who have job offers outside the Merseyside boundary, but that can be accessed via the Merseyrail network. Officers have determined that the Merseytravel public transport tickets are the only products that should be purchased.

4.4. As such, and based on discussions with Corporate Procurement it has been concluded that Merseyrail are the only organisation which provides the product that is required to deliver this element of the Travel Solutions Scheme. Procurement of

goods between £10,000 and £50,000 are subject to five quotations being sought. As there are no alternative suppliers of this product, the required minimum number of quotes cannot be obtained. Therefore and in accordance with CPR 19.1 applying to the procurement of goods and/or services valued between £10,000 and £50,000 it is requested that the Chief Officer shall be entitled to accept the lowest quote, which as a sole supplier in this instance is Merseyrail. .

5.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 5.1 The principal risks for the Council are attached to the failure to deliver the Travelcards and Rail Pass element of the Travel Solutions project and therefore not satisfy the requirements of the funding agreement with Merseytravel. This may result in the Council not being able to claim all of the funding from Merseytravel.

6.0. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1. There are no appropriate options to consider as Merseytravel and Merseyrail are the only suppliers of the travel card and rail pass products respectively

7.0. CONSULTATION

- 7.1. There is no requirement to consult.

8.0. IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 8.1. The Travel Solutions Scheme works closely with numerous third sector organisations to provide additional support to members who are seeking employment.
- 8.2. If the Travel Card, and Rail Pass elements of the Travel Solutions Scheme was not delivered this would impact on the work of many voluntary, community and faith groups.

9.0. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 9.1 The purchase of the travelcards and the rail passes will be fully funded through LSTF and there will be no additional financial implications for the Council. The Council will be able to submit quarterly claims to Merseytravel for expenditure incurred to that date.

10.0. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. In order to receive the funding Wirral Council have signed up to a legal funding agreement with Merseytravel. Merseytravel, as the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) are the accountable body for this project with the DfT.
- 10.2. In order for Merseytravel to accept the funding they have signed a legal agreement with the DfT under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

11.0. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

An EIA has been undertaken in relation to the LSTF project – refer report to Cabinet 18th October 2012

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

12.1. Encouraging and supporting the use of public transport through the Community Travel Hub and the Business Travel Support Projects will also assist in reducing carbon emissions.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1. There are no planning or community safety implications.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 Cabinet is requested to:

(1) Approve the purchase of Travelcards up to a maximum value of £140,000 in total over the three financial years 2012/13 – 2014/15 from Merseytravel in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 21 “Exception to Procurement Procedure”.

(2) Approve the purchase of Rail Only passes up to a maximum value of £10,000 over the three financial years 2012/13 – 2014/15 from Merseyrail in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 19.1 “Procurement Valued at Less than £50,000 Procedure”.

15.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

15.1. To ensure the delivery of the LSTF Project in accordance with the LSTF Funding Agreement signed by the Council.

15.2. To comply with CPR 21.1.1 (i), and CPR 19.1. as referred to in Section 3 and Section 4 of this report.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet Agenda Item 9	24 November 2011
Cabinet Agenda Item 39	12 April 2012
Cabinet Agenda Item 12	18 October 2012

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24TH JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	LOCAL TRANSPORT CAPITAL FUNDING & THE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK (ITB) PROGRAMME 2013/14
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR HARRY SMITH STREETSCENE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
KEY DECISION?	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 On 13 January 2011, Cabinet were advised of the Government's Local Transport Capital Settlement letter, dated 13 December 2010, which announced the level of transport funding that the Merseyside authorities were to receive for 2011/12 and 2012/13, along with indicative figures for 2013/14 and 2014/15. The Cabinet report also presented the background to the development of the third Local Transport Plan (LTP3), which commenced in April 2011, and set out the LTP budget for 2011/12 (minute 285 refers).
- 1.2 Indicative figures for the Local Transport Capital Settlement for 2013/14 and 2014/15, were confirmed by the Department for Transport in March 2012. This report presents the budget for 2013/14 in accordance with the March 2012 settlement letter, and seeks Cabinet approval for the £1,136,000 Integrated Transport Block (ITB) programme. The determination of suitable schemes and projects within the proposed 2013/14 Capital programme and the budget allocation for the ITB outlined in this report are prioritised in line with the Council's vision of creating a greener society that works to reduce carbon emissions and protect the environment; a healthy society where children and adults can walk or cycle safely to schools, to work and to reach leisure activities; and to have a safe and well maintained highway network for all users and continue to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads in the Borough. Schemes and projects identified in the report will also contribute to the objectives and priorities contained in the current LTP3.
- 1.3 The schemes detailed within this report that form the ITB directly address the Council's Statutory Duties as set out in the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 This section provides Members with a brief overview of the priorities and objectives in the third Local Transport Plan (LTP3), which came into effect at the start of April 2011.

2.2 Following the Local Transport Act 2008, the Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) has formal statutory responsibility for LTP3, however, in keeping with the established partnership working in Merseyside, it has been produced in collaboration with all of the Merseyside local authorities. The LTP Strategy document is a crucial policy/statutory framework for future transport provision.

2.3 The third LTP has been developed according to government guidance to ensure that the Merseyside transport system aids economic growth whilst, at the same time, playing its part in reducing carbon emissions and addressing climate change. The strategy aims to deliver other local priorities of improving health and well-being, so that health inequalities, social exclusion, improved accessibility and safety can be addressed.

2.4 Key actions over the short-term, therefore, have been identified that:

- Prioritise maintenance programmes;
- Provide a robust framework linking transport and future developments in a way that can reduce long distance travel and carbon emissions, and improve accessibility;
- Expand the range of public transport services;
- Begin to implement the next generation of technology;
- Develop and enhance the freight and logistics network;
- Reduce carbon emissions and reliance on oil, improve air quality and improve health;
- Increase sustainable and safe travel; and
- Continue to reduce road traffic accidents.

2.5 Each of the Merseyside LTP partner authorities has developed their own capital programme which, when combined, form a Merseyside-wide Implementation Plan. Wirral's LTP programme has been constructed under the following headings to reflect the above key actions and complement the Council's Corporate Goals and Objectives to make sure that Wirral's roads are safe and well maintained and continue to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads in the Borough.

- **Improving Road Safety**
- **Promoting Active Travel & Health**
- **Reducing Congestion & Carbon Emissions**
- **Transportation - General**

Sections 3 to 6 of this report address each of these headings in turn, and present a breakdown of the ITB funding against potential projects. Wirral's ITB allocation of £1,136,000 for 2013/14, based on the existing ITB local formula, equates to 10.05% of the Merseyside ITB settlement (£12,255,000) after core-activity fund.

- 2.6 At its meeting on the 22nd October 2012, Merseytravel's Local Transport Plan Board approved recommendations for cross-authority core activities to be funded directly from the 2013/14 Merseyside ITB settlement. £955,602 of the total ITB settlement was approved as the core activity fund which will be retained and administered by Merseytravel.

These activities to be funded from the Core Activity fund were agreed as;

- Merseyside Road Safety partnership,
- Merseyside and Halton Freight Quality Partnership,
- Merseyside Atmospheric Emissions Inventory
- Mott McDonald Monitoring and Modelling Contract,
- Scheme Development and Major Scheme devolution

3.0 IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY (£345,000)

- 3.1 The LTP Capital programme block allocation for 'Improving Road Safety' may be summarised as:

'IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY' (Block Allocation)

<u>Sub-Block</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Local Safety Schemes (LSS)	£ 315,000
School Travel Improvements - Safer Routes To School (SRTS)	£30,000

Total 'IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY' £345,000

3.2 Local Safety Schemes (LSS) (£315,000)

- 3.2.1 The Corporate Plan has a goal to "have a safe and well maintained highway network for all users". Schemes prioritised within the Local Safety Scheme programme will have a major impact in reducing the number and severity of casualties on Wirral's roads and, thereby, making a significant contribution towards this Corporate Goal.

- 3.2.2 The Local Safety Scheme programme allocation contains scheme(s) that address the obligations required as part of the Council's Statutory Duties (as set out in the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004) and are proven with evidential information (e.g. DFT Road Safety Research Report no.108 'contribution of Local Safety Schemes to Casualty Reduction') to reduce road accident casualties.

- 3.2.3 The list below identifies schemes totalling £315,000 for inclusion within the 2013/14 LSS programme based upon the results of preliminary investigations by my Accident Investigation Unit into the accident records for each location, together with an overall initial assessment of the suitability for suggested

remedial measures that can be economically justified based on the expected accident cost savings. Further detailed investigations will be required prior to any final scheme being designed.

3.2.4 The list has been prepared with initial estimates, however it should be noted that final schemes will be subject to the costing of detailed designs and statutory undertakers' works.

3.2.5 Should any of the schemes identified be found to be not viable upon further detailed investigation, or be completed for less than the indicative cost, the Director of Technical Services in conjunction with Party Spokespersons shall be given delegated authority to identify suitable additional or replacement schemes that can be expected to achieve similar accident cost savings.

Local Safety Schemes (Sub-Block):

Allocation:

Local Safety Schemes:	
Black Horse Hill / Column Rd, West Kirby - junction improvement	£50,000
Bolton Road Roundabout, Bromborough - Signalised junction / crossing improvements*	£115,000
Mount Road/Broadway, Bebington - mini-roundabout	£90,000
Upton Rd / Saughall Massie Rd, Upton - signalised junction improvements	£60,000

Total 'Local Safety Schemes' (Sub-Block Allocation)

£315,000

* Part funded together with a £55,000 contribution from Walking Strategy & a £55,000 contribution from Cycling Strategy.

3.2.6 Members will note that a specific budget heading for Traffic Calming is not included within the proposed Road Safety block for 2013/14. Traffic calming measures will however continue to be considered where their provision supports specific initiatives and where such schemes may be justified on their existing personal injury accident record.

3.3 School Travel Improvements - Safer Routes To School (SRTS)(£30,000)

3.3.1 Schemes and projects within the Safer Routes To School programme will be selected to contribute towards the Corporate Goal "to have a safe and well maintained network for all users" and all to provide and promote sustainable travel options.

3.3.2 SRTS schemes help teachers, parents/carers and children to reduce car use on the school journey and adopt a more sustainable approach to getting to school by walking and cycling thereby increasing their independence, health and fitness. Such schemes by their very nature also help to contribute to a reduction in Wirral's carbon footprint.

Sub-Block:

Allocation:

School Travel Improvements (SRTS):	
SRTS Scheme 1	£15,000
SRTS Scheme 2	£15,000
Total 'School Travel Improvements' (Sub-Block Allocation)	£30,000

4.0 PROMOTING ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEALTH (£380,000)

4.1 The LTP Capital programme block allocation for 'Promoting Active Travel & Health' may be summarised as:

'PROMOTING ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEALTH' (Block Allocation)

Sub-Block	Allocation
Walking Strategy	£ 125,000
Cycling Strategy	£ 145,000
Area Forums	£110,000
Total 'PROMOTING ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEALTH'	£380,000

4.2 Walking Strategy (£125,000)

4.2.1 Schemes and projects within the Walking Strategy programme are prioritised in line with the Council's Corporate Goals and Objectives and will contribute to a reduction in the number and severity of casualties. Pedestrians can be at higher risk on the road network and schemes developed will encourage walking through better environments where it is safe and attractive to do so thereby promoting a carbon friendly, sustainable and healthy alternative mode of transport.

4.2.2 The Walking Strategy deals with the following specific programmes and recommends works/allocations for each of the following headings listed below. The schemes proposed are also designed to compliment the terms of reference adopted by the Wirral Pedestrian Forum that advocate and promote safe, accessible and usable facilities and routes across the borough, making walking more attractive and accessible to residents, visitors, employees and businesses and will also take account of ideas for schemes from Local Area Forums and through receipt of petitions.

Walking Strategy (Sub-Block):	Allocation:
Pedestrian Signals:	
Bolton Road, New Ferry By-pass (Signalised roundabout improvement)*	£55,000
Extra Low Voltage (ELV) replacement programme	£20,000
Improvements to existing asset/other technological advancements	£20,000
Pedestrian Improvements:	
Pedestrian dropped crossings	£20,000
Public Rights Of Way - Improvement Plan	£10,000
Total 'Walking Strategy' (Sub-Block Allocation)	£125,000

* Part funded together with a £115,000 contribution from the Local Safety Scheme block allocation and a £55,000 contribution from the Cycling Strategy

4.2.3 Members will note that a specific budget heading for the provision of Pedestrian Crossing facilities has not been included within the proposed 'Active Travel & Health' block for 2013/14. Members will be aware that, in previous years, a list of requests for Pedestrian Crossings is submitted (assessed against the approved weighting criteria) and subsequently prioritised within the 'Pedestrian Crossing' sub-block allocation of the Walking Strategy together with schemes to improve or provide formal signalised pedestrian crossing facilities at existing signalised junctions were additional

benefits can be accrued in line with other objectives (e.g. Safer Routes to School) and at other sites that can be prioritised for action based upon potential accident savings in line with LTP priority targets.

- 4.2.4 Wirral Council's successful national funding bid (LSTF) made through the Merseyside Transport Partnership (MTP) to the Department for Transport (DfT) to deliver a 3-year programme of sustainable transport measures, was approved by Cabinet on 8th October 2012. A number of schemes are subsequently being developed with the aim of supporting sustainable transport modes through the provision of facilities for pedestrians (and cyclists) that include Puffin & Toucan crossings and formal crossings at signalised junctions as part of the successful LSTF bid allocation.
- 4.2.5 The provision of signalised facilities to assist Pedestrians will also continue to be considered where such schemes may be justified on their existing personal injury accident record.
- 4.2.6 It is proposed that a sum of £40,000 be allocated to accelerate the provision of 'next generation' technology improvements to the existing asset (identified as one of the short-term key actions for LTP3), to improve traffic management and road safety. Examples include the replacement of existing obsolete or ageing pedestrian/traffic signal aspects with low-carbon Extra Low Voltage (ELV) technology and upgrading ageing pedestrian 'Pelican' crossings to 'Puffin' crossings.
- 4.2.7 A programme of improvements will also continue to be identified, prioritised and implemented to compliment the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- 4.2.8 **Appendix B** lists the requests for the provision of dropped crossings that are to be recommended as prioritised for action in consultation with WIRED. Any specific locations raised directly by Wirral Information Resource for Equality & Disability (WIRED) during consideration will also be assessed during these consultations. The provision of a single dropped crossing facility costs in the region of £750 but it should be noted that it will not be possible to address all requests.

4.3 Cycling Strategy (£145,000)

- 4.3.1 The schemes and projects identified within the Cycling Strategy programme are prioritised in line with the Council's Corporate Goals and Objectives to make sure that Wirral's roads are safe and convenient for cyclists to use. Cycling schemes will contribute to reducing the number and severity of casualties on the road network and to reducing Wirral's carbon footprint.
- 4.3.2 Opportunities to draw on external funding, to complement the LTP programme, are also being applied for, including new applications to Sustrans 'Department for Transport (DfT) Cycle Safety Fund'. Such schemes by their very nature help to promote a healthy lifestyle and contribute to a reduction in Wirral's carbon footprint. Should any such funding application be successful, the Interim Director of Technical Services in conjunction with Party Spokespersons shall be given delegated authority to identify suitable additional or replacement schemes.

4.3.3 The proposed Cycling Strategy programme can be summarised as follows:

Cycling Strategy (Sub-Block):	Allocation:
Bolton Road, New Ferry Bypass (Signalised roundabout improvement)*	£55,000
Bridge Road / Orrysdale Road, West Kirby (TOUCAN)	£60,000
Broadway / Claremont Rd, Wallasey - cycle route link	£15,000
Kelvin Road - Lucerne Road, Seacombe - cycle route link	£10,000
Wallasey Network signing	£5,000
Total 'Cycling Strategy' (Sub-Block Allocation)	£145,000

* Part funded together with a £115,000 contribution from the Local Safety Scheme block allocation and a £55,000 contribution from the Walking Strategy

4.4 Area Forum Improvements (£110,000)

4.4.1 The remaining allocation of £110,000 under the 'Promoting Active Travel and Health' heading is available for the 11 Area Forums (£10,00 per Area Forum).

Sub-Block:	Allocation:
Area Forum Improvements:	
Bebington & Clatterbridge	£10,000
Bidston & Cloughton	£10,000
Birkenhead, Tranmere & Rock Ferry	£10,000
Bromborough & Eastham	£10,000
Greasby, Frankby, Irby, Upton & Woodchurch	£10,000
Heswall, Pensby & Thingwall	£10,000
Liscard & Seacombe	£10,000
Leasowe, Moreton & Saughall Massie	£10,000
New Brighton & Wallasey	£10,000
Oxton & Prenton	£10,000
West Wirral	£10,000
Total 'Area Forum' (Sub-Block Allocation)	£110,000

5.0 REDUCING CONGESTION & CARBON EMISSIONS (£161,000)

5.1 The LTP Capital programme block allocation for 'Reducing Congestion & Carbon Emissions' may be summarised as;

'REDUCING CONGESTION & CARBON EMISSIONS' (Block Allocation)

Traffic Management (Sub-Block):	Allocation
Traffic Management Measures:	
Bayswater Road, Wallasey - roundabout	£110,000
Accidents To Zero signing initiative (various locations)	£12,000
Strategic signing initiative (various locations)	£14,000
UTC / Telematics / CCTV:	
Improvements to existing asset/other technological advancements	£20,000
Travel Plans & Travelwise (Sub-Block):	Allocation
Travel Plan Measures	£5,000
Total 'REDUCING CONGESTION & CARBON EMISSIONS'	£161,000

5.2 Traffic Management Measures (£136,000)

- 5.2.1 Effective traffic management is essential in order to support the efficient movement of people and goods. The economic success of Wirral and the city region relies on the effective movement of freight and service vehicles; people wanting to connect easily with employment, services and social activities; and communities seek minimal vehicular intrusion to improve their local environments.
- 5.2.2 Wirral Council's successful national funding bid (LSTF) made through the Merseyside Transport Partnership (MTP) to the Department for Transport (DfT) to deliver a 3-year programme of sustainable transport measures; was approved by Cabinet on 8th October 2012. A number of schemes have subsequently been designed with the aim of improving local infrastructure to support Wirral residents and to access employment opportunities, encouraging the use of sustainable transport and contributing to reducing carbon emissions across the Borough.
- 5.2.3 In November 2012 approval under delegated authority was granted to commence phase-one (statutory undertaker diversion) works to deliver a new roundabout at the junction of Bayswater Road / Harrison Drive, Wallasey as part of the approved LSTF allocation for 2012/13. This scheme will assist in supporting sustainable transport modes through the provision of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. It will also assist by relieving congestion at busy periods and during events and link-in to the existing Wirral Circular Trail Walking and Cycling route and other Tourism sites across the Borough. The further allocation of £110,000 will enable delivery of the final phase-two construction works.
- 5.2.4 In order to continue the work to improve traffic management across the Borough it is also proposed that £26,000 is allocated towards schemes that complement these aims such as 'Strategic Signing' on the Borough's principal road network and to continue with the successful 'Accidents To Zero' speed reduction signing initiative.

5.3 UTC / Telematics / CCTV (£20,000)

- 5.3.1 Implementation of the 'next generation' technology is identified as one of the short-term key actions for LTP3, to improve information systems and help maintain free-flowing networks, increase journey opportunities and integrate a wide range of transport uses. Examples include the use of smart cards, which are being introduced by Merseytravel to improve ticketing for public transport users, and the use of intelligent telematic systems on the highway network to improve traffic management.
- 5.3.2 An allocation of £20,000 is proposed for such as the provision of variable message signing and CCTV for traffic monitoring purposes and improved traffic management linked to the Council's Urban Traffic Control Centre.

5.4 Travel Plan Measures (£5,000)

- 5.4.1 In order to continue to support the Council's Travel Plan, which complements the Merseyside TravelWise initiative to promote sustainable travel, a sum of £5,000 has been allocated to implement measures to encourage employees and visitors to Council buildings to reduce single occupancy car trips.

6.0 TRANSPORTATION GENERAL (£250,000)

6.1 The LTP Capital programme block allocation for 'Transportation' may be summarised as;

'TRANSPORTATION - GENERAL' (Block Allocation)

Sub-Block	Allocation
Advance Design	£ 130,000
Forward Planning, Research & Monitoring	£120,000
Total 'TRANSPORTATION - GENERAL'	£250,000

6.2 The 'Transportation (General)' block allocation covers expenditure aimed at meeting the constantly evolving range of demands linked to LTP delivery. This budget allocation allows for Advanced Design, Land & Forward Planning, and Research & Monitoring and Project Development.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 Failure to undertake the identified programme of works could result in the Council not meeting its Statutory Duties as set out in the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.

7.2 Failure to undertake the identified programme of works would also result in a failure to address the Council's LTP3 Objectives and the Council's Corporate Goals and Objectives to make sure that Wirral's roads are safe and well maintained and to continue reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents.

8.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None. The proposed programmes and projects identified within this report enable the Council to comply with its Statutory Duties as set out in the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 and address the Council's LTP3 Objectives and the Council's Corporate Goals and Objectives to make sure that Wirral's roads are safe and well maintained and to continue reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 Detailed scheme proposals will be subject to further Public and Member consultation as appropriate and engagement with other interesting bodies (Cycle Forum / Pedestrian Forum / W.I.R.E.D etc).

10.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

10.1 LTP3 strives to promote the concept of a new mobility culture and how transport provision is planned, provided and promoted. Pooling of resources and expertise across a number of policy areas and embracing as many partners and stakeholders as possible will make the best use of resources for the maximum benefit for the people of Merseyside.

10.2 To this end, one key action within the short-term implementation plan is to expand the range of public transport services by examining the role of other providers, backed by a network of neighbourhood based information services, which may have implications for voluntary, community and faith groups.

11.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

11.1 All schemes are funded from the DfT Local Transport Capital Grant Settlement for 2013/14. Existing staff resources will be used for the detailed investigation, design and supervision of these schemes. Future maintenance costs will be met from the Highway Maintenance Revenue Budget.

12.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 As defined by the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.

13.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

13.1 As part of the development of LTP3, a comprehensive Integrated Assessment (IA) was carried out in accordance with Government LTP Guidance. The IA included a number of assessments, including an Equality Impact Assessment dated October 2010.

13.2 The proposed programme of works that supports the LTP3 strategy includes measures to assist the transport needs of all sections of the community.

14.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

14.1 The greater majority of schemes under the 'Improving Road Safety', 'Active Travel & Health' and 'Reducing Congestion & Carbon Emissions' headings will help to improve the efficiency of travel on the road network and reduce CO₂ emissions.

15.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There are no specific planning implications arising from this report.

16.0 RECOMMENDATION

16.1 That Cabinet:

- Approve the proposed allocation of the Local Transport Plan Capital programme 2013/14 Integrated Transport Block between the four identified headings of 'Improving Road Safety', 'Promoting Active Travel & Health', 'Reducing Congestion & Carbon Emissions' and 'General Transportation' as detailed in this report.
- Approve detailed programmes of schemes and projects under each of the four identified headings of the combined Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Capital Programme for 2013/14 set out in Sections 3 to 6 (and summarised in **Appendix A**) of this report.
- Delegate authority to the Interim Director of Technical Services, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transport

Services and Party Spokespersons, to make necessary adjustments to the priorities within the programme should the need arise due to financial conditions or other factors.

17.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

17.1 To ensure that the transport capital programme reflects the Corporate Goals and Objectives and the LTP3 short-term implementation priorities, and has the flexibility to ensure delivery of the most effective schemes within the financial year.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 'A' Local Transport Capital Funding & The Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Programme 2013/14 - SUMMARY

Appendix 'B' Walking Strategy - Pedestrian Improvements: Dropped Crossing Requests

REFERENCE MATERIAL: SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
CABINET (Local Transport Capital Funding & The Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Programme 2012/13)	15th March 2012
COUNCIL	12th December 2011
CABINET (Capital Programme and Financing 2012-2015)	8th December 2011
CABINET Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) - Acceptance of 'Key Component' Funding	24th November 2011
CABINET (Local Transport Capital Funding & The Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Programme 2011/12)	17th March 2011
CABINET (Council Capital Programme 2011/12)	21st February 2011
CABINET (Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement)	13th January 2011

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	Scheme	£
IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY (£345,000)		
	LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES	£315,000
	Local Safety Schemes	
	Black Horse Hill / Column Rd, West Kirby - minor junction improvements	£50,000
	Bolton Road Roundabout - signalised crossing improvements <i>Joint funded with Walking Strategy & Cycling Strategy allocation</i>	£115,000
	Mount Road / Broadway, Bebington - Mini-roundabout	£90,000
	Upton By-pass / Saughall Massie Rd - signalised junction improvement	£60,000
	SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL / ETP	£30,000
	Safer Routes To School / ETP	
	SRTS scheme 1	£15,000
	SRTS scheme 2	£15,000
	IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY - TOTAL:	£345,000
	Scheme	£
PROMOTING ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEALTH (£380,000)		
	WALKING STRATEGY	£125,000
	Pedestrian Signals	£95,000
	Bolton Road Roundabout - signalised crossing improvements <i>Joint funded with LSS & Cycling Strategy allocation</i>	£55,000
	ELV replacement programme	£20,000
	Improvements to existing asset / other technological advancements	£20,000
	Pedestrian Improvements	£20,000
	Pedestrian Dropped Crossings	£20,000
	Public Rights Of Way Improvement Plan	£10,000
	Public Rights Of Way Improvement Plan	£10,000
	CYCLING STRATEGY	£145,000
	Cycling Strategy	£145,000
	Bolton Road Roundabout - improvements to assist cyclists <i>Joint funded with LSS & Walking Strategy allocation</i>	£55,000
	Bridge Road / Orrysdale Road, West Kirby - TOUCAN crossing <i>Joint funded with Cycling Strategy</i>	£60,000
	Claremont Rd / Broadway, Wallasey	£15,000
	Kelvin Rd - Lucerne Road link	£10,000
	Wallasey Network signing	£5,000

	AREA FORUMS	£110,000
	Area Forums	
	Bebington & Clatterbridge	£10,000
	Bidston & Claughton	£10,000
	Birkenhead, Tranmere & Rock Ferry	£10,000
	Bromborough & Eastham	£10,000
	Greasby, Frankby, Irby, Upton & Woodchurch	£10,000
	Heswall, Pensby & Thingwall	£10,000
	Leasowe, Moreton & Saughall Massie	£10,000
	Liscard & Seacombe	£10,000
	New Brighton & Wallasey	£10,000
	Oxton & Prenton	£10,000
	West Wirral	£10,000
	PROMOTING ACTIVE TRAVEL & HEATH – TOTAL:	£380,000
	Scheme	£
	REDUCING CONGESTION & CARBON EMISSIONS (£161,000)	
	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	£156,000
	Traffic Management Measures	£136,000
	Bayswater Road roundabout	£110,000
	Accidents To Zero signing initiative	£12,000
	Strategic signing initiative	£14,000
	UTC / Telematics / CCTV	£20,000
	UTC / Telematics / CCTV	£20,000
	TRAVEL PLANS & TRAVELWISE	£5,000
	Council's Travel Plan Measures	£5,000
	REDUCING CONGESTION & CARBON EMISSIONS - TOTAL:	£161,000
	TRANSPORTATION - GENERAL (£250,000)	
	ADVANCE DESIGN	£130,000
	Advance Design	£130,000
	RESEARCH & MONITORING	£120,000
	Transportation	£25,000
	Transportation Studies etc	
	Forward Planning	£95,000
	Forward Planning	
	TRANSPORTATION GENERAL - TOTAL:	£250,000

LTP CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013 / 14 - TOTAL: £1,136,000

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2013/14 WALKING STRATEGY

PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS - DROPPED CROSSINGS

NEW REQUESTS

Location	Ward	No of Crossings
Menai Street / Eastbourne Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Eastbourne Road / Claughton Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Westbourne Road / Ridley Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Westbourne Road / Clarendon Close	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Balls Road / Woodchurch Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Hemmingford Street / Conway Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Borough Road / Elmswood Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Borough Road / Harrowby Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Old Chester Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Queen Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Hindertons Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Argyle Street South (Union St-Central Stn)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Chester Street / Shore Road (Kerb line rear of Tramway)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Vehicle Entrance to Wirral Spares, 400 Borough Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Claughton Road Entrance to the Lauries Centre	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Poulton Road (service rd) at Dibbins Hey	Clatterbridge	2
Dibbins Hey at Woodkind Hey	Clatterbridge	2
Dibbins Hey at Thornfield Hey	Clatterbridge	2
Dibbins Hey at Venables Drive	Clatterbridge	2
Dibbins Hey at Gotham Road,	Clatterbridge	2
Neston Road / Oxford Drive	Clatterbridge	2
Neston Road / Eton Drive	Clatterbridge	2
Clifton Avenue/Willington Ave	Eastham	2
Clifton Avenue/Hatton Ave	Eastham	2
Side of no. 2 St David Road	Eastham	2
Glenwood Drive (entrance to former garages between 67 & 73)	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Bennets Lane/Newlyn Road	Hoylake/Meols	2
Trafalgar Avenue / St Columba's Close	Liscard	2
St Albans Road at 2no. entrances to St Albans School	Liscard	4
Cromer Drive/Leander Rd - S/o junction o/s 20 Cromer Drive	Liscard	2
Roslyn Drive at Roslyn Crescent	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
Victoria Parade / Virginia Road	New Brighton	2
Victoria Parade / Albert Street	New Brighton	2
Victoria Parade / Belmont Road	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road (at entrance to car park)	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Windsor Street	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Grosvenor Road	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Waterloo Road	New Brighton	2

Victoria Road (at entrance to Co-op car park)	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road (at vehicle entrance o/s 126 Sea Level Hotel)	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Cavendish Street	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Fowell Road	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road (entry at side of no. 158)	New Brighton	2
Victoria Road / Portland Street	New Brighton	2
Langdale Avenue at Rydal Close	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Langdale Avenue at Paltridge Way	Pensby & Thingwall	2
S/o 11, Pensall Drive	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Opp Pensall House (Fairview Way)	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Bidston Road (Gerald Road to Silverdale Road)	Oxton	2
Gerald Road (Shrewsbury Road to Bidston Road)	Oxton	TBA
Alton Road (Shrewsbury Road to Village Road),	Oxton	TBA
Village Road (Alton Road to Rose Mount),	Oxton	TBA
Shrewsbury Road (Alton Road to Silverdale Road)	Oxton	TBA
Old Chester Road (Between Bedford Drive and Kings Lane)	Rock Ferry	TBA
Wheatland Lane at Vernon Avenue	Seacombe	2
Wheatland Lane at Geneva Road	Seacombe	2
Wheatland Lane at Lucerne Road	Seacombe	2
Poulton Road (Canterbury Road to Borough Road)	Seacombe	TBA
Wheatland Lane / Oakdale Road	Seacombe	2
Orret's Meadow Road (o/s 120 & 165),	Upton	2
Orret's Meadow Road (outside no. 120 leading to opposite side of cul-de-sac),	Upton	2
Warren Drive / Ennerdale Road	Wallasey	2
Kings Parade (gated access to land at the rear of Yacht Club) near lifeguard station	Wallasey	2
o/s 127 Frankby Road,	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
o/s 129 Frankby Road	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
o/s 133 Frankby Road	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
Frankby Road / China Farm Lane roundabout,	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2

PREVIOUS REQUESTS

Location	Ward	No of Crossings
Higher Bebington Road @ vehicle crossing o/s 156 - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Lane / Woodburn Boulevard - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Lane / Kingswood Boulevard - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Lane / Queenswood Avenue - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Lane / Service Road (o/s 139 Kings Lane) - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Road @ first entrance into Christ Church - Dropped Kerbs	Bebington	1
Kings Road @ Kings Close	Bebington	2
Millfield Close, Bebington (Junction School Lane)	Bebington	2
Mount Road (Access outside 47a)	Bebington	2
Mount Road (Access outside 49)	Bebington	2
Mount Road @ Mount Avenue	Bebington	2

Mount Road @ Mount Drive	Bebington	2
Mount Road @ Mill Road	Bebington	2
Bidston Moss (Either side of entrance into MFI car park)	Bidston & St James	2
Chester Street (refuge near Market Street)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	3
Cleveland Street (Locations to be confirmed)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Duncan Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	4
Duncan Street @ Gertrude Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Duncan Street @ Albion Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Entrance bet30 & 36 Olive Mount	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Exmouth Street (at entrance across fire station)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Gamlin Street (O/S No 1 & 29)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	4
Grange Road East @ Argyle Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Lord Street (at vehicle access to rear of Wirral Heritage Tramway)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Lord Street (vehicle entrance to Municipal Building)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	TBA
Market Street (Between Argyle Street & Adelphi Street)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	20
Mount Grove / Braidwood Court	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Olive Mount @ Holborn Hill,	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Olive Mount @ Olive Crescent,	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Olive Mount @ Frodsham Street,	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Side of 56 Thompson Street,	Birkenhead & Tranmere	1
Shore Road	Birkenhead & Tranmere	9
St Mary's Gate @ Chester Street	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Thomas Street @ non-public entrance to M53 Ford	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Thompson Street @ Warrington St	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Waterloo Place	Birkenhead & Tranmere	4
Whitfield Street (Access adjacent to 17)	Birkenhead & Tranmere	2
Boundary Road / Circular Drive (2no junctions)	Bromborough	4
Brookhurst Avenue, Bromborough	Bromborough	TBA
Caldbeck Road	Bromborough	TBA
Central Road / Windy Bank	Bromborough	2
Central Road / Lower Road	Bromborough	2
Central Rd at Entrance to Osbourne Court (s/o No. 3 Central Rd)	Bromborough	2
Central Road / Primrose Hill	Bromborough	2
Legion Lane (at end of road were it meets car park)	Bromborough	1
O/S Bromborough Hotel, Mark Rake, Bromborough.	Bromborough	1
Opposite 89 Acre Lane	Bromborough	1
S/O no. 2 Marquis Street, New Ferry	Bromborough	2
S/O no. 2 Marquis Street, New Ferry	Bromborough	2
Stanhope Drive, Bromborough (Across 2no. entrances to Meadowcroft)	Bromborough	4
Sunningdale/Brookhurst Ave	Bromborough	2
Welton Road off Caldbeck Road	Bromborough	1
Welton Road	Bromborough	TBA
Wentworth Drive/Brookhurst Avenue.	Bromborough	2
Bromborough Road @ entrance to Raffa Social Club	Clatterbridge	2

Bidston Road @ Vyner Road South	Claughton	2
Noctorum Way @ St Peters Way	Claughton	2
Olivia Close (opposite sheltered housing bungalows)	Claughton	1
Olivia Close (Opposite sheltered housing bungalows)	Claughton	TBA
Ormond Way its junction with Ossett Close	Claughton	TBA
Ormond Way its junction with Ollerton Close	Claughton	TBA
Ormond Way its junction with Orlando Close	Claughton	2
Ormond Way @ Ossett Close	Claughton	2
Wharfedale Drive, Eastham (Outside No 53 to provide access across the road to entry leading to shops)	Eastham	2
Greasby Road @ Norwood Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Greasby Road (Outside number 185) Highfield Drive	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Greasby Road / Rylands Hey	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Irby Road @ Woodlands Road, Irby	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Hambledon Drive / Retford Close	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Hambledon / Beauworth Avenue	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Mill Lane @ Thorns Drive	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Mill Hill Road @ Heathbank Avenue	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Mill Lane (Vehicle entrance at s/o no.20)	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Pump Lane @ Kinloss Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road at Coombe Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road East / Thingwall Drive	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road (at vehicle entrance to The Shippons PH)	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Roslin Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Coombe Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Harrockwood Close	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road (at slip road s/o no. 120)	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Glenwood Drive	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Elm Road	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road (at 4no. entrances to service road)	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thingwall Road / Whalley Lane	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	8
Thingwall Road / Parkway	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thorns Drive @ Sycamore Rise	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thorns Drive @ Elmdene Court	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thorns Drive @ Chesnut Close	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Thorns Drive @ Oakdale Drive	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	2
Wood Lane	Greasby, Frankby & Irby	40 +
Disabled slope requested for pavements, corner by Lister Lodge across to Cottage Lane (Gayton Farm Road)	Heswall	
Fairview Way, Pensby	Heswall	2
Park Road @ Buffs Lane	Heswall	2
Telegraph Road/Strathallen Close	Heswall	1
Telegraph Road / Beacon Lane	Heswall	2
Telegraph Road / West Drive	Heswall	2
Station Road, Heswall (junction Rectory Close)	Heswall	4

Barton Road – Penrhos Road to Service Road r/o Kings Gap	Hoylake & Meols	12
Chapel Road, Hoylake	Hoylake & Meols	8
Elwyn Road @ Entrance to Great Meols Primary School	Hoylake & Meols	2
Elwyn Road @ Newlyn Road	Hoylake & Meols	2
Graham Road (Adjacent to Applegarth)	Hoylake & Meols	1
Greenwood Lane, Meols	Hoylake & Meols	1
Market Street, Hoylake (Hoyle Road to Shaw Street)	Hoylake & Meols	22
Melrose Avenue	Hoylake & Meols	1
North Parade / Meols Parade, Meols	Hoylake & Meols	TBA
Rycroft Road @ Birkenhead Road, Meols	Hoylake & Meols	2
Drake Road	Leasowe & Moreton East	TBA
Danger Lane / Daneswell Drive	Leasowe & Moreton East	2
Danger Lane / Yew Way	Leasowe & Moreton East	2
Danger Lane / Pasture Avenue	Leasowe & Moreton East	2
Leasowe Road (at slip road to north Wallasey approach)	Leasowe & Moreton East	8
Cameron Road @ Mackenzie Road	Leasowe & Moreton East	2
Leasowe Road, Leasowe (Pasture Road to Twickenham Drive)	Leasowe & Moreton East	10
Twickenham Dv, Leasowe (Drake Rd to Twickenham Dv side rd)	Leasowe & Moreton East	4
Eaton Street @ Grosvenor Street, Liscard	Liscard	2
Martins Lane o/s The Primrose	Liscard	2
Ruskin Avenue, Wallasey	Liscard	TBA
St Albans Road, Liscard	Liscard	16
St Elmo Road (entry at s/o 1)	Liscard	2
Torrington Road and Rullerton Road	Liscard	2
Water Street, Egremont	Liscard	2
Withens Lane, Wallasey (o/s Saddlers Pub & British Legion)	Liscard	2
Pasture Road (Either side of entrance to cycle path running adjacent to The Birket)	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	4
Berrylands Road (rear entrance to Harvest Court)	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
Berrylands Road o/s no. 2. Ramp required for elderly residents	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	1
Borrowdale Road (Burrell Drive to Hoylake Road)	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	
Douglas Drive At Francis Avenue	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
S/O 20 Maryland Lane	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	1
Upton Road / Rosslyn Drive	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
Upton Road / Dawpool Drive	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
Upton Road / Winston Grove	Moreton West & Saughall Massie	2
Upton Road / Chadwick Street	Moreton West &	2

	Saughall Massie	
Atherton Street / Victoria Road	New Brighton	2
Coastal Drive, New Brighton	New Brighton	TBA
Marine Promenade at Rowson Street (Roundabout 1 leg adjacent to Bobby's bar)	New Brighton	2
Osborne Road at Osbourne Avenue (corner o/s 2-8 Osbourne Vale leading to corner o/s 11 Osbourne Road)	New Brighton	2
Rowson St junction of Wellington Road (tactile kerb)	New Brighton	TBA
Bidston Road at entrance to West Knowe	Oxton	2
Fairview Road / Fairview Close	Oxton	2
Fairview Road (at vehicle entrance side of St Josephs school)	Oxton	2
Fairview Road / Downing Close	Oxton	2
Fairview Road / The Grove	Oxton	2
Fairview Road (at St Josephs school entrance)	Oxton	2
Outside 4 Holm Lane (redundant vehicle crossing)	Oxton	TBA
Outside 38 Holm Lane (redundant vehicle crossing)	Oxton	TBA
Outside 40a Holm Lane (vehicle crossing)	Oxton	TBA
Holm Lane at entrance to Holm Cottages	Oxton	TBA
Nursery Close	Oxton	1
Shrewsbury Road, Oxton (Palm Hill to Alton Road)	Oxton	8
Spurstow Close, Oxton (junction Calveley Close)	Oxton	2
Talbot Road, Oxton (Townfield Lane to Holm Lane)	Oxton	6
Village Road/Claughton Firs, Oxton	Oxton	4
Woodchurch Road @ Woodhurch Court (Opp Oakdene Rd)	Oxton	2
Kentmere Drive (@ Derwent and Rusland)	Pensby & Thingwall	4
Kentmere Drive (@ Langdale and Rosemead	Pensby & Thingwall	4
Langdale Avenue at Rydal Close	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Langdale Avenue at Paltridge Way	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Old Wood Road, Pensby (o/s no.55)	Pensby & Thingwall	1
Pensby Road @ Wimbourne Avenue	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Ryland Park, Pensby (o/s Emmanuel Church)	Pensby & Thingwall	1
Thingwall Road / Parkway	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road / Dane Close	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road / Dane Close	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road East (at vehicle entrance to 81)	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road East (at vehicle entrance to farm opposite Heywood Boulevard)	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road East (at disused entrance to park opposite no. 21)	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Thingwall Road East / adjacent service road o/s 9	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Pensby Road (at entrance to Thingwall Primary School)	Pensby & Thingwall	2
Pensby Road at entrance to Stanley School	Pensby & Thingwall	2
98/100 Prenton Village Road	Prenton	1
O/S 1 Mount Road, Prenton	Prenton	1
Outside 98 Prenton Village Road - Dropped Kerbs.	Prenton	1
Prenton Village Road/Prenton Dell Road	Prenton	2
Johnson Road (at both junctions with Prenton Dell Road)	Prenton	4

Johnson Road (across entrance to garages adjacent to no. 47)	Prenton	2
Gothic Street (Access adjacent to no. 36)	Rock Ferry	2
Gothic Street (Access adjacent to no. 47)	Rock Ferry	2
King Street at its junction with Sefton Road	Rock Ferry	2
King Street at its junction with Acton Road	Rock Ferry	2
King Street at its junction with Wilton Road	Rock Ferry	2
King Street at its junction with Queens Road.	Rock Ferry	2
Nelson Road (Access adjacent to Derby Arms Public House)	Rock Ferry	2
Nelson Road at entrance to Nelson Court	Rock Ferry	2
Woodward Road (Outside 126)	Rock Ferry	1
Matthew Street, Wallasey	Seacombe	6
2 Ford Close,	Upton	1
Upton Road / 1. Torwood. 2. Interbene Lodge	Upton	4
Entrance to church car park, Church Road	Upton	2
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Archers Way	Upton	1
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Goodakers Meadow	Upton	1
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Troutbeck Close	Upton	1
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Crewe Garden	Upton	1
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Eltham Green	Upton	1
Fleet Croft Road at its junction with Childwall Green	Upton	1
Leeswood Road, Woodchurch (junction with Arrowe Park Road)	Upton	2
Leeswood Road at Glebe Hey Road	Upton	2
Leeswood Road (at service road between Glebe Hey Road and Domville Drive)	Upton	2
Leeswood Road (at service road between Domville Drive and North Brooke Way)	Upton	2
Leeswood Road (at service road between North Brooke Way and Kiln Road)	Upton	2
Leeswood Road at Kiln Road	Upton	2
Moreton Road, Upton Ward (entrance to service road o/s flat nos. 135 to 145, northwest of junction with Royden Road)	Upton	2
Salacre Lane @ Slingsby Drive	Upton	2
Slingsby Drive at entrance to St Mary's Court	Upton	2
Whitewell Drive at junction with Sunny Bank	Upton	2
Claremount Road at the junction of Taunton Road	Wallasey	2
Claremount Road at 2no. Entrances to Claremount Methodist Church	Wallasey	4
Grove Road / Keswick Road	Wallasey	2
Marshlands Road, Wallasey	Wallasey	4
Claremount Road and Harrow Road	Wallasey	2
Claremount Road and Church Hill	Wallasey	2
Grove Road @ The Leas, The Willows, Conniston Ave	Wallasey	8
Leasowe Road (2no entrances to Wallasey Van Hire)	Wallasey	4
Rolleston Drive / Oldfield Road	Wallasey	2
Sea Road (end of road at point where footpath leads to promenade)	Wallasey	1
Sandcliffe Road / Coastal Drive	Wallasey	2
Wallasey Village at its junction with Sandiways Road	Wallasey	2
Wallasey Village. Entrance adjacent to The Farmers Arms PH	Wallasey	2
Wallasey Village. Entrances fronting Classic Cars of Wirral	Wallasey	4

Warren Drive (vehicle entrance at no. 27a)	Wallasey	2
Warren Drive (vehicle entrance at no. 27b)	Wallasey	2
Warren Drive / Zetland Road	Wallasey	2
Bridge Road / Meols Drive, West Kirby	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
Grange Road / Gerard Road, West Kirby	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
Grange Road / Homestead Mews, West Kirby	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
South Parade, West Kirby (Disabled bays opp. Salisbury Ave)	West Kirby & Thurstaston	3
South Parade, West Kirby (@ Coronation Gardens)	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
Village Road / St Bridget's Lane, West Kirby	West Kirby & Thurstaston	2
o/s 4 Kiln Road,	Woodchurch	1

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE FUNDING AND STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2013/14
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	INTERIM DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR HARRY SMITH, STREETSCENE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
KEY DECISION?	YES

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 On 13 January 2011, Cabinet endorsed the maintenance allocation within the Local Transport Plan Capital Programme for 2013/14. The reported funding figures at that time were indicative but the Programme for 2013/14 for the Highway Maintenance Block amounts to the original reported figure of £2.864 million.
- 1.2 The Chancellor's Autumn Statement on the 5 December 2012 announced an additional £333 million for a dedicated fund to provide for essential maintenance to renew, repair and extend the life of the highway network in England. Wirral has been allocated £0.522m in 2013/14 and £0.279m in 2014/15 for priorities such as road resurfacing, maintenance to bridges or repairing damage to highway infrastructure caused by severe weather events.
- 1.3 This report presents both the proposed breakdown of that highway maintenance funding between the Bridges, Lighting and Roads/Footway elements of the network and the proposed Highway Structural Maintenance Programme 2013/14, for approval.
- 1.4 The maintenance of highways is a statutory duty for the Council under the Highways Act 1980 (as amended).

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The highway network and other transport infrastructure assets together represent by far the largest capital asset the Council holds, and the value of replacing those assets is estimated to be £1.94 billion. The highway network for which Wirral Council is responsible comprises approximately 1,185 kilometres of road.

2.2 Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2013/14

2.2.1 On 13 January 2011 Cabinet endorsed the indicative maintenance allocation within the Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2011/15, which included funding for the maintenance of highways totalling £ 2.864 million for 2013/14.

2.2.2 That £ 2.864 million allocation fully funded through the LTP, is intended for all highway infrastructure maintenance. An assessment of the priority needs of the bridges, street lighting, roads and footways elements of the network has been undertaken and the need for maintenance improvements to lighting columns and a number of priority bridge maintenance and strengthening schemes are included within the overall programme.

2.2.3 Accordingly, Cabinet is now recommended to approve the following allocation of the maintenance block as Table 1 below.

Street Lighting	£ 200,000
Bridges	£ 800,000
Roads and Footways	£ 1,864,000
Total	£ 2,864,000

Table 1: Allocation of the LTP Capital Programme 2013/14 Maintenance Block

2.3 Wirral Council funding for structural highway maintenance/improvements for Roads and Footways

2.3.1 A report on the Capital Programme 2012/15 is received by Cabinet at this meeting and includes two further £0.5 million allocations for 2013/14 for highway maintenance/improvements, funded from Council resources.

2.3.2 In previous years the capital element of the highways structural maintenance programme has been supported by £1.0 million of Capitalised Revenue funding from the Council's Revenue Budget. It is not expected that this funding will be available in the future.

2.3.3 The amount available this year from the LTP is £94,000 less than last year's allocation and this funding will be further reduced by £165,000 next year, from £2,864 million to £2,699 million. 2014/15 is the final year of the current LTP settlement.

2.3.4 The total reduction therefore of funding over the next two years from the LTP is £259,000. The submission of the Capital bids from Council resources this year is considered necessary to partly mitigate these reductions which would otherwise have the impact of accelerating the deterioration and depreciation of the highway network. The Additional Highway Maintenance Funding of £0.801 million referred to in paragraph 1.2 partly compensates for the reduction in funding.

2.4 Additional Local Highways Maintenance Funding

2.4.1 The Chancellor's Autumn Statement on the 5 December 2012 announced an additional £333 million for a dedicated fund to provide for essential

maintenance to renew, repair and extend the life of the highway network in England. Of the £333m, Wirral has been allocated £0.522m in 2013/14 and £0.279m in 2014/15 for priorities such as road resurfacing, maintenance to bridges or repairing damage to highway infrastructure caused by severe weather events. A requirement of the funding is that authorities commit to publishing a short statement on its website (and send a copy to the DfT) at the end of each financial year setting out on what and where (in terms of location) the additional funding has been spent, and how it has complemented (rather than displaced) existing planned highway maintenance expenditure.

2.5 Overall summary of funding proposed for structural maintenance of Roads and Footways in 2013/14

2.5.1 Table 2 below summarises the proposed allocations described in Sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 above.

Funding Source	£
Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2013/14 Maintenance block.	£ 1,864,000
Capital Maintenance Allocation (£1.0M)	
- Unclassified and Residential Roads	£ 500,000
- Non Principal Roads	£ 500,000
Additional Local Highways Maintenance Funding. (A list of locations is included in Appendix 1.)	£ 522,000
TOTAL	£3,386,000

Table 2: Summary of proposed funding allocations for structural maintenance of roads and footways in 2013/14.

2.6 Network Condition and Assessment Criteria

2.6.1 In order to fulfil its duty to maintain the highway, it is necessary to consider how the Council will prioritise the maintenance schemes to be undertaken and what treatment of the prioritised schemes should comprise in order to repair and prevent further deterioration of those lengths of road and footway. The following criteria are used in carrying out this analysis:

- (i) In accordance with national best practice the Council undertakes surveys of the highway network in order to determine the condition of the carriageways.
- (ii) Areas of constant repairs; mainly due to vehicle over-ride; are highlighted in the Highway Inspectors' safety inspections.

- (iii) Particular roads brought to the Council's attention, as warranting significant repair, by Area Forums, Elected Members, the public and Streetscene officers.
- (iv) Feedback from the Council's Term Maintenance Contractor regarding the suitability of different repair solutions depending on the existing road condition and use.
- (v) Road casualty information, where collisions with road surface condition as a potential causation factor, to determine whether prioritising a scheme in the programme may also address a recognised road safety concern.

2.6.2 In relation to Area Forums, each Forum was given the opportunity to contribute to this year's programme and submit lists of roads they considered to be local priorities for significant repair. The programme of schemes **attached at Appendix 1** denotes those schemes with an "F". Schemes that are the subject of a petition are denoted as "P".

2.6.3 From the surveys undertaken, the existing condition of the highway network is reported through a small number of former National Indicators (NI). Choices relating to structural repairs to carriageway surfacing is dependent on a number of factors including cost, traffic flows and type and the condition of the underlying road and foundation. Certain routes require more expensive and durable surfacing whereas in other cases the priority, particularly on relatively lowly trafficked routes, is to prevent further deterioration of the road surface by sealing against ingress of water, whilst restoring skid resistance. Single Data List item 130-01, replacing former National Indicator 168, which measures the condition of Classified Principal (A) Roads has improved from 4.1% in 2009/10 to 2% in 2010/11 and to 1% in 2011/12.

2.6.4 Single Data List item 130-02 replacing former National Indicator 169 which measures the condition of Classified Non-Principal (B and C) Roads also improved from 4% in 2009/10 to 2% in 2010/11 and remains the same at 2% in 2011/12.

2.6.5 The Single Data Lists were introduced by the government in 2011/12 as part of the Data Set reporting requirements for local authorities as replacements to the former National Indicator Set.

2.6.6 The unclassified network (formerly BVPI 224b) had deteriorated from 5% in 2009/10 to 6% in 2010/11. However, an additional surfacing programme specifically undertaken on the unclassified highway network last year, funded from the Council's Capital Maintenance Allocation, returned the condition indicator to 5% in 2011/12.

2.6.7 All the recorded measurements above indicate the percentage of the network that requires maintenance for each classification of road.

2.7 Proposed Structural Maintenance Programme for 2013/14

2.7.1 The proposed Structural Maintenance Programme for 2013/14 for roads and footways is set out in the attached Appendix 1 and has been prepared taking into

account the funding described in Section 2.5 above and the priorities assessed from the criteria described in Section 2.6 above; with all of the schemes in the programme being identified from the surveys as requiring maintenance intervention now.

- 2.7.2 Cabinet should note that the list of schemes shown in the priority listing is greater than the proposed funding. This is to allow certainty of priority yet flexibility to extend/alter the proposed schemes to be delivered in the event that, for example, there are clashes with major utility activities, severe winter damage to certain roads, some scheme requirements/extent/costs are reduced, or less costly treatment is selected when the schemes are prepared in detail.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 The duty to maintain the highway is achieved in part through structural maintenance of carriageways and footways, and withdrawal of funding would mean that that duty would not be met to the same degree.
- 3.2 As with most highway authorities, the network is deteriorating, and without a structural maintenance programme to address the highest priority routes, then the network will deteriorate further, the asset value will decrease and the cost of carrying much greater maintenance at a later date will be disproportionately higher.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None. The programme is based on meeting the highest priority needs within the funding available against the condition and assessment criteria.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Area Forums, as described in Section 2.6.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 None identified through this report.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 Financial: Schemes identified in the programme will be funded from a variety of sources as detailed in Table 2 above. The £3.386m maintenance schemes within the Local Transport Plan Capital Programme, which have been detailed in this report, will be funded by grants from the Department for Transport; £2.864m from the Local Transport Settlement for highway infrastructure improvements and £0.522m from the recently announced additional Highways Maintenance funding for highway infrastructure maintenance. The Capital bid funding of £1.0 million from the Council's Capital Maintenance Allocation will also fund essential highway maintenance work.
- 7.2 Staffing: Existing staff resources will be commissioned for the detailed investigation, design and monitoring of these schemes.
- 7.3 Assets: Preventative maintenance to the highway assets will increase their residual life and asset value, and future spending will be targeted to maintain the carriageway condition indicators at their current level.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 imposes a duty on the Council, as Highway Authority, to maintain highways at the public expense.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(a) Yes and impact review is attached

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The environmental impact of the proposed construction methods and processes contained within the programme are evaluated on a site by site basis.

10.2 Wherever possible the use of recycling processes is encouraged to reduce the tax burden through landfill and aggregate levies and to limit the use of non-renewable resources.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no planning implications arising directly from this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

12.1 That Cabinet approve:

- (i) The proposed allocation of Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2013/14 Maintenance Block between Street Lighting, Bridges and Roads/Footways;
- (ii) The Detailed Highway Structural Maintenance Programme for 2013/14 (as detailed in section 2.7) and
- (iii) That the Director of Technical Services; in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Streetscene & Transport Services and Party Spokespersons; be able to make necessary adjustments to the priorities within the programme should the need arise due to financial, condition or other factors.
- (iv) That the additional highways maintenance funding referred to in section 2.4 be expended on those highway schemes specifically referred to in Appendix 1.

13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 The investment in the maintenance of the highway network will enable the Council to comply with its statutory duty to maintain the highway. The establishment of a prioritised programme allows both transparency that the Council is addressing those highway elements in greatest need of maintenance and proper management of the allocated finances, and to permit co-ordination of roadworks with the utilities' programmes of work.

13.2 Winter salting and freeze/thaw action has a detrimental effect on the condition of highway surfaces, allowing further degradation due to the ingress of water.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Proposed Structural Maintenance Programme 2013/14.

Appendix 2 – Letter from Department for Transport dated 18 December 2012 detailing Additional Highway Maintenance Funding for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

United Kingdom Pavement Management Systems (UKPMS) Survey Condition Data.

Single Data List Items (Former National Indicators N.I.168, N.I.169 and former BVPI 224b.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet – Local Transport Plan Capital Programme 2012/13	12 January 2011
Cabinet – Highway Maintenance Funding and Structural Maintenance Programme 2012/13	12 January 2012
Council - Capital Programme and Financing 2012/15	12 December 2011
Cabinet – Highway Maintenance Funding and Structural Maintenance Programme 2011/12	3 March 2011

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APPENDIX 1

Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
WOODSTOCK ROAD	MILL LANE TO LOVE LANE	LISCARD		47,766	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
WATSON STREET/ CLEVELAND STREET	JUNCTION	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		59,743	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
HOYLAKE ROAD	CHAPELHILL ROAD TO RAB MELROSE AVENUE TO HOOLE ROAD (EASTBOUND)	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		66,726	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
MARKET STREET	CANNING STREET TO IVY STREET	HOYLAKE & MEOLS		31,382	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
CHESTER STREET	IVY STREET TO GREEN LANE GREEN LANE TO BY PASS SOUTHBOUND	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		65,500	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
CHESTER STREET	RAPPART ROAD TO BIRNAM ROAD	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		238,669	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
NEW CHESTER ROAD	WOODCHURCH ROAD TO BOROUGH ROAD	ROCK FERRY		156,198	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
LISCARD ROAD	BOUNDARY ROAD TO SEFTON ROAD	SEACOMBE		29,285	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
SINGLETON AVENUE	PARK ROAD WEST TO LAIRD STREET	OXTON / PRENTON		107,402	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
NEW CHESTER ROAD	GAUTBY ROAD TO R.A.B. AT BIDSTON LINK ROAD	BROMBOROUGH		81,635	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
PARK ROAD NORTH	BIDSTON STATION APPROACH TO EAST SIDE OF M53 BRIDGE	CLAUUGHTON		30,800	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
HOYLAKE ROAD		BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		39,820	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
FENDER LANE		BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		48,038	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
BELVIDERE ROAD	BRITANNIA ROAD TO BROADWAY AVENUE	WALLASEY		20,079	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
WHEATLAND LANE	POULTON ROAD TO KELVIN ROAD	SEACOMBE		12,744	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
CHURCH ROAD	WELL LANE TO ELM ROAD	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		152,236	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
OLD CHESTER ROAD	ROCK LANE WEST TO BEDFORD ROAD	ROCK FERRY		80,036	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
OLD CHESTER ROAD	TOWN LANE TO KINGS LANE	ROCK FERRY		109,499	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
OLD CHESTER ROAD	BEDFORD ROAD TO DOWNHAM ROAD	ROCK FERRY		102,497	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
POULTON ROAD	MILL LANE TO GORSEY LANE	SEACOMBE		106,762	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
MILL LANE	BARKER LANE TO GREASBY ROAD	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY		19,547	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
KELVIN ROAD	WHEATLAND LANE TO BIRKENHEAD ROAD	SEACOMBE		56,366	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
BEBINGTON ROAD	TOWNFIELD LANE TO OLD CHESTER ROAD	BEBINGTON		63,439	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
TEEHEY LANE	TOWN LANE HIGHER BEBINGTON ROAD	BEBINGTON		33,212	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
BEDFORD ROAD	NEW CHESTER ROAD TO MERSEY LANE SOUTH	ROCK FERRY		30,920	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
FRANKBY ROAD	FRANKBY CLOSE TO HILL BARK ROAD	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY		77,104	STRUCTURAL CARRIAGEWAY	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
SAUGHALL MASSIE ROAD	OLDFIELD LANE JUNCTION	HOYLAKE & MEOLS		50,000	CAPITAL BID NON PRINCIPAL ROADS	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
BEBINGTON ROAD	BEBINGTON STATION TO ROCKLANDS AVENUE	BEBINGTON		114,000	CAPITAL BID NON PRINCIPAL ROADS	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
CHURCH ROAD	ELM ROAD TO WHETSTONE LANE	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		103,000	CAPITAL BID NON PRINCIPAL ROADS	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
THINGWALL ROAD EAST	IRBY ROAD TO HEYWOOD BOULEVARD	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY / PENSBY & THINGWALL		51,000	CAPITAL BID NON PRINCIPAL ROADS	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY
POULTON ROAD	ALDERLEY ROAD TO PARK ROAD	SEACOMBE		171,000	CAPITAL BID NON PRINCIPAL ROADS	RESURFACE CARRIAGEWAY

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
REST HILL ROAD	ALL	BEBINGTON		13,596	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
BRIMSTAGE LANE	ALL	BEBINGTON		22,533	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
STATION ROAD	ALL	CLATTERBRIDGE		33,741	SURFACE TREATMENT TO CARRIAGEWAY	SURFACE DRESSING
BARNSTON ROAD	No 2 BARNSTON ROAD TO BEAUMARIS DRIVE	PENSBY & THINGWALL		5,078	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PRENTON DELL AVENUE	ALL	PRENTON	F	1,879	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PRENTON DELL ROAD	ROMAN ROAD TO PRENTON HALL ROAD	PRENTON	F	6,673	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HAZELDENE AVENUE	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL	P	4,348	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HAZELDENE WAY	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL	P	2,181	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
TORRINGTON DRIVE	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL	P	10,495	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
SOUTH DRIVE	ALL	HESWALL		9,035	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
FOXDALE CLOSE	ALL	OXTON	F	3,190	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
OULTON CLOSE	ALL	OXTON	F	12,481	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PINE VIEW DRIVE	ALL	HESWALL		3,771	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
SCHOOL LANE	ALL	HOYLAKE & MEOLS		11,295	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
REGENTS WAY	ALL	BEBINGTON		9,533	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
DAWPOOL DRIVE	ALL	CLATTERBRIDGE	F	13,071	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
THURSTASTON ROAD	No. 1 HERBERTS LANE TO SCHOOL HILL	HESWALL		9,300	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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OLDFIELD ROAD	THURSTASTON ROAD TO QUARRY ROAD WEST	HESWALL		5,324	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
BORROWDALE ROAD	ALL	CLATTERBRIDGE		10,546	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
DEVONSHIRE ROAD	ALL	OXTON		13,801	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
JAMES STREET	ALL	SEACOMBE		1,483	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PROCTER ROAD	ALL	ROCK FERRY		5,180	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
RATHMORE DRIVE	ALL	OXTON		1,953	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
SCHOOL LANE	ALL	BROMBOROUGH		3,687	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
WILLAN STREET	ALL	OXTON	F	2,916	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
LOWER GREEN	ALL	UPTON		4,617	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
RAEBURN AVENUE	ALL	WEST KIRBY & THURSTON		7,305	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
CARR BRIDGE ROAD	BIG MEADOW ROAD TO GRASSWOOD ROAD	UPTON		13,587	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
VYNER ROAD SOUTH	ALL	CLAUGHTON		48,416	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
EASTHAM VILLAGE ROAD	NEW CHESTER ROAD TO CHURCH LANE	EASTHAM		12,420	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
CLIFTON AVENUE	ALL	EASTHAM		7,445	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
MILL PARK DRIVE	ALL	EASTHAM		30,402	ADDITIONAL LOCAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
CHURCH ROAD	ALL	UPTON		8,045	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
BROADWAY	ALL	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY		12,848	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ENNISDALE DRIVE	BLACKHORSE HILL TO SANDSTONE DRIVE	WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON		28,718	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
FORNALLS GREEN LANE	NO 38 TO FARM	HOYLAKE & MEOLS		6,822	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
KINGS DRIVE	ALL	WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON		39,334	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
RAVENHILL CRESCENT	ALL	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		8,975	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HAWTHORN LANE	ALL	EASTHAM	F	3,018	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
BROADOAKS	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE	F	1,535	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
RABY DRIVE	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE	F	2,664	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
JARROW CLOSE	ALL	OXTON	F	2,757	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
DUDLEY CLOSE	ALL	OXTON		3,120	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
FOUNTAIN STREET	ALL	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE	P	8,663	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ELM STREET	ALL	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		1,395	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
RYLANDS HEY	ALL	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY		5,999	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
GARDENS ROAD	ALL	CLATTERBRIDGE		5,222	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
NEALE DRIVE	ALL	GREASBY, FRANKBY & IRBY		6,417	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PALM GROVE	PARK ROAD SOUTH TO DEVONSHIRE PLACE	OXTON		12,778	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
CHURCH LANE	ALL	EASTHAM		3,455	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
TARBOT HEY	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		3,120	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HOME FARM CLOSE	ALL	UPTON		3,306	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ENNERDALE ROAD	ALL	WALLASEY		7,998	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
BENTY CLOSE	ALL	BEBINGTON		3,269	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
MEADOWSIDE ROAD	ALL	BROMBOROUGH	F	5,743	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ALBION STREET	ROWSON STREET TO DUDLEY ROAD (ALSO INCLUDE BELL MOUTHS AT ATHERTON STREET)	NEW BRIGHTON		30,657	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
FAIRVIEW WAY	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL		2,995	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
NICHOLLS DRIVE	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL		7,686	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
URMSON ROAD	ALL	LISCARD		9,100	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
BRACKEN LANE	ALL	BEBINGTON		14,815	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
PROSPECT VALE	ALL	LISCARD		11,169	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
VILLAGE ROAD	THE OATLANDS TO COLUMN ROAD	WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON		9,519	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
WOODVILLE ROAD	ALL	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		6,980	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HEYVILLE ROAD	ALL	BEBINGTON		9,151	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
LINKSIDE	ALL	BEBINGTON		9,644	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
THORNTON AVENUE	ALL	BEBINGTON		7,059	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
LANGDALE ROAD	ALL	CLATTERBRIDGE		10,658	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
POULTON ROYD DRIVE	SELECTED	CLATTERBRIDGE		25,180	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
KENTMERE DRIVE	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL		13,838	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
NELSON DRIVE	ALL	PENSBY & THINGWALL		11,072	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
HOME FARM ROAD	ACKERS ROAD TO MEADOW CRESCENT	UPTON	F	25,552	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
BEACONSFIELD ROAD	ALL	BROMBOROUGH		8,765	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ATHOL DRIVE	ALL	BROMBOROUGH		11,137	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
SOMERSET ROAD	CHEEDON WAY TO PENSBY ROAD	PENSBY & THINGWALL		4,311	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
LORNE ROAD	ALL	OXTON		11,839	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
CEARNS ROAD	ALL	OXTON		14,094	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
FIRST AVENUE	ALL	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		2,417	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
AIRDALE CLOSE	ALL	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		3,646	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR
ELEANOR ROAD	ALL	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		24,279	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE DRESSING
STATHAM ROAD	ALL	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		20,739	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE DRESSING
WOODCOTE BANK	ALL	ROCK FERRY		3,009	CAPITAL BID UNCLASSIFIED ROADS	SURFACE TREATMENT TO BE DECIDED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH TERM MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
OULTON CLOSE	ALL	OXTON	F	59,940	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
RINGWOOD	REMAINING PART	OXTON	F	21,600	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
CHURCH ROAD	ELM ROAD TO WHETSTONE LANE	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		75,600	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
STATION ROAD	ALL	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		31,860	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
DICKENS AVENUE	ALL	PRENTON		64,188	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
PRICE STREET	HAMILTON LANE TO LORD STREET	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		34,560	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
PRESTBURY CLOSE	ALL	OXTON		12,060	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
DEVONSHIRE ROAD	PALM GROVE TO SLATEY ROAD	OXTON	F	3,960	STRUCTURAL FOOTWAY	L/R & P/L KERBS AS REQUIRED. L/R FLAGS AS REQUIRED. CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT FLEXIBLE FOOTWAY.
EGERTON ROAD	ALL	BROMBOROUGH		1,601	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
MORETON ROAD	UPLAND ROAD TO FORD ROAD	UPTON		3,159	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BIDSTON VILLAGE ROAD	SCHOOL LANE TO BALLANTYNE DRIVE	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		1,550	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
CATHCART STREET	ALL BITMAC AREAS	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		6,394	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
NORTH ROAD	ALL	WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON		1,447	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
KESTRAL ROAD	LAYBY	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		546	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
CHURCH ROAD	ALL	UPTON		2,732	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
CLAUGHTON ROAD	EXMOUTH STREET TO HEMMINGFORD STREET	CLAUGHTON		4,378	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BROMBOROUGH ROAD	FOOTWAY BRIDGE TO SPITAL ROAD	BROMBOROUGH		795	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
FOUNTAIN STREET	BITMAC FOOTWAY ONLY	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE	P	3,154	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
PINE VIEW DRIVE	ALL	HESWALL		1,985	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
TARBOT HEY	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		1,405	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
TALBOT ROAD	VILLAGE ROAD TO MILL HILL / HOLM LANE	OXTON		4,863	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
STATHAM ROAD	ALL	CLAUGHTON		6,763	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
EDGBASTON WAY	ALL	CLAUGHTON		1,028	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
LORDS AVENUE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		792	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
TRUMAN CLOSE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		729	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
EDRICH AVENUE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		400	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
WASHBROOK AVENUE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		610	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
COWDRY AVENUE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		776	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
IKIN CLOSE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		366	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
LINDWALL CLOSE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		374	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
LILLIE CLOSE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		307	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
LYONS ROAD	ALL	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		1,155	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
LYONS CLOSE	ALL	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		403	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
WHITLY CLOSE	ALL	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		1,903	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
WHITLY AVENUE	ALL	LEASOWE & MORETON EAST		1,977	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BEECH AVENUE	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		2,801	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BIRCH AVENUE	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		3,217	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
ELM AVENUE	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		3,018	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BRISCOE DRIVE	ALL	MORETON WEST & SAUGHALL MASSIE		3,456	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
NELSON ROAD	ALL	ROCK FERRY		1,076	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
ROCK LANE WEST	ALL	ROCK FERRY		10,907	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
SEFTON ROAD	ALL	ROCK FERRY		612	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
WILTON ROAD	ALL	ROCK FERRY		620	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
KING STREET	ALL	ROCK FERRY		1,664	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
OLD CHESTER ROAD	BYRNE AVENUE TO DACRE HILL ONE SIDE ONLY	ROCK FERRY		11,069	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL

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Road Name	Limits	Ward	Other Priorities	Estimate £s	Category	Works Description
DOVEPOINT ROAD	ALL	HOYLAKE & MEOLS		6,652	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
NORTH ROAD	ALL	WEST KIRBY & THURSTASTON		1,447	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
PRICE STREET	OLD BIDSTON ROAD TO VICTORIA STREET	BIDSTON & ST. JAMES		10,340	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
LIVERSIDGE ROAD	ALL	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		1,855	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
CATHCART STREET	ALL BITMAC AREAS	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		6,394	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BROOK STREET	DUKE STREET TO MARSHALL STREET	BIRKENHEAD & TRANMERE		1,757	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
BENTICK PLACE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		726	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
ALDERLEY AVENUE	UPTON ROAD TO MONA STREET	CLAUGHTON		795	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
ELEANOR ROAD	ALL	CLAUGHTON		7,818	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
CLAUGHTON PLACE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		443	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
GRANGE PLACE	ALL	CLAUGHTON		496	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL
GERTRUDE STREET	ALL	CLAUGHTON		180	SURFACE TREATMENT TO FOOTWAY	SLURRY SEAL

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Department
for Transport

From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Patrick McLoughlin

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**To: Leaders of English Local Highway
Authorities (outside of London)**

18 DEC 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Autumn Statement – Additional Local Highways Maintenance Funding

The Chancellor's Autumn Statement on the 5 December 2012 announced an additional £1.5 billion of Government investment to improve the highway network and reduce congestion.

The Government recognises one of the best ways to foster job creation, encourage economic growth and support local communities, including those that have encountered flooding in recent months, is to ensure we have well maintained transport infrastructure.

That is why we announced in the Autumn Statement an additional £333 million for a dedicated fund to provide for essential maintenance to renew, repair and extend life of the highway network in England. I have allocated £215 million of this Fund to local highway authorities split over the next two years (2013/14 and 2014/15). A list of indicative allocations by each individual authority is listed in Annex A to this letter.

Whilst it is for your authority to target the extra funds where it is most needed, to promote greater transparency we require your authority to commit to publishing a short statement on its website at the end of each financial year setting out on what and where (in terms of location) this additional funding has been spent, and how it has complemented (rather than displaced) your planned highway maintenance expenditure. My officials will shortly be seeking written confirmation from senior council officers on the agreement of this requirement before final allocations are confirmed. I believe this is a proportionate approach to transparency; one which was successfully implemented in the March 2011 payments for 'potholes' repairs.

It is for local highway authorities to plan and decide your own maintenance schedules. However, I think you will agree that it is important that any work undertaken gives due regard to minimising disruption both to business and other road users. This could include out of hours working, where appropriate and cost effective.

In regards to cost effectiveness I should also like to remind all local authorities of the importance of making the most of resources, to ensure we all achieve best value for money for the taxpayer. The Department for Transport-funded Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme is leading the way in this regard.

The Programme is bringing together the public and private sectors to develop and disseminate good practice in areas such as asset management and collaboration to reduce costs on procurement and other areas. I would strongly encourage your authority to explore whether it can adopt the best practice tools that are becoming available to maximise the returns from your authority's spend. Further details on the Programme can be found via: www.dft.gov.uk/hmep

In the meantime I wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patrick McLoughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

THE RT. HON. PATRICK McLOUGHLIN

ANNEX A - ADDITIONAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE FUNDING

Local Authority	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2013-14	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2014-15	TOTAL 2013-14 & 2014-15
	£m	£m	£m
England total pot	140	75	215
London	7.056	3.780	10.836
North East	7.649	4.179	11.828
Hartlepool	0.142	0.079	0.221
Middlesbrough	0.294	0.161	0.455
Redcar and Cleveland	0.283	0.152	0.435
Stockton-on-Tees	0.368	0.197	0.565
Darlington	0.289	0.145	0.434
County Durham	1.836	1.007	2.843
Northumberland	2.541	1.412	3.953
Gateshead	0.412	0.217	0.629
Newcastle upon Tyne	0.414	0.219	0.633
North Tyneside	0.326	0.176	0.502
South Tyneside	0.224	0.130	0.354
Sunderland	0.520	0.284	0.804
North West	18.466	9.752	28.218
Halton	0.355	0.187	0.542
Warrington	0.594	0.303	0.897
Blackburn with Darwen	0.334	0.171	0.505
Blackpool	0.273	0.143	0.416
Cheshire East	1.485	0.795	2.280
Cheshire West & Chester	1.125	0.596	1.721
Cumbria	3.890	2.082	5.972
Lancashire	3.632	1.904	5.536
Bolton	0.631	0.338	0.969
Bury	0.326	0.175	0.501
Manchester	0.583	0.315	0.898
Oldham	0.404	0.216	0.620
Rochdale	0.454	0.233	0.687
Salford	0.437	0.242	0.679
Stockport	0.579	0.248	0.827
Tameside	0.329	0.192	0.521
Trafford	0.392	0.213	0.605
Wigan	0.460	0.257	0.717
Knowsley	0.299	0.157	0.456
Liverpool	0.596	0.319	0.915
St. Helens	0.336	0.166	0.502
Sefton	0.426	0.219	0.645
Wirral	0.522	0.279	0.801

Local Authority	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2013-14	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2014-15	TOTAL 2013-14 & 2014-15
	£m	£m	£m
Yorkshire and The Humber	13.581	7.268	20.849
Kingston upon Hull, City of	0.326	0.179	0.505
East Riding of Yorkshire	1.656	0.921	2.577
North East Lincolnshire	0.297	0.165	0.462
North Lincolnshire	0.630	0.334	0.964
York	0.318	0.173	0.491
North Yorkshire	3.939	2.108	6.047
Barnsley	0.572	0.306	0.878
Doncaster	0.677	0.354	1.031
Rotherham	0.546	0.282	0.828
Sheffield	0.000	0.000	0.000
Bradford	1.040	0.540	1.580
Calderdale	0.643	0.347	0.990
Kirklees	1.019	0.548	1.567
Leeds	1.337	0.705	2.042
Wakefield	0.581	0.306	0.887
East Midlands	14.692	7.798	22.490
Derby	0.339	0.174	0.513
Leicester	0.399	0.200	0.599
Rutland	0.265	0.139	0.404
Nottingham	0.345	0.179	0.524
Derbyshire	2.625	1.405	4.030
Leicestershire	2.034	1.058	3.092
Lincolnshire	4.205	2.246	6.451
Northamptonshire	2.457	1.315	3.772
Nottinghamshire	2.022	1.082	3.104
West Midlands	14.397	7.674	22.071
Herefordshire, County of	1.584	0.857	2.441
Telford and Wrekin	0.481	0.257	0.738
Stoke-on-Trent	0.334	0.191	0.525
Shropshire	2.292	1.227	3.519
Staffordshire	2.936	1.573	4.509
Worcestershire	2.115	1.119	3.234
Warwickshire	1.825	0.977	2.802
Birmingham	0.000	0.000	0.000
Coventry	0.548	0.290	0.838
Dudley	0.473	0.253	0.726
Sandwell	0.620	0.321	0.941
Solihull	0.495	0.235	0.730
Walsall	0.352	0.188	0.540
Wolverhampton	0.343	0.184	0.527

Local Authority	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2013-14	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2014-15	TOTAL 2013-14 & 2014-15
	£m	£m	£m
East of England	17.926	9.616	27.542
Peterborough	0.532	0.303	0.835
Luton	0.183	0.106	0.289
Southend-on-Sea	0.277	0.157	0.434
Thurrock	0.312	0.167	0.479
Bedford	0.503	0.277	0.780
Central Bedfordshire	0.724	0.367	1.091
Cambridgeshire	1.949	1.040	2.989
Essex	3.446	1.854	5.300
Hertfordshire	3.220	1.720	4.940
Norfolk	3.701	1.977	5.678
Suffolk	3.079	1.648	4.727
South East	22.440	12.266	34.706
Medway	0.390	0.218	0.608
Bracknell Forest	0.259	0.143	0.402
West Berkshire	0.599	0.321	0.920
Reading	0.440	0.238	0.678
Slough	0.153	0.079	0.232
Windsor and Maidenhead	0.337	0.185	0.522
Wokingham	0.446	0.257	0.703
Milton Keynes	0.896	0.490	1.386
Brighton and Hove	0.594	0.325	0.919
Portsmouth	0.201	0.098	0.299
Southampton	0.310	0.169	0.479
Isle of Wight	0.000	0.000	0.000
Buckinghamshire	1.411	0.749	2.160
East Sussex	1.491	0.812	2.303
Hampshire	3.990	2.136	6.126
Kent	4.075	2.198	6.273
Oxfordshire	2.312	1.239	3.551
Surrey	2.616	1.574	4.190
West Sussex	1.920	1.033	2.953
South West	23.793	12.667	36.460
Bath and NE Somerset	0.663	0.353	1.016
Bristol, City of	0.573	0.307	0.880
North Somerset	0.615	0.329	0.944
South Gloucestershire	0.783	0.424	1.207
Plymouth	0.383	0.202	0.585
Torbay	0.211	0.113	0.324
Bournemouth	0.260	0.139	0.399
Poole	0.280	0.145	0.425
Swindon	0.462	0.247	0.709
Cornwall	3.191	1.683	4.874

Local Authority	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2013-14	Additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement 2014-15	TOTAL 2013-14 & 2014-15
	£m	£m	£m
Wiltshire	2.349	1.257	3.606
Devon	6.027	3.225	9.252
Dorset	2.005	1.056	3.061
Gloucestershire	2.708	1.434	4.142
Somerset	3.282	1.751	5.033

Notes:

1. All funding is capital.
2. All funding is subject to local highway authorities agreeing to publish transparency statements at the end of each financial year.
3. Due to highways maintenance PFIs – either in operation or becoming operational from 2013 onwards - Birmingham, Sheffield, the Isle of Wight and Hounslow are not eligible for this funding as they have agreed to forgo DfT highways maintenance capital block funding.
4. Funding for Local highway authorities is calculated using the following methodology:
 - Stage 1: Split the funding pot between local authorities inside and outside of London based on road length. Funding for London will be provided to TfL to manage and allocate as appropriate.
 - Stage 2: For local authorities outside of London, distribute the funding on the basis of the existing Highways Maintenance Block Formula (as defined for 2013/14 and 2014/15).

A detailed explanatory note on this calculation is available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-transport-capital-block-funding>

5. Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand.

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET

24 JANUARY 2013

SUBJECT:	THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF PAID SERVICE
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	THE HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
KEY DECISION?	YES

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose that the current Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service, Graham Burgess is offered the post on a permanent basis and if accepted, be appointed accordingly.

2. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 On 16 July 2012, the Council agreed the appointment of the Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service on a two-year fixed term contract following an open recruitment process with a number of applicants for the position. The appointment was made through a panel of the three group leaders, advised by the Chair of the Improvement Board.
- 2.2 Graham Burgess commenced employment on 3 September 2012 and his fixed-term appointment is therefore due to expire in August 2014.
- 2.3 At Council on 16 July 2012, The Leader of the Council informed Members that a decision had been made to appoint Graham Burgess as Wirral Council's Chief Executive on a two-year fixed term contract.

He indicated that Graham was appointed for his proven track record in a career that had spanned 38 years in local government. Graham, who was from and lived in Liverpool, was currently the Chief Executive of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, which had consistently been recognised as one of the highest performing Councils in the UK. During his time there, the authority had twice received the prestigious Council of the Year title. Graham was also recognised nationally in 2011/12 when he was voted the 4th most influential person in Local Government.

Graham had significant experience in leading major regeneration projects and delivering excellent services, along with a strong influence at both a regional and national level. Since the beginning of the year,

he had been a member of the Wirral Council Improvement Board, which was established with the Local Government Association to assist the authority in transforming how it operated. As one of only three people in the country to hold the dual role of Council and Primary Care Trust Chief Executive, his experience of leading the integration of local authority and health services will be of great benefit as responsibility for Public Health functions transfers to Wirral Council over the next year.

Council resolved unanimously on a motion by Councillor P. Davies, seconded by Councillor J. Green and endorsed by Councillor T. Harney, to appoint Mr Burgess as Chief Executive on a fixed term basis.

(Extract from minutes Council 16.07.2012. Item 21)

- 2.4 In the period since then the scale of the Council's financial challenge and the timescales over which savings must be delivered has become clearer and an Improvement Plan has been put in place to ensure the necessary improvements to the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements are implemented. Mr Burgess has also strengthened Individual accountability through the introduction of performance appraisal at a senior level.
- 2.5 The recent Peer Challenge Review concluded that significant progress had been made against the Improvement Plan and that the plans that are in place are appropriate, but come with high risk. A permanent appointment will help reduce that risk as the review also states that having the corporate leadership to deliver the improvement and change agendas are fundamental.
- 2.6 The Peer Challenge Review also found that there was a recognition throughout the organisation of the strategic grip and open style of the Chief Executive and clear and visible leadership that promotes and a feeling of trust in the direction of travel now proposed. The report noted there is a feeling in the organisation that, this time, the changes will be for real. This provides the organisation with an opportunity to achieve the change, improvement and transformation required.
- 2.7 The Council requires stability and leadership at Senior Management Level over a longer period of time which will allow the focus to remain on addressing the financial challenge facing the organisation while delivering the essential improvements required to the Council's corporate governance.
- 2.8 It is therefore recommended that the current Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service, Graham Burgess is offered the post on a permanent basis and if accepted, be appointed accordingly.
- 2.9 The appointment of a Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service is a Council decision. Therefore Cabinet are asked to consider the proposal and recommend it to the Employment and Appointments Committee who will be asked to consider the proposal and recommend to Council that the Graham Burgess be offered the post on a permanent basis as

Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service and if accepted that the appointment be confirmed with immediate effect from that date.

3 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 There is a potential risk of instability and uncertainty of a continued fixed-term arrangement at Chief Executive level in the context of such a challenging financial environment.
- 3.2 The current fixed term arrangement is due to expire in August 2014. Should the Council need to start the recruitment process to succeed the current postholder this would potentially commence in December 2013/January 2014. This would potentially have a negative impact on the Council's medium and long term strategic and financial planning at a critical time and cause some uncertainty and distraction for a significant period of the current fixed term period.

4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Continuation of an extended fixed-term arrangement has been considered. However this option does not provide the longer-term stability that the Council requires at senior level at this time.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 N/A

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 N/A

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 Mr Burgess is paid at the top of the Chief Executive salary range of £121,807 - £135, 341 per annum. Whilst the Council retains a Chief Executive post, there will be a cost of employment regardless of whether it is a fixed term or permanent arrangement. There is no increase in the costs to the Council.
- 7.2 There are no pension costs associated with Mr Burgess' employment. This saves the Council approximately £16,376 per annum.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Mr Burgess will be entitled to the same employment rights as any permanent Chief Executive.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Equality impact assessments are published for all options for change. All equalities issues are considered as part of consultation.

9.2 The EIA attached to this report, and is available at:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments>

10. CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Not applicable for this report.

11. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Not applicable for this report.

12. RECOMMENDATION/S

12.1 That Cabinet considers the issues raised in the report and recommends to the Employment and Appointments Committee that a recommendation be made to Council at its meeting on 28 January 2013 that: Graham Burgess be offered the position of Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service on a permanent basis with immediate effect on 28 January 2013.

13. REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 A permanent appointment will provide the stability and leadership required by the organisation at senior management level at a period of significant and unprecedented change.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Council	16 July 2012

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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