



## Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 5 July 2018</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.00 p.m.</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall</b>

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### AGENDA

**1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP**

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

Members are reminded that they should also declare whether they are subject to a party whip in connection with any item(s) to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

**2. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)**

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 28 March 2018.

**3. WIRRAL CORE STRATEGY LOCAL PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Assistant Director: Major Growth Projects and Housing Delivery will report to the Committee on progress related to the Wirral Local Plan.

**4. WIRRAL VIEW**

The Head of Communications will make a presentation to the Committee on matters related to Wirral View.

- 5. THE EXTENT AND IMPACTS OF FLY-TIPPING ON WIRRAL (Pages 7 - 16)**
- 6. DEVELOPING THE SINGLE USE PLASTIC FREE WIRRAL POLICY (Pages 17 - 24)**
- 7. 2017/18 QUARTER 4 AND YEAR END WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE (Pages 25 - 60)**
- 8. ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME REPORT (Pages 61 - 70)**
- 9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR**

To consider any further business that the Chair accepts as being urgent.

## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 28 March 2018

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	P Stuart (Chair)	
	Councillors	S Foulkes T Jones B Kenny C Muspratt T Smith	T Usher W Ward A Sykes I Lewis C Carubia L Rennie
<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	L Reecejones B Berry	A Hodson T Pilgrim

### 50 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP

Councillor Warren Ward declared a personal interest in agenda item 3 'Financial Monitoring Report quarter 3 2017/18 by virtue of his employment with the Department for Work and Pensions, insofar as reference was made to the roll out of Universal Credit within consideration of that item.

### 51 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair, noting that Members' would have been aware that the Council had recently received a letter which stated that the Secretary of State was 'minded to' intervene in the Council's Local Plan, advised that Officers had been in dialogue with the Chief Planner and the Civil Service lead and discussions would be ongoing with Departmental for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) planners ahead of a likely meeting in London between Wirral Council and the Chief Planner.

The main issue appeared to be the timetable to complete the Local Plan and the desire of the Secretary of State for that completion to be speeded up. Once the meeting between the Council and the Chief Planner has taken place, the Council would undertake to ensure that appropriate resources and robust governance is in place and, along with DCLG Civil Servants, write to the Secretary of State with a clear view on what was needed to be done to meet DCLG requirements and expectations.

Members needed to be aware that the government have not said they are intervening in the Local Plan, but have said they are 'minded to' get involved and the Council would continue to work closely with civil servants to agree a timetable and approach to deliver a Local Plan for Wirral which is appropriate, timely and meets residents' needs.

The Chair indicated that an update report had been requested for submission to the first meeting of the Committee in the new Municipal Year.

52 **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 31 January 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record**

53 **FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 3 2017/18**

Mark Goulding, Principal Accountant, introduced a report presenting financial monitoring information for Environment as at close of the third quarter of the 2017/18 financial year that gave a consideration of performance against the revenue budget, including savings, income and debt, and a commentary on performance against the capital budget. The report noted budget movement in the third quarter, notably the move of integrated transport from Children and Families to Environment with a budget of £5.6M. The report was supported by a presentation addressing issues highlighted within the report and considering the anticipated financial position for the following financial year.

The Committee was advised of a predicted current year £981k overspend arising principally from issues related to implementation of savings proposals in Waste and Environment in respect of the waste contract and in Sports and Recreation in respect of delays to operational changes and capital works at Woodchurch and Leasowe Recreation Centres respectively; and to a shortfall of advertising income under Localism and Engagement. Underspends were advised in Housing Strategy, homelessness and housing benefit assessment teams, each, in part at least, as a result of staffing vacancies.

The Chair queried a reported £70k shortfall in respect of the Floral Pavilion Theatre, noting that the reporting of such financial issues appeared to be recurrent and querying what actions were being taken to make the Theatre more sustainable. The Committee was advised that income and charges were reviewed to increase income, and staff deployed for efficiency, but that budgetary targets remained a struggle.

The Chair further queried the reasons for reported staff vacancies in the housing benefit assessment team, commenting that staff needed to be in place to deal with the roll-out of Universal Credit.

Councillor Chris Carubia sought clarification on any connection between the Aids and Adaptations / Disabled Facilities Grant and the Supporting People budgets, further noting that the £30k cap on aids and adaptations had been in place for several years. The Aids and Adaptations / Disabled Facilities Grant budget was advised as a capital budget that assisted people to make required structural changes to properties, while the Supporting People budget funded supported housing, including contracts let by the housing teams for supported living.

Councillor Lesley Rennie, noting that charges now applied for garden waste collection and that a discount for on-line payment had been removed, queried what marketing was to be done to get further people to sign up. Mark Smith, Strategic Commissioner – Environment, undertook to recirculate (including to substitute members) the slides circulated to members of the Committee after the budget scrutiny workshop.

In response to a query from Councillor Brian Kenny, it was advised that it was hoped the anticipated savings in relation to the establishment of the Coroner service on a city region basis would accrue in time.

Councillor Adam Sykes queried the reported overspend / non-achievement of planned savings on the waste contract, and queried whether there was a risk of not achieving an ongoing saving. The Strategic Commissioner advised that preliminary work had been undertaken on potential savings on the waste contract that had proved to be non-achievable on implementation. Work was being undertaken on identifying comparable savings.

Councillor Adam Sykes queried whether the shortfall in the Localism and Engagement budget related to Wirral View not achieving advertising targets and asked for a breakdown of the shortfall. The Committee was advised that ambitious targets had been set across Communications, Marketing, Press and PR services. Councillor Lesley Rennie referenced comments made on previous occasions indicating that Council advertising would be through Wirral View only, but noting that wraparounds were appearing with other local media. Councillor Christina Muspratt further commented on the previously reported advertising strategy and the need for Members to know how successful that strategy had been, together with the related financial position.

In response to comments from Councillor Tony Jones advising of a report from a constituent indicating that a cash or card payment of an Invigor8 membership instalment had been declined at Woodchurch Leisure Centre and a direct debit facility only offered, the Strategic Commissioner undertook to respond directly to the Member.

Councillor Foulkes noted that the financial reports only allowed Members to consider issues in hindsight at a specific time but suggested that there were some issues known to Members, such as the Floral Pavilion Theatre, that had existed for some time. Officers were asked to look at including opportunities for Members to consider particular persistent overspends or service issues in the Committee work programme to allow for a more in-depth analysis of such matters. Further to a request from Councillor Chris Carubia for sight of the Theatre Business Plan, Councillor Tony Jones suggested that information such as the Business Plan could be made available as part of one of these more detailed reviews.

#### **RESOLVED – That**

- (1) the quarter 3 revenue forecast overspend for Environment of £1M be noted;**
- (2) the performance of the capital projects and amendments to the capital programme under Environment be noted;**
- (3) the Head of Communications report to the next meeting of this Committee on Wirral View, including the financial position with regard to advertising and the reach of the publication across the Borough;**
- (4) the Committee Work Programme include an option to include specific reviews or consideration of identified persistent overspends or service issues, such as the Floral Pavilion Theatre as referenced above.**

#### **54 2017/18 QUARTER 3 WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE**

The Committee received a report presenting the 2017/18 Quarter 3 (October - December 2017) performance report for the Wirral Plan Pledges under the remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The performance report, which was included as an Appendix to the submitted report, provided a description of progress in Quarter 3 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

The performance report contained details of the progress made, and overviews of that progress from the respective Lead Cabinet Members, in respect of individual measures being pursued with regard to the following Wirral Plan Pledges pertinent to the Committee -

- Leisure and culture opportunities for all;
- Wirral residents live healthier lives;
- Community services are joined up and accessible;

- Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents;
- Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe; and
- Attractive Local Environment for Wirral residents.

Mark Smith, Strategic Commissioner – Environment presented the performance report and invited comment from Members on the content contained therein –

Councillor Adam Sykes noted the reported reduction in recycling rates and queried what measures the Council had in place to increase rates. The Strategic Commissioner commented that declining recycling rates was a national, rather than just a local, trend and that a number of actions and interventions were planned for the year ahead. Further to a query from Councillor Lesley Rennie as to whether the decline was consistent across the Borough, it was advised that, with the assistance of the contractor, intelligence was being built up about recycling activity in various parts of the Borough that would allow for targeted intervention in specific areas.

Following comments from Councillor Steve Foulkes that recycling targets were set by government and that if the Council spent money to achieve these targets other projects could not be pursued, Councillors Chris Carubia and Ian Lewis sought clarification of Council policy in respect of food waste collection and related funding. The Strategic Commissioner indicated that there would be a cost implication to implement a food waste collection service, and should the Council be able to secure grant or other funding it would look to move in that direction. Further to a query from Councillor Ian Lewis related to a possible bid to the capital programme and the Committee being advised of £3M capital costs and £1.8M running costs for implementation, Councillor Adam Sykes queried whether a cost benefit analysis had been undertaken since non-recycled waste was sent to landfill which attracted a tonnage charge. The Committee was asked to note that the City Region had cost effective ways of dealing with waste, including a Waste Disposal Authority waste recovery contract and a SITA energy from waste scheme, which impacted on the case for the rollout of recycling schemes.

Councillor Christina Muspratt noted the measure of the number of residents who say they regularly volunteer / support community groups which showed a lower proportion at December 2017 compared to October 2015, querying what was gained from this measure as different people were asked and the ability therefore to conclude that there really were fewer people volunteering. The Strategic Commissioner reported that the figure was based on the Residents' Survey which was seen as a representative sample, and the measure was trying to understand how many people volunteered. By the nature of the survey, different people were sampled and the data needed to be considered as to whether it was statistically representative.

Councillor Muspratt further queried the statistics for the issue of fixed penalty notices, and whether it would be better to not to be issuing so many due to improving situations, or worse because of the loss of income. The Strategic Commissioner indicated that success would be a reduction in necessary enforcement activity.

Further to the reported 11% reduction of anti-social incidents compared to the third quarter 20-16/17, Councillor Tony Smith noted that there appeared to be pockets of anti-social behaviour appearing for no obvious reason. In this regard he thanked those Council Officers who had provided assistance recently in the Upton area, but considered there was a lack of visible policing in the area. Councillor Chris Carubia spoke similarly of a spate of car thefts in the Eastham and South Wirral area where the police had managed to apprehend a team of thieves, suggesting that concerns could be raised with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Merseyside Police to consider funding and the effect on Wirral.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the report be noted.**

55 **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Chair introduced his report advising that this Committee, in co-operation with the other three Overview and Scrutiny Committees, was responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme. The work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan Pledges which were within the remit of the Committee.

The Chair's report provided an update regarding progress made since the Committee meeting held on 31 January 2018, and the current work programme made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, workshops, standing items and requested Officer reports was appended. It was noted that the work programme would require amendment pursuant to decisions taken at this meeting of the Committee.

**RESOLVED -**

**That the updated Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme 2017/18, as submitted and to be amended as agreed previously at this meeting, be approved.**



## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>THE EXTENT AND IMPACTS OF FLY-TIPPING ON WIRRAL</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report is intended to provide the Committee with an overview of fly-tipping on Wirral – its causes, impacts, prevalence and the work being done by the Council to reduce the number of incidents in the borough. The report will also inform Members of the action the Council has and will take against offenders including future developmental activity to combat fly-tipping.

### RECOMMENDATION

Committee is requested to note the content of this report and endorse the work being done by the Council to address this issue.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASONS**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview and update to the Committee on fly-tipping on Wirral; the causes, impacts and current remedies used to tackle this environmental offence.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 Do nothing. In the case of land and Highways for which the Council is responsible, this is not a feasible option. In addition, doing nothing would lead to excessive build ups of waste throughout Wirral.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 “Fly-tipping” is a term commonly used to refer to the illegal, unauthorised and wanton deposit of waste. “Fly-tipping” itself is not a legal definition however offences deemed as “fly-tipping” can be covered by a number of pieces of legislation, the most common being Section 33 Environmental Protection Act 1990 as the prohibition on unauthorised or harmful deposit, treatment or disposal etc. of waste onto any land where no waste management licence is in operation.
- 3.2 In reality, most fly-tipping on Wirral is committed by residents disposing of waste onto highways, open land or into rear passageways. At its most extreme level, fly-tipping is committed on industrial scales by organised criminal groups, often disposing of commercial or hazardous waste for the purposes of financial gain or tax avoidance.
- 3.3 The control, investigation and ultimate eradication of fly-tipping on Wirral is important because it can have a devastating impact on the local environment and detrimentally affect the lives of Wirral’s residents. Wirral is celebrated as a beautiful place to live in and work and visit. The vast majority of Wirral’s residents want to do the right thing for where they live and protect the local environment. However there is a sizable minority of residents and visitors who do not respect Wirral’s environment and damage or defile it through irresponsible and illegal actions such as fly tipping waste.
- 3.4 Wirral Council has made a commitment through the corporate pledges set out in the Wirral Plan, to create an attractive local environment for Wirral residents and visitors. The Council recognises that one of the threats to creating such an environment is fly tipping and in particular the fly tipping of domestic waste. Therefore a key objective of the Wirral Plan is to drive behaviour change that transforms the relationship between residents and their local environment that eradicates the fly tipping of domestic waste. The Council wants to empower residents to be more responsible for the actions. This has involved making it clear that there are consequences for irresponsible and illegal actions that adversely affect the local environment.

3.5 Fly tipped domestic waste is also costly for the Council to deal with as being uncontained and uncontrolled; it results in increasing the authorities' overall waste generated and thus escalates disposal costs.

#### 4.0 FLYTIPPING STATISTICS

4.1 For the purposes of recording the scale of the fly-tipping problem, both at a local and national level, fly-tipping incidents are recorded and reported to DEFRA by the Council through their "Flycapture" database system.

4.2 The system requires local authorities to record incidents by type ranging from single black bag, through to industrial and commercial scale offences. Incidents are given a relative costing in order to provide consistency across authorities.

4.3 It should however be noted that local authorities will inevitably adopt differing and bespoke arrangements in how they react to, measure and remove fly-tipping at a local level. This can involve differing contractual arrangements, resource allocation and clearance times. Whilst "Flycapture" can therefore be used as an aid to recording and estimating the assumed impact of fly-tipping, caution must be exercised when using it as a benchmarking tool as costs may be skewed when seeking to compare one authority with another.

4.4 Wirral Council reports through Flycapture, however uses its own CRM system as a definitive means of capturing and recording local incidents and actions. **Figure 1** (below) shows the total number of recorded incidents of fly-tipping for the period 2010-2018. There is no identifiable explanation for the decrease in activity during the 2011-12 period, however annual figures have remained relatively stable over the remaining years.

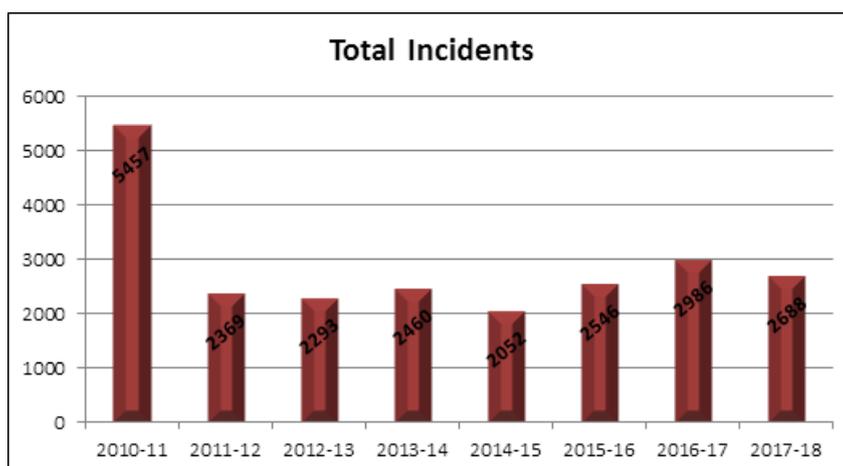


Figure 1 – Wirral Total Recorded Fly-tipping Incidents 2010-2018

4.5 The emphasis surrounding fly-tipping is often placed upon business and industry being responsible for a lot of the fly-tipping problems in England and Wales. Whilst it is the case that many parts of the country have been victims of repeated and sustained commercial fly-tipping activity, Wirral tends to suffer more with fly-tipping originating from domestic premises. This does not mean that Wirral is immune from commercial fly-tipping, as officers investigate many incidents of commercial origin and have succeeded in bringing a number of successful prosecutions against businesses. It is more the case within the borough that the majority of fly tipping incidents occur in rear passageways or on our highway. **Figure 2** shows that on average in Wirral, between 70 and 90% of all reported incidents take place in these 2 areas alone.

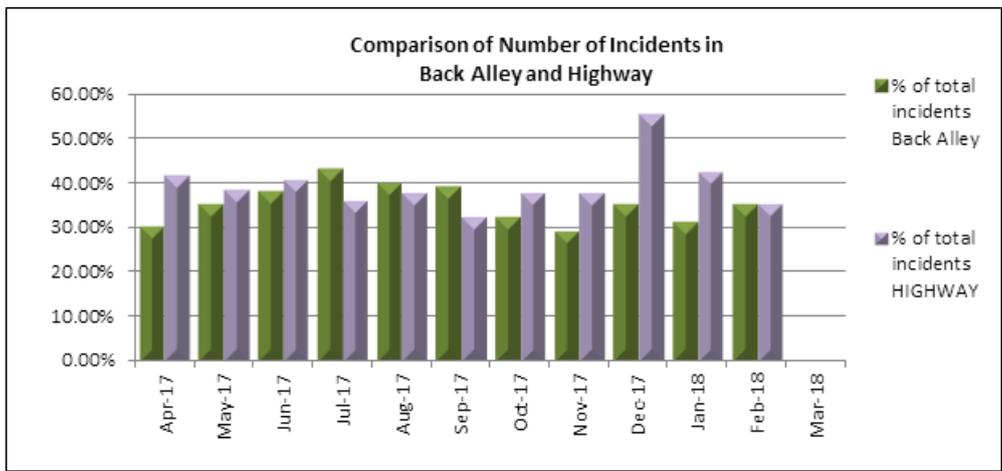


Figure 2 – Location of Fly-tipping incidents Passageways & Highways

#### 4.6 Responsibility for Fly-tipping

4.6.1 Section 89 of The Environmental protection Act 1990 places a duty on a local authority to keep highways and relevant land for which it is responsible “clean” and free from litter and refuse insofar as is practicable. In relation to highways and relevant land, this duty is undertaken on Wirral by Biffa through the Streetscene Services Contract awarded in 2006.

4.6.2 The contract is not designed to facilitate the removal of waste from all land, nor even from all Council estates. Relevant landowners are ultimately responsible for the condition of their estate therefore where fly-tipping occurs, it is not necessarily the responsibility of the Council to remove it. In the event that the Council enters onto private land and removes waste, the Council could itself be committing an offence by doing so.

4.6.3 There are however a number of statutory powers available to the Council to pursue landowners to facilitate removal of waste from their estate. The Council’s Environmental Enforcement Teams, Planning Teams and Environmental Health divisions have powers available to them depending on the location and type of waste that has been deposited.

4.6.4 In **Figure 3**, we can see the most common types of land upon which fly-tipping is encountered, together with the responsible party. Council officers will often make contact with landowners to advise them of their responsibility as regards their land however it should not be assumed that this will necessarily lead to immediate and expedient clearance of the affected area. In the event that the legal process is followed, there can often be lengthy delays before any action is taken and a recurrence of the problem is not uncommon.

Private Land e.g. Business Premises	Statutory Undertaker e.g. Network Rail, Scottish Power	Council Highways, footpaths etc	Rear Passageways	Council land (other) e.g. parks, beaches etc	Unmanaged land/no identified occupier	Rivers/watercourses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility of landowner. Council does not clear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility of Statutory Undertaker. Council does not clear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility of Council. Biffa will clear within contract SLA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council has scheduled passageway cleansing programme every 4 weeks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility of controlling department e.g. Leisure Services, Schools etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council will seek to trace ownership or may clear under Grotspot programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environment Agency may clear to prevent flood risk</li> </ul>

**Figure 3 – Responsibilities by land type**

4.6.5 Likewise, in the event that the Council does eventually step in and remove the waste following the legal process, cost recovery for such action is seldom successful.

4.6.6 In the case of large scale fly-tipping, pollution, unauthorised waste disposal sites or commercial fly-tipping for financial gain, it will typically be the responsibility of the Environment Agency to use their extended powers to deal with the offence.

4.6.7 There is no universal operation to remove fly-tipping from the highway within the Biffa/Wirral contract. Each constituency area within Wirral has a dedicated Neighbourhood Cleansing Team that will respond to and remove fly-tipping within the agreed five day service level agreement. These crews are also responsible for various other cleansing functions including the emptying of litter bins and some routine cleansing. The direct cost of fly-tipping removal cannot therefore be disaggregated from the overall contract sum. There will however be a cost to the Council via the waste disposal levy of disposing of fly-tipped waste that could otherwise have been re-used or recycled through legitimate collection services.

4.6.8 Biffa do however operate three collection / cleansing crews dedicated to the removal of waste from passageways throughout the borough where waste has been dumped illegally.

#### 4.7 Investigation of Fly-tipping

4.7.1 Any fly tipping that is reported to the Council or discovered by Council officers is investigated. The investigation does not always result in a site visit by an officer, a preliminary desk top investigation is first conducted to assess the likelihood of obtaining usable evidence.

- 4.7.2 A major source of the fly-tipping investigated on highways and private land in Wirral is waste that is passed to unauthorised or unscrupulous waste carriers who then do not dispose of it properly. Residents and businesses wishing to dispose of waste contact, or are contacted by, people offering waste removal services and pay them to remove their waste without taking appropriate steps to establish that they are authorised to accept it. The waste carrier then fly-tips the waste rather than pay tipping fees at an authorised disposal site.
- 4.7.3 There is a legal duty of care on both businesses and residents to ensure that their waste is only passed to someone who is authorised to accept it. Failure to do so may constitute an offence. If waste was not passed to unauthorised carriers in the first place, they could not fly-tip it. This is the basis of a recent Keep Britain Tidy campaign 'Crime not to Care' which aims to address this widespread problem through increased awareness and reduce the amount of waste passed to potential fly-tippers.
- 4.7.4 The majority of waste investigated in alleyways comes from adjacent residential properties and is usually excess domestic waste or bulky items dumped by residents. Some landlords or letting agents clear houses after a tenant has vacated by dumping whatever the tenant left into the alleyway. These are less frequent but can be large deposits, sometimes completely blocking passage along the alleyway.



Waste dumped in alleyway at end of tenancy.



Investigated bag of waste thrown out by resident

- 4.7.5 In order to progress an investigation evidence of a reasonable standard is required. This could include an item found within the waste indicating where it was from or an eyewitness account of the deposit occurring.
- 4.7.6 Where names and/or addresses are discovered in a fly-tip, an investigation is undertaken into who has disposed of the waste and from what address/premises. It may be that the person implicated had undertaken the act of fly-tipping themselves or that they had passed waste to another person

for disposal. Even when an address is found within waste it is not always possible to establish who had actually fly tipped it.

#### 4.8 Investigating Fly-tipping from vehicles

- 4.8.1 Where a vehicle has been used to carry out fly-tipping and a vehicle registration mark (VRM) has been obtained, details of the current registered keeper of the vehicle may be requested from DVLA.
- 4.8.2 The records kept by DVLA are not infallible and may on occasion be incomplete or out of date. It is the case that a VRM may be obscured or altered by a person engaged in a criminal activity or that a vehicle may be purposely registered incorrectly to avoid detection.
- 4.8.3 DVLA set minimum evidential standards that must be met before such a request may be made. These include an actual observation of an offence occurring from a vehicle; circumstantial evidence such as the presence of a vehicle in the area that a fly-tip was later discovered is not acceptable to DVLA and an enquiry would not be permitted in those circumstances.
- 4.8.4 In cases where a member of the public has witnessed a deposit from a vehicle and noted the registration mark DVLA require a signed witness statement to be taken from the witness prior to any request for keeper details being made.
- 4.8.5 If CCTV footage of an incident involving a vehicle has been obtained this must contain both a clear and unambiguous image of the registration mark and of the waste being fly-tipped from the vehicle.
- 4.8.6 If DVLA suspect that their system has been used inappropriately, either for “fishing” searches when the whole VRM was not known or where insufficient evidence exists to link a vehicle to a crime, they will suspend access to their services and undertake an investigation. This would result in the Council being unable to obtain any data from the DVLA for the duration of the suspension or indefinitely if the service is withdrawn after investigation.
- 4.8.7 DVLA will charge the Council the costs involved in undertaking any investigation and audit resulting from a suspension in addition to a reconnection fee if the service resumes.
- 4.8.8 Automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) is a system for logging the passage of vehicles past a specific point by use of a camera. It does not record footage or supply details of vehicle ownership. Where ANPR is used keeper details must still be sought from DVLA, satisfying their normal evidential requirements as above.
- 4.8.9 The use of surveillance by the Council is governed by the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). Authorisation must be granted by a specified senior Council officer and approved by a Justice of the Peace before surveillance may be undertaken. There is a requirement to establish the necessity and the proportionality of any surveillance. The Council is inspected

by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners to ensure compliance with the appropriate legislation and regulations.



Covert CCTV footage of Wirral residents dumping household waste.

4.8.10 The Council enforcement team utilise specialised, encrypted, solid state recorders and high resolution cameras when undertaking surveillance. These must be powered either by a fixed power feed, e.g. from a lamp column or building, or batteries. In remote areas it is usual to utilise batteries, which require regular charging, and to leave the equipment disguised in undergrowth. This can leave equipment vulnerable to theft or vandalism. Although low light cameras are used these still require some level of background light to function effectively.

#### 4.9 Enforcement options and punitive actions

4.9.1 There are a range of options available to deal with offences of fly-tipping including fixed penalty, caution and prosecution. The Council recently increased the fly tipping Fixed Penalty Notice amount to £400 with no discount to bring it in line with other local authorities. In 2018/19 to date 16 fixed penalty notices have been issued in relation to incidents of fly-tipping.

4.9.2 An individual that is prosecuted and found guilty of an offence of fly-tipping may receive a sentence which can include compensation, confiscation, custody, community order, fine or a conditional discharge. The sentence may be suspended. The most recent sentences handed down to defendants in Council fly-tip prosecutions consisted of unpaid work or a low level fine and compensation orders. Defendants accused of fly-tipping are permitted to elect to have their case heard in the Crown Court which can significantly delay cases and lead to increased costs.

4.9.3 The Council is proactively seeking to reduce the amount of business waste that is fly-tipped by increasing checks on businesses to ensure that they are compliant with the necessary regulations regarding waste disposal. The Environmental Enforcement Solution provider will be approaching businesses and requiring them to supply details of how they dispose of their waste. Businesses that fail in their duty of care may be subject to a fixed penalty notice.

#### 4.10 Clearing of untidy land and “Grotspots”

4.10.1 The Council has some statutory powers to require landowners to clear land which is defaced to such an extent that the amenity of the area is adversely affected. Many landowners will comply with requests or Notices to remove waste and tidy sites, however some may be unwilling or unable to find the funds to do so. If a landowner does not comply with a Notice requiring them to improve the condition of land they may be prosecuted and/or the Council may undertake clean-up work in default.

4.10.2 In the past, funds to undertake works in default were unavailable and only the option of prosecution was available. In such circumstances waste might remain on the land at the end of the process. However, as a result of the increased environmental enforcement activity since the Council entered into partnership with an external enforcement provider in 2015, funding has been released for a “Grotspot” programme to clear problem areas of private or unmanaged land defaced by fly tipping. In 2017/18 12 such problem sites were cleared by the Council.



Clearance of derelict garage and open land near New Ferry Road, New Ferry. 2017/18 Grotspot.

4.10.3 Funding generated by environmental enforcement action has again been made available for a Grotspot programme in 2018/19 and as sites are identified action to improve the local area can be undertaken. Two such sites have been cleared already this financial year.

## 5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The management of fly-tipping – removal, enforcement and disposal – places additional financial burdens on the authority. Investigation, enforcement and removal increase the officer and contract cost requirements whilst disposal costs increase where waste is not disposed of or recycled through the correct waste streams thereby adding to the cost of the Waste Disposal Levy that the Authority pays to the Merseyside Waste and Recycling Authority.

## **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Section 89 of The Environmental protection Act 1990 places a duty on a local authority to keep highways and relevant land for which it is responsible “clean” and free from litter and refuse insofar as is practicable. There is no legal requirement for the Council to clear fly-tipping from land not in its ownership.

## **7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

7.1 Enforcement against fly-tipping offences is undertaken using a team of five officers from within existing staffing resources. The removal of fly-tipping and subsequent clean up incorporates a significant resource cost into the Biffa Streetscene contract.

## **8.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

8.1 In the event that the Council did not remove fly-tipping from its own land and highways, the authority could risk being in breach of its statutory duties. Public health and perceptions of a local area are also impacted by the presence of fly-tipping so both resident satisfaction and investment and growth could be impacted accordingly.

## **9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

9.1 There are no implications under this heading.

## **10.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no associated equality implications.

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## **APPENDICIES**

None

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

None

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>



## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5 JULY 2018

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>DEVELOPING THE SINGLE USE PLASTIC FREE WIRRAL POLICY</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>MIKE COCKBURN LEAD COMMISSIONER – ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY &amp; PARTNERSHIPS</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the response to the Council resolution from December 2017 regarding single use plastic and sets out proposals for an SUP Free Wirral Policy and its administration. Committee are requested to provide the Cabinet Member with comments on proposals for the SUP Free Wirral Policy in order to support its ratification and establishment. It is commonly agreed that the adverse impact SUP is having on the environment both globally and locally must be addressed and that everyone should play their part. The Council is in a position to positively influence changes in SUP use but also as a major service provider it can transform its own provision to become SUP free. The SUP Free Wirral Policy has therefore been developed to harness the Council’s ability to influence change and also to set out a route map for becoming SUP Free.

Early progress has been made and arrangements are being put in place to drive SUP free, this has included establishing an SUP taskforce involving a range of interested groups and removing SUP items from catering specifications for the recent Tall Ships event. The Council’s policy will involve removing SUP from service provision and from events held on Council land, including SUP free criteria for the Eco Schools programme and developing a voluntary code to enable Wirral businesses to become SUP free.

Further to the Council’s resolution on single use plastics (SUP) passed in December 2017 this report also provides an overview of emerging Government policy and European legislation on SUP.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

The decision is not a ‘key decision’.

### RECOMMENDATION

Committee is recommended to:

- Consider proposals for the Single Use Plastic Free Wirral Policy and provide comments to the Cabinet Member – Environment.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

On both a European and national level, the problem of SUP is high on the agenda, therefore garnering high political support for the issue. Wirral people are concerned about the environment and the effect pollution is having on issues such as global warming. The vast majority of people completing last year's resident's survey stated they were willing to change their lifestyle to help protect the environment. The public mood and opinion about SUP and its adverse effect wild life has also been galvanized by last year's BBC's Blue Planet series which highlighted the plastic pollution of the world's oceans. This is especially relevant locally due to the coastal nature of Wirral and the issue of plastic pollution on the Borough's beaches, with groups such as the High Tidders and new Brighteners wanting to take action on the issue.

Creating a comprehensive policy on phasing out SUP and associated actions as recommended to Cabinet by Council in December 2017, puts Wirral in a leading position on SUP Free. Strategically it also supports the Wirral Plan pledge to create an attractive local environment for Wirral residents.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The Council wants to develop the SUP Free Wirral policy to make a difference and address the use of SUP, therefore the option to do nothing has not been explored other than to identify the risks and environmental impact associated with continuing to use SUP. A range of issues have been considered for inclusion within the policy, however the focus has been on affordable solutions and the identification of alternative products to replace SUP for service provision.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

People are worried about single use throw away plastic and the effect it is now having across the globe and particularly in the oceans. Public opinion has been seemingly galvanised by the BBC's Blue Planet series presented by Sir David Attenborough from late last year. In one of the programmes Sir David commented that 100 years ago plastic was heralded as the new tough and indestructible solution to the world's requirements. However that durability and resilience means plastic has become a major hazard to the world today, choking the oceans and its habitat. Since the Blue Planet 2 series concluded late last year, plastic and in particular single use plastic has received daily media coverage, including concerns raised about a river in East Manchester containing the highest levels of plastic pollution measured in the world to date (through a field study by the Environment Agency). Locally the beach combing groups who cleanse the Wirral's beaches have been raising concerns for some time about the level of plastic washed up on the beaches.

During the course of this year the national and international response to addressing single use plastic has begun to gain momentum.

## **EUROPEAN POLICY**

In May 2018 the European Commission announced proposals for a new European directive on single use plastics with the principal aim of reducing marine plastic pollution. This will supplement the existing EU Plastics Strategy which recommended a new policy on SUP. Unlike existing EU Waste Directives, which offer member states freedom in how they prevent and reduce marine litter, this new directive contains specific actions. The Directive seeks to ban 10 of the worst SUP items for marine pollution including plastic straws and ear buds. For other SUP items the directive seeks to encourage producer lead initiatives to raise consumer awareness, reduce waste and other negative impacts.

It is unknown when and if this directive will be brought forward into UK legislation due to Britain's planned exit from the EU in 2019. However DEFRA is seeking to bring in similar UK legislation.

## **FUTURE UK GOVERNMENT SUP LEGISLATION**

The UK Government has announced it is considering a ban on common SUP items including plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds. It is understood that such proposals will go to consultation later this year along with the other measures described below.

In March 2018 the Government announced it is considering the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for all single use drinks packaging, regardless of material. Under these proposals a levy would be charged to the consumer within the product price for the packaging. This levy can be reclaimed by the consumer by returning the packaging to a defined collection point. Therefore an incentive for recycling is created for the consumer, encouraging the public to act and be more proactive in seeking to recycle. The Government has announced that it will hold a consultation on a Deposit Return Scheme as described this year. It should be a crucial element of the SUP Free Wirral policy to respond to the DRS consultation. Deposit Return Schemes, although having potential to increase overall recycling rates could significantly reduce plastics being collected and recycled from the domestic refuse kerbside collections.

It is unlikely that 100% of the levy gathered annually through the DRS would be reclaimed by consumers. Even with a large levy on drinks packaging, people may still dispose of it via residual waste streams. Such drinks packaging mixed in residual waste would then gain value to local authorities and waste management companies. It may incentivise them to further sort residual waste to reclaim packaging to reclaim the levy; this may become economically viable in the large quantities of waste processed by companies and authorities. This could further increase recycling rates nationally.

For the levy that remains unclaimed, the Government has not yet set out how this would be used. From a local authority perspective, the revenue from unclaimed levies could subsidise local authority kerbside recycling schemes where they had become economically unviable. Wirral, other LCR authorities and the LGA could lobby for such usage of the levy during the consultation. From past experience, the Government may seek to donate the unclaimed levy to the charity sector, as is done with the 5p levy charged on plastic bags in retail.

As part of corporate and social responsibility agendas (CSR) some manufacturers have taken their own initiative to reduce SUP and plastic pollution. WRAP is facilitating the UK Plastics Pact with local authority, third sector and business partners. The aim of the initiative is to work towards a circular economy for plastic, minimising the amount of plastic entering waste streams. Work is currently underway to identify initial projects to achieve this goal as well as further goals to reduce plastic usage and develop the infrastructure necessary for a circular economy for plastics.

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON SUP – DECEMBER 2018**

At its meeting of December 2017 the Council passed a resolution on single use plastic (SUP) and requested Cabinet to undertake the following:

1. Develop a robust strategy to ensure the Council phases out SUP in its activities within the next two years.
2. Work with partners and other large institutions (e.g. the NHS) to encourage them in developing similar strategies to reduce SUP.
3. Inform the public of Wirral of the reasons for phasing out SUP and encourage them to switch to alternatives.
4. Incorporate the reduction of SUP use into Wirral Council's Waste Minimisation Strategy (regarding entire borough, not just the Council).
5. Refer all of the recommendations in this motion to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a view to advising Cabinet how they can most effectively be delivered.
6. Ask the Cabinet Member for Environment to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, requesting that the reduction of SUP form part of any future national waste management strategy.

## **DEVELOPING THE SUP FREE WIRRAL POLICY**

In response to the Council resolution, officers have been subsequently developing an approach to addressing SUP and formulating the SUP Free Wirral Policy, which it is proposed will include the following:

- The development of an SUP free communications and public awareness campaign which will include a briefing for all Council staff.
- Amending the Council's 'Managing our Waste Strategy' to set out the Council's commitment to becoming SUP free.
- Working with local groups and interested parties to support local schemes and audits of plastic accumulations.
- Specifying that Council services and events will operate SUP free.
- Specifying within the Council's conditions of hire that third party events held in Council facilities or on Council land must operate SUP free.

- The Council's procurement processes will be developed to provide SUP alternatives.
- The development of a voluntary SUP code for Wirral businesses in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce.
- Encourage strategic partners to adopt SUP free policies and work together to eradicate SUP.

The proposed SUP Free Wirral policy will be developed to support the Council's long term objectives for carbon reduction, adaptation for unavoidable climate change and driving behaviour change in the way people relate to their local environment through the Love Where You Live campaign.

### **Progress Made To Date**

The Council and its partners have been able to make progress in putting into place key aspects of the SUP Free Wirral policy. These include the following:

- Council Resource and Energy Management Plan

We will be developing a Resource and Energy Management Plan for the Council this year which will provide a strategic framework for the Council's commitment to the sustainable use of resources and energy. The SUP Free Wirral Policy will be a key component of the Resource and Energy Management Plan, which will also include improving internal waste recycling provision and performance, energy generation & usage and becoming a paperless Council.

- SUP Free Wirral Taskforce

We have established an SUP Free Wirral Taskforce to coordinate SUP campaigns and action across Wirral. The taskforce, which is made of local community groups and interested individuals, has been meeting through the year with the Taskforce receiving proposals for the SUP Free Wirral Policy and providing views.

- Transforming Council Service Provision to become SUP Free

Officers from the Council's procurement, licensing and event management teams are considering the implications of moving Council service provision to SUP free and to identify early win opportunities. It is intended to consult with the Council's service managers about the implications of removing several SUP items from service provision and operation. It is the intention to follow the consultation with a timetable for the removal of these items.

- Letter to Secretary of State for Environment

Earlier this year the Cabinet Member – Environment wrote to the Secretary of State for Environment regarding suggested Government action to support SUP free and to offer Wirral as a pilot area for utilisation to move national SUP policy forward, including working

with local communities, supermarkets and the Chamber of Commerce on a range of initiatives.

- Inspiring Future Generations

Officers have been building SUP Free into Wirral's Eco Schools programme both in terms of an interactive educational package for children and to engage with school management teams regarding their procurement arrangements and use of SUP.

- Council Staff Briefing and Support to Become SUP Free

The Council's Communications Team are developing a briefing roadshow and information pack for Council staff on SUP Free, setting out the Council's commitment to become SUP free and the support to be established for staff to make it happen.

- Love Where You Live – Winning Hearts and Minds

The Council's Love Where You Live campaign is now fully established with over 20 community hubs now issuing litter picking equipment and resources to groups. We have been working with groups such as the High Tidiars and New Brighteners to highlight the amount of plastic collected from beaches as part of the litter beach combing exercises.

- Voluntary Scheme for Wirral Businesses

Officers have held initial meetings with colleagues at the Chamber of Commerce about SUP Free and discussed the principles of promoting an SUP Free voluntary code for businesses based on the 'Surfers against Sewage' criteria for SUP Free towns.

- Encouraging and Supporting Strategic Partners to Adopt SUP Free Policies

Meetings are planned with representatives of our partner organisations including the police, fire & rescue service, further & higher education and the NHS about adopting SUP Free policies and working in partnership for Wirral to become SUP free.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Establishing the SUP Free Wirral Policy will be met within existing resources in terms of the public awareness campaign, voluntary SUP free code for businesses and working with partner organisations. The Council's Procurement Team will support service managers to identify alternative products to SUP to deliver service provision, however the sourcing and purchasing of such products will again be met within existing resources.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no current legal implications relating to establishing the SUP Free Wirral Policy, however it is anticipated that the Government will launch SUP related legislation within the next 12 months. The SUP Free Wirral Policy will acknowledge and comply with any such legislation.

## 6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The establishment of the SUP Free Wirral Policy will require a system wide approach and for the Council's workforce to understand and fully adopt the principles of the policy. The Procurement Team and those involved in purchasing supplies and materials will need to ensure identified SUP items are not purchased in the future, once prohibited. The proposed SUP Free staff roadshow and information pack to raise awareness and change approaches will therefore be important actions to successfully implement the SUP Free Wirral Policy.

## 7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

There are a number of risks associated with the development and implementation of the SUP Free Wirral Policy, these are as follows:

**Risk** - Lack of alternative supply options adversely affects Council service delivery –

**Mitigation** – The Procurement Team will work with service managers to identify alternative non SUP items, where there isn't an immediate option, timescales will be set to source and locate such items.

**Risk** – the SUP Free Wirral Policy is not successfully established and therefore SUP is not appropriately tackled - **Mitigation** – The policy will be fully endorsed by the Council's executive and it will be launched with comprehensive briefings for the Council's service managers and workforce.

**Risk** – the alternative non SUP supply items prove to be more expensive to purchase than the previous supply of SUP items, putting pressure on Council resources. **Mitigation** - suppliers are under increasing pressure to source alternative SUP supplies and materials and are in competition to do so. Procurement colleagues will identify best value for money and where the alternative is expensive or unavailable (as above); time will be given to delay the removal of the SUP item.

## 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

The Council has established an SUP Free Wirral Taskforce to engage with local groups and individuals on issues relating to SUP and the impact on the local environment. The Council will also utilise the Live Where You Live campaign to engage local people on SUP issues and provide support for SUP free provision.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The Single Use Plastics Free Wirral Policy will be subjected to an Equality Impact Assessment as part its development and presentation to Cabinet for ratification.

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## APPENDICES

### REFERENCE MATERIAL

Local government media press coverage of SUP and Government announcements on consultation and proposed legislation.

### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
No previous Council history	



## Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 5 July 2018

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>2017/18 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Strategic Commissioner for Environment</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2017/18 Quarter 4 (January - March 2018) performance report for the Wirral Plan pledges under the remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report, which is included as Appendix 1, provides a description of the progress in Quarter 4 as well as providing available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

The Year End closedown report is included as Appendix 2 and provides a summary analysis of improvement of performance against measures and Wirral Plan delivery of Pledge strategy actions at year end.

### Quarter Four Wirral Plan Performance Summary

- 46 events were held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces in Q4 bringing the total for year to 363. This is an improvement with 31 more events held than last year and 63 more than the 300 events per year at the start of the plan.
- Latest figures indicate that the Percentage of physically active adults in Wirral has increased on the previous year with 67.5% compared to 62.9%.
- Smoking prevalence in Wirral has reduced from 18.9% to 15.7% which is more than double the improvement of the National average. This is better than the North West Average (16.8%) although slightly below the National average for Smoking Prevalence (15.5%) but closing the gap at a fast rate. The proportion of women smoking at time of delivery has also reduced from 13.9% at the start of the plan to 12.0% and is also improving at a much faster rate than the national average.
- This year we've helped 418 more people to lose weight than last year, 1971 compared to 1553 last year. In quarter 4 we've been working in partnership delivering healthy eating/lifestyles displays within children's centres and healthy child clinics and using the Better Food Wirral brand to engage followers across social media on topics such as food, fitness and wellbeing.

- The target for improving private sector homes has been exceeded in all the areas that contribute towards this target including enforcement and informal action to improve the private rented sector, cosy homes heating, empty property grants, renovation loans, home repairs assistance and adaptations.
- Bringing empty homes back into use since the start of the Wirral 2020 Plan has exceeded our expectations and means we have been able to start to remove the blight in some areas and hopefully this will support the reduction of anti-social behaviour associated with longer term empty properties.
- For new homes built the current estimated figure is less than the target and as such once the final figure is confirmed, targets for the following years may have to be increased in order to meet the 2020 3,500 target.
- 359 affordable homes were completed in 2017-18 with a further 121 homes started on site but not due to complete until 2018-19. Activity will accelerate mid-Programme, with 465 homes due to commence construction in 2018-19 which is higher than anticipated due to greater investment confidence from the Registered Providers of social housing.
- For Community Safety although significant success has been achieved at Quarter 3 with an 13% reduction of anti-social incidents compared to the same time last year there has been an increase by 17% of the number of crimes reported to the Police. Despite this, Wirral has maintained the lowest crime rate in Merseyside.
- The number of crimes of violence causing injury has increased by 9% compared to the same period last year. However Wirral remains the 3rd lowest rate of violence with injury per population within the Home Office benchmarking group of 15 Community Safety Partnerships and the second lowest rate per population in Merseyside
- The rate of first-time entrants to the youth justice system for the rolling year October 2016-September 2017 has fallen by 15% to 157, compared to the 184 rate for October 2015-September 2016.
- For recycling of domestic waste performance has been lower than expected. Both the quantity of garden waste and the quantity of dry recycling collected is less than the same period last year. Garden waste tonnages have likely been affected by a wetter summer and also a reduction in the number of subscribers compared to last year. The tonnage of dry recycling continues to fall, whereas the tonnage of general waste is still increasing. This trend is the same for the majority of North West authorities for which there is data

### **Year End Closedown Summary**

The closedown report provides the committee with an overview of progress in 2017-18 to assist with scrutiny of the effectiveness of Wirral Plan delivery. It provides analysis in relation to progress measured through the suite of performance indicators related to the Environment Pledges compared to the start of the Wirral

Plan, with focus on the areas that did not improve in 2017-18. It also provides a summary of progress against delivery for each of the activities identified in the Pledge strategy action plans. For the Environment pledges a programme of actions were identified to deliver the Pledge outcomes and a summary of progress for each of these is shown.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the content of the report and highlight any areas requiring further clarification or action.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To ensure Members of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to scrutinise the performance of the Council and partners in relation to delivering the Wirral Plan.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 This report has been developed in line with the approved performance management framework for the Wirral Plan. As such, no other options were considered.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Wirral Plan is an outcome-focussed, partnership plan which has 18 supporting strategies that set out how each of the 20 pledges will be delivered. For each pledge, a partnership group has been established to drive forward delivery of the action plans set out in each of the supporting strategies.
- 3.2 A Wirral Plan Performance Management Framework has been developed to ensure robust monitoring arrangements are in place. The Wirral Partnership has a robust approach to performance management to ensure all activity is regularly monitored and reviewed.
- 3.3 Data for the identified indicators is released at different times during the year. As a result of this, not all Pledges will have results each quarterly reporting period. Some indicators can be reported quarterly and some only on an annual basis. Annual figures are reported in the quarter they become available against the 2017/18 year end column.
- 3.4 For each of the indicators, a trend is shown (better, same or worse). In most cases, this is determined by comparing the latest data with the previous reporting period i.e. 2016/17 year end. In some cases, i.e. where data accumulates during the year or is subject to seasonal fluctuations, the trend is shown against the same time the previous year. This is indicated in the key at the end of the report.
- 3.5 For some indicators, targets have been set. Where this is the case, a RAGB (red, amber, green, blue) rating is provided against the target and tolerance levels set at the start of the reporting period, with blue indicating performance targets being exceeded.
- 3.6 All Wirral Plan performance reports are published on the performance page of the Council's website. This includes the high level Wirral Plan overview report and the detailed pledge reports which include updates on progress on all activities set out in the supporting strategy action plans. The link to this web page is set out below:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/council-performance>

3.7 Each of the Wirral Plan Pledges has a Lead Commissioner responsible for overseeing effective delivery. The Lead Commissioners for the Pledges in the report at Appendix 1 are as follows:

- Leisure and culture opportunities for all – Mark Smith
- Wirral residents live healthier lives – Julie Webster
- Community services are joined up and accessible – Julie Webster
- Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents – Graham Hodgkinson
- Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe – Mark Smith
- Attractive Local Environment for Wirral residents – Mark Smith

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 The performance management framework is aligned to the Council's risk management strategy and both are regularly reviewed as part of corporate management processes.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 The priorities in the Wirral Plan pledges were informed by a range of consultations carried out in 2015 and 2016 including the Wirral resident survey.

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Wirral Plan equality impact assessment can be found at:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2014-15/chief>

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Wirral Plan Environment Committee 2017-18 Quarter 4 Pledge Reports

Appendix 2: Wirral Plan Environment 2017-18 Year End Closedown Report

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>21 September 2016</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>30 November 2016</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>28 March 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>4 July 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>21 September 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>30 November 2017</b>
<b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>28 March 2018</b>

# Appendix 1

## Wirral Plan Environment Theme

### 2017-18 Quarter 4 Reports

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## Leisure and cultural opportunities for all

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

#### Leisure Strategy

There have been a number of achievements over the course of the year which is testament to the hard work that the Council and partners have put in. Birkenhead Park received the World Urban Parks Gold Award following the successful World Urban Parks Congress in October 2017. This is a fantastic accomplishment and the Congress garnered positive support for Birkenhead Park to have World Heritage Status. Wallasey Beach was awarded a Blue Flag which is the Gold standard for beaches and brings international recognition of the hard work that the Council and environmental groups have been doing to meet the stringent standards to make Wirral's coast clean and safe. The Breck in Wallasey Village was awarded a Green Flag which was fantastic news for Wirral, which has the most Green Flag Awards in the North West region.

The number of events held in Wirral's parks increased by 20% from 300 at the start of the plan to 360 between April 2017 – March 2018. We've encouraged more residents to visit Wirral's parks, coast and countryside through promotion on social media and in Wirral View.

It's extremely encouraging that the percentage of physically active adults has increased from 62.9% to 67.5%. The Active Wirral Programme gained a following of almost 2,000 members on Facebook and has achieved a reach of 358,323. It also has 50 Teen Ambassadors for "ThisGirlCan" who are setting up their own activity groups and recruiting to already established clubs.

Whilst the utilisation of outdoor space for exercise / health reasons is up from the start of the plan and still remains significantly above national and north west averages it's fallen from the start of the year. Access audits have been completed for 11 sites across Wirral to encourage ease of use for our outdoor spaces and the Active Wirral campaign has been rebranded as "Stay Well Wirral" to encompass all things HEALTH in Wirral to provide a wider remit to work with partners and increase coverage in terms of creative content marketing.

Furthermore, 8 GP practices have been recruited to be part of a pilot to explore what a physical activity offer can look like in Primary Care.

#### Culture Strategy

The last quarter has been an extremely busy yet incredibly exciting one. We officially launched our Imagine Wirral campaign in February, attracting over 100 people from across the Liverpool City Region and the wider North West including some key decision makers to showcase what Wirral has to offer in terms of Culture, Creativity and the Arts and the rich potential to do much more to enhance this offer. This year, alongside some of our fantastic annual events on the cultural calendar such as Wirral Festival of Firsts, Wirral Open Studio Tour and Love New Brighton Parade, we will be hosting a major events line up which will include Three Festivals: Tall Ships Regatta in May, a week-long commemoration in November celebrating the life of Wilfred Owen, innovative new music events and a major retrospective exhibition which will bring together the work of three internationally acclaimed photographers who started their early work in New Brighton. Imagine Wirral is all about showcasing the Wirral as a place to enjoy quality cultural events and very importantly, participation in the arts and creative opportunities and encourages residents and visitors alike to get involved.

We are delighted to have been successful in our bid for a substantial amount of funding from Arts Council England which will fund a programme of activity around Tall Ships weekend at the end of May. This is testament to the work of our Culture Team and the relationships we have built with local and national partners since the launch of the Culture Strategy in 2016. We will be announcing more details of the event programme shortly but this will include innovative art installations and local entertainment and a food offer at New Brighton and an exciting never before seen animation on our beautiful Birkenhead Town Hall.

There have also been a whole host of community events over the last few months, a couple in particular which I'd like to highlight and encourage everyone to support.

The Christopher Salmon Poetry Extravaganza, held in March this year, saw 1100 entries around the theme 'Memories'. Certificates and cash prizes were awarded to all winners in each age category at a ceremony in Birkenhead Town Hall.

Other events which have taken place recently include the launch of the Wilfred Owen Commemoration, officially opened by Frank Field MP and Dame Patricia Routledge at the Pyramids, Birkenhead and the Wirral History and Heritage Fair, which attracted over 1,400 in just one day, 49% of whom were attending this annual event for the first time. Feedback about the event included comments around how impressive Birkenhead Town Hall was and how well organised and knowledgeable the stall holders were.

Over the next few months, we will be continuing to work closely with the Liverpool City Region to launch the LCR Culture and Creativity Strategy in May in St Helens which will be the first Borough of Culture, celebrating their 150th anniversary. I'd also encourage you to keep an eye on all the upcoming events on [www.imaginewirral.com](http://www.imaginewirral.com), there will be more exciting announcements over the coming weeks!

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Increase the number of people who regularly use the boroughs parks and open spaces	Annual Higher is better	67% (Oct 2015)							66% (Dec 2017)	Same	The percentage of Wirral Residents who say they use the boroughs parks and green spaces at least once a month decreased slightly from 67% reported in the previous survey in 2016 but not enough to be deemed as statistically significant.
Increase the number of events in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces	Quarterly Higher is better	300 (2014-15)		332 (2016-17)	103 (Q1 2017-18)	287 (Q2 2017-18)	317 (Q3 2017-18)	363 (Q4 2017-18)	363 (2017-18)	Better	46 events were held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces in Q4 bringing the total for year to 363. This is an improvement seeing 31 more events held than last year and 63 more than the 300 events per year at the start of the plan.
Percentage of physically active adults	Annual Higher is better	(n/a)	England: 36.9% (2015-16) North West: 36.3% (2015-16)	62.9% (2015-16)					67.5% (2016-17)	Better	This indicator has replaced "Adult (14+) Participation in sport (at least once per week)". A new indicator was required as the source data for the superseded physical activity indicators has been discontinued. The data provider, Sport England, has replaced the Active People Survey with Active Lives. The new survey provides the same indicators but the methodology has changed, both in terms of questions and the mode of completion (telephone to online/postal version).

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Increase the number of national quality awards for Wirral's parks, coastal sites and open spaces: Green Flags	Annual Higher is better	22 (2015-16)		24 (2016-17)					29 (2017-18)	Better	Wirral has now received 29 national quality awards, 5 more than the start of the year and 7 more than the start of the plan.
Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise / health reasons	Annual Higher is better	20.7% (2013-14)	England: 17.9% (Mar 15-Feb 16) North West: 17.5% (Mar 15-Feb 16)	26.5% (2014-15)					23.4% (Mar 15-Feb 16)	Worse	Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise / health reasons continues to improve on the baseline figure from the start of the plan and is also performing considerably better than North West and nationally despite decreasing since the previous period.  It's worth noting that there is a time lag for this data which comes from the Public Health Outcomes Framework. The data released in quarter 1 was for March 2015 to February 2016. Also, the data comes from a relatively small sample size (less than 100) which may not give an accurate representation of overall activity in Wirral. This measure should therefore be viewed alongside other data for an overall picture of progress.
Increase the number of residents who say they regularly volunteer / support community groups in Wirral	Annual Higher is better	26% (Oct 2015)							24% (Dec 2017)	Worse	The percentage of Wirral Residents who say they volunteer at least once a month has decreased from 26% reported in the previous survey in 2016. The volunteering includes having given unpaid help either by taking part in or supporting any group, club or organisation (e.g. helping to run an activity/event, coaching, counselling, raising money, admin help).

## Wirral residents live healthier lives

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

We're delighted to report that smoking prevalence has reduced from 18.9% to 15.7% which is more than double the improvement of the National average. We're still slightly below the National average for Smoking Prevalence (15.5%) but we're closing the gap at a fast rate. We're also better than the North West Average (16.8%). The proportion of women smoking at time of delivery has also reduced from 13.9% at the start of the plan to 12.0% and is also improving at a much faster rate than the national average.

During 2017-18, provisional figures show 1,341 smokers accessing the specialist stop smoking service were still quit at 4 weeks. This is a significant improvement in performance compared to previous years. The majority of those accessing the service are by self-referral, followed by those referred by GPs. Those with a diagnosed mental health problem remain a high proportion of the clientele.

Although the number of admissions to hospital for alcohol related conditions per 100,000 population is higher than the start of the plan, this year we've seen an improvement from last year (901 to 889).

83 retail outlets are now complying with the "Reducing the Strength" project criteria which means that Super Strength Lager/Cider is no longer being sold in Birkenhead Town Centre. The scheme is now being spread out to new areas, including Rock Ferry, New Ferry, Seacombe and Poulton.

Retailers are also becoming agents for harm reduction in their communities by offering "Identification and Brief Advice" to customers they have concerns about regarding their alcohol abuse. 41 businesses have attended "Custodian" training, with 68 people from local businesses taking part. This scheme has been delivered in partnership involving, Licensing, Trading Standards, Police and Wirral Ways to Recovery.

This year we've helped 418 more people to lose weight than last year. A total of 1971 people were helped to lose weight compared to 1553 last year. In quarter 4 we've been working in partnership with the 0-19 service and children's centres delivering healthy eating/lifestyles displays within the children's centres and healthy child clinics and the Better Food Wirral brand engaging followers across social media on topics such as food, fitness and wellbeing.

57,811 people accessed Ask Us Wirral for information and advice against a target for the year of 32,000. Over 38,000 people have self triaged online for the service. The strength of this service is its volunteer base. The service continues to be delivered in over 25 locations including Arrowe Park hospital, GP surgeries, One Stop Shops, community hubs in Wallasey and Birkenhead and Community venues.

Connect Us began door knocking in March 17. From April '17 to March '18 30,644 doors have been knocked on and 7204 people spoken to. 1415 people have engaged with the programme, 56% of whom are ESA claimants. 62% of people are reporting an improvement in their wellbeing at a three month review and 52% are maintaining this at six months.

140 individuals are currently registered on the Move On UP project in 17/18 against a target for the year of 93. 44% of those people registered are residing in the constituency of Birkenhead. 49% of people are currently reporting an improvement in their wellbeing at 3 month review with 79% sustaining this improvement at six months. Spider (who run the project) have recently been awarded the Liverpool City Region Community Music & Arts Awards 2018 for the project.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Admission episodes for alcohol related conditions	Annual Lower is better	853.0 (2013-14)	England: 647.0 (2015-16) North West: 737.0 (2015-16)	819.0 (2014-15)					901.0 (2015-16)	Worse	There is a 12 month time lag on validated data being released. This data from the Public Health Outcomes Framework relates to 2015-16.  Performance has declined from the previous reporting period (2014-15) however Wirral's Alcohol Strategy sets out an action plan for reducing alcohol consumption to improve public health outcomes.
Smoking prevalence in adults (age 18 and over) in Wirral	Annual Lower is better	17.2% (2014)	England: 15.5% (2016) North West: 16.8% (2016)	18.9% (2015)					15.7% (2016)	Better	We're delighted to report that smoking prevalence has reduced from 18.9% 2015 to 15.7% in the latest (2016) Public Health Outcomes Framework Annual Population Survey.  Smoking prevalence across Wirral has improved significantly more than the North West average and has seen more than double the improvement than the national average for the same period. This is an average for the borough, we still have areas of the borough with smoking rates above 30%, it is these areas that activity will focus on.  There is a time lag on this data and the latest data available is for 2016. The Smoke Free Wirral Strategy sets out an action plan for the borough to tackle smoking prevalence and the local provider for stop smoking services has been working with GPs and practice nurses to improve referral pathways for their services.
Excess weight in adults	Annual Lower is better	66.2% (2012-14)	England: 61.3% (2015-16) North West: 63.0% (2015-16)	66.7% (2015)					59.6% (2015-16)	Better	For the 2015-16 data the indicator age range changed to adults aged 18+ rather than adults aged 16+ used in the historical indicator. This is because in 2016 the Active People Survey was replaced by the Active Lives survey and a new excess weight indicator was required as Active Lives represents a change in survey methodology.  The change in recording is consistent with the NHS Choices BMI calculator which considers adults as aged 18+.  In this case the data isn't available to backdate the change yet to look at trend data. Despite the change in methodology we continue to outperform the averages for the North West and the rest of England.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Smoking status at time of delivery	Annual Lower is better	13.9% (2014-15)	England: 10.7% (2016-17) North of England: 13.4% (2016-17)	12.4% (2015-16)					12.0% (2016-17)	Better	From April 2017, the definition used in Public Health Outcomes Framework changed to exclude women with unknown smoking status from the calculation to provide a more accurate representation of the true proportion of women smoking at time of delivery. We've backdated this method to the start of the plan. The latest available data is from 2016-17.  Because of the changes in capturing the data the percentage of women smoking at time of delivery has increased as expected. Whilst Wirral figure is worse than the National average, it's improving at a much faster rate highlighting the positive work being done locally. Wirral is also performing better than the North of England average.
Number of smokers helped to stop smoking	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		2,253 (2016-17)	743 (Q1 2017-18)	711 (Q2 2017-18)	2,115 (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure that counts the number of people setting a quit date recorded through a local contract. It's important to look at wider systems in place when interpreting this data as providers are only responsible for a small part of the process. There is a 6 week follow up period which delays the provision of this data therefore the data is reported a quarter behind.
Number of smokers still quit at 4 weeks	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		1,195 (2016-17)	342 (Q1 2017-18)	331 (Q2 2017-18)	978 (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure that counts the number of people that have still quit after 4 weeks as recorded through a local contract. It's important to look at wider systems in place when interpreting this data as providers are only responsible for a small part of the process. There is a 6 week follow up period which delays the provision of this data therefore the data is reported a quarter behind.
Number of pregnant women helped to stop smoking	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		47 (2016-17)	38 (Q1 2017-18)	37 (Q2 2017-18)	40 (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure that counts the number of pregnant women helped to stop smoking recorded through a local contract. It's important to look at wider systems in place when interpreting this data as providers are only responsible for a small part of the process. There is a 6 week follow up period which delays the provision of this data therefore the data is reported a quarter behind.
Number of people helped to lose weight	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		1,553 (2016-17)	525 (Q1 2017-18)	869 (Q2 2017-18)	1,403 (Q3 2017-18)	1,971 (Q4 2017-18)	1,971 (2017-18)	Better	418 more people were helped to lose weight compared to last year. An increase in the number of people eating healthily in Wirral should reduce the prevalence of excess weight and obesity which is a key contributor to premature mortality and avoidable ill health. It's important to look at wider systems in place when interpreting this data as providers are only responsible for a small part of the process.
Successful completion of drug treatment - opiate users	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)			6.9% (Q1 2017-18)	6.9% (Q2 2017-18)	7.2% (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure to count the successful completion of drug treatments by opiate users. Individuals achieving this can demonstrate a significant improvement in health and well-being in terms of increased longevity, reduced blood-borne virus transmission, improved parenting skills and improved physical and psychological health.
Successful completion of drug treatment - non-opiate users	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)			46.4% (Q1 2017-18)	50.2% (Q2 2017-18)	52.1% (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure to count the successful completion of drug treatments by non-opiate users. Individuals achieving this can demonstrate a significant improvement in health and well-being in terms of increased longevity, reduced blood-borne virus transmission, improved parenting skills and improved physical and psychological health.
Successful completion of alcohol treatment	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)			38.2% (Q1 2017-18)	39.7% (Q2 2017-18)	43.0% (Q3 2017-18)			n/a	This is a new measure to count the successful completion of alcohol treatments. Individuals achieving this can demonstrate a significant improvement in health and well-being in terms of increased longevity, reduced blood-borne virus transmission, improved parenting skills and improved physical and psychological health.

## Community services are joined up and accessible

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

During this quarter there has been a presentation to all four Constituency Committees feeding back on the extensive work that has been undertaken across Wirral to explore how we work with local communities and encourage resident involvement and participation in delivering the Wirral Plan. Early in the new municipal year I will be bringing proposals to Cabinet for consideration reflecting what I have heard from local residents, community organisations, Councillor colleagues, staff and partners. The last quarter of this year has seen lots of new and exciting work being undertaken with volunteers with a number of environmental projects attracting new people to get involved in their local community. I am delighted to see the Council's Volunteering scheme begin to embed and flourish with staff members taking up the opportunity of two days volunteering work. I hope that this approach will be offered to staff working in other organisations across the borough. It is encouraging that between January and March we have seen over 100 new people undertake volunteering opportunities in a diverse range of places, this is a further increase from last quarter, and I would hope to see this rise more as the year progresses. Over £60,000 has been brought into the borough between January and March 18 for local community groups and organisations to benefit from. As we move forward Wirral Council and its partners are looking to develop an approach which will allow better identification of, and coordination to, any funding opportunities.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Increase the number of residents who say they regularly volunteer / support community groups in Wirral	Annual Higher is better	26% (Nov 2015)							24% (Dec 2017)	Worse	The 2017 Wirral Residents Survey reported 24% of people regularly volunteer/ support community groups at least once a month . This is a lower than the previous residents survey in 2015.

## Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
<b>Overview from Lead Cabinet Member</b>											
Significant progress has been made around our key priorities during 2017/18 and the detailed actions which support them. An overview of these key priorities is provided below. We have met all but three of our activity milestones. Steps are being put in place to bring these activities back on track.											
Key achievements by end of Quarter 4 include:											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 359 affordable homes were completed in 2017-18 with a further 121 homes started on site but not due to complete until 2018-19. Activity will accelerate mid-Programme, with 465 homes due to commence construction in 2018-19. This is a lot higher than was anticipated due to greater investment confidence from the Registered Providers of social housing;</li> <li>• Work on the wider review of potential development options to identify housing sites has been ongoing, and has resulted in Council owned sites moving forward for development by Registered Providers for affordable housing.</li> <li>• 678 licences completed by the end of the year, which has meant that overall performance since July 2016 has exceeded targets;</li> <li>• Following intervention, 861 homes in the private sector have had hazards removed since the start of the plan to enable those homes to be warmer and safer;</li> <li>• Consultation on the proposed extension of Selective Licensing closed on 21st March 2018. Officers are currently summarising results and a further report will be provided to Cabinet summarising the outcome of the consultation exercise. In addition, Cabinet will be asked for a decision on whether to approve the implementation of a Selective Licensing Scheme in the four proposed areas.</li> <li>• Two schemes will now be used to provide enhanced sheltered provision, and partnership working has allowed for pooled funding to respond to adaptations to ensure the accommodation is able to meet the needs of those older people with disabilities;</li> <li>• Funding for the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Trailblazer to prevent homelessness has been confirmed and a meeting with all local authorities is to be held to finalise the detail;</li> </ul>											
Challenges in Quarter 4											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As highlighted in both Quarter 2 and 3 Reports, Cabinet approval for the final version of the Core Strategy Local Plan was originally programmed to be achieved by March 2018, however following the resolution of Cabinet on 27th February 2017 and the revised timetable agreed in June 2017, there is now a requirement to undertake a wider review of development options which has pushed the completion date for this priority to July 2019;</li> <li>• Homeless reduction has also not achieved expectations for quarter 4, but has achieved an estimated total of 991 preventions. This figure does not include the number of preventions made through Discretionary Housing Benefit award, and does not take into account the increase in the number of clients presenting with complex issues which has resulted in a longer time taken to assist and a reduction in the availability of accommodation because of welfare reforms.</li> <li>• The commission of new services for homelessness and socially excluded groups was originally due to complete during quarter three, but now has a new target end date of June 2018 due to resource requirements.</li> </ul>											
In 2018-19 we will continue to be focus on our key priorities to build more homes in Wirral to meet our economic growth ambitions, improve the quality of Wirral's housing offer for our residents and meet the needs of our most vulnerable people to enable them to live independently.											

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
3,500 new homes will be built by 2020	Annual Higher is better	(n/a)		946 (2015-2017)					Amber Actual: 1,612 (P) Target: 1,797 (2015-18)	Better	This is a provisional figure based on Building Control and Council Tax notifications to the end of February 2018. The final figure will be higher and will be reported at the same time as the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report in Autumn 2018, following site visits and further Building Control notification reports. At this stage the estimated figure is less than the target and as such once the final figure is confirmed, targets for the following years may have to be increased to an estimated 944 new homes per year for 2018-19 and 2019-20 in order to meet the 3,500 target.
Improve 2,250 private sector properties	Annual Higher is better	(n/a)		928 (2016-17)					Blue Actual: 1,535 Target: 1,368 (2016-18)	Better	The target for improving private sector homes has been exceeded in all the areas that contribute towards this target including enforcement and informal action to improve the private rented sector, cosy homes heating, empty property grants, renovation loans, home repairs assistance and adaptations.
Bring 1,250 empty properties back into use	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		597 (2015-2017)	Green Actual: 665 Target: 640 (Dec 2015 - Jun 2017)	Green Actual: 737 Target: 683 (Dec 2015 - Sep 2017)	Green Actual: 797 Target: 726 (Dec 2015 - Dec 2017)	Blue Actual: 887 Target: 769 (Dec 2015-Mar 2018)	Blue Actual: 887 Target: 769 (Dec 2015-Mar 2018)	Better	Bringing empty homes back into use since the start of the Wirral 2020 Plan has exceeded our expectations and means we have been able to start to remove the blight in some areas and hopefully this will support the reduction of anti-social behaviour associated with longer term empty properties. We are aiming to remain on track to deliver our commitment to bringing empty properties back into use over the life of the Plan to continue to improve both the local housing offer and assist in making neighbourhoods desirable places to live.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Complete compliance inspections for all homes requiring a license	Annual Higher is better	(n/a)		304 (2016-17)					678 (2017-18)	Better	142 inspections were completed in quarter 4. Overall performance for 2017-18 exceeded the internal target (603) due to additional internal staffing resources being redirected to support Selective Licensing work.
An increase in the percentage of people over 50 living in appropriate housing, that meets their needs	Annual Higher is better	52.3% (Oct 2015)							52.3% (Dec 2017)	Same	The level of residents over 50 who feel our housing offer is meeting their needs has been maintained since the 2015 Residents Survey.
Number of home adaptations completed	Quarterly Higher is better	2,257 (2014-15)		3,047 (2016-17)	671 (Apr-Jun 2017)	1,346 (Apr-Sept 2017)	1,947 (Apr-Dec 2017)	2,597 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	2,597 (2017-18)	n/a	Home adaptations is a demand led service based on clients needs. The number of adaptations completed in quarter 4 cannot therefore be compared with the previous quarter or year. From April 2017 to March 2018 there were 2597 adaptations completed which is higher than predicted (2500).
Reduce homelessness through prevention	Quarterly Higher is better	707 (2014-15)		1,291 (2016-17)	272 (Apr-Jun 2017)	549 (Apr-Sept 2017)	770 (Apr-Dec 2017)	991 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	991 (P) (2017-18)	Worse	Data is provisional and does not include preventions which have been made through Discretionary Housing Benefit award. The additional data in order to finalise this year end figure will be available in May 2018. We do not think that we have achieved our expectations for Quarter 4 / year end (predicted target was 1250), it is however important to highlight that an increase in the number of clients with complex issues has resulted in us taking longer to assist and a reduction in the availability of accommodation due to the effect of welfare reforms, retendering of prevention support services and implementation of new service providers has impacted on homelessness prevention cases in the transition.

## Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

During 2017/18 significant progress has been made around our key priorities and we have met all our activity milestones within timescale. An overview of key achievements is provided below.

Key achievements by end of Quarter 4 include:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) reports to police down by 13% compared to same period last year.
- The rate of first time entrants into Youth justice system for latest period (Oct 2016-Sept 2017) has fallen by 15% compared to same period last year
- As part of anti-social behaviour (ASB) initiatives to support and engage with local communities a Community Advisory Group has been established and a programme of localised door to door leafleting on ASB order offenders.
- The Safer Wirral Hub partnership has reviewed joint working arrangements resulting in a more improved integrated approach to resolving anti-social behaviour and increasing informal resolutions.
- We continue to focus on 'High Demand Generators' and Repeat callers to Emergency Services in relation to ASB, Domestic Abuse and Mental Health. This allows us to provide a variety of services to promote a more holistic problem solving approach.
- Merseyside Police will continue to use Threat, Harm, Risk meetings to identify repeat offenders. They will then work closely with Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Team, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) governance group to ensure co-ordinated action is taken.
- We have negotiated for a Police officer to work within the Licensing Team to commence April 2018 on Interventions work - Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery, Exploitation, Licensing & Gambling.

There are a number of risk and challenges which the board are proactively addressing, these include:

- Crimes recorded during 2017-18 have increased by 17% when compared to the same period last year. Wirral maintains the lowest crime rate on Merseyside and 3rd lowest crime rate amongst Community Safety Partnership cohort of areas deemed similar to Wirral
- 2016-17 figures for violence that causes an injury increased by 9% compared to last year. We still maintain 3rd lowest rate of violence compared with Community Safety Partnership cohort of areas deemed similar to Wirral

Following a successful workshop in February, the Safer Wirral Partnership Board agreed next year's priorities and work programme which is set out in the 2018-19 action plan.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) to Merseyside Police	Quarterly Lower is better	11,837 (2014-15)		9,930 (2016-17)	2,466 (Apr-Jun 2017)	5,275 (Apr-Sept 2017)	7,189 (Apr-Dec 2017)	8,617 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	8,617 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	Better	Reports of anti social behaviour made to Wirral Police during 2017-18 have reduced by 1,313 (13%) compared to the previous year (2016-17).
Proportion of residents who state they feel safe when outside their local area (daytime)	Annual Higher is better	88% (Oct 2015)							90% (Dec 2017)	Better	The 2017 Wirral Residents Survey reported 90% of residents feel safe when outside in their local area during the daytime. This is higher than the previous residents survey in 2015.
Proportion of residents who state they feel safe when outside in their local area (After Dark)	Annual Higher is better	55% (Oct 2015)							51% (Dec 2017)	Worse	The 2017 Wirral Residents Survey reported 51% of residents feel safe when outside in their local area after dark. This is lower than the previous residents survey in 2015.
Number of crimes recorded by the police	Quarterly Lower is better	19,061 (2014-15)		19,724 (2016-17)	5,550 (Apr-Jun 2017)	11,391 (Apr-Sept 2017)	17,185 (Apr-Dec 2017)	23,096 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	23,096 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	Worse	The number of crimes being reported in Wirral has increased by 17% compared to the same period last year (19,724). However, Wirral maintains the lowest crime rate in Merseyside, and has maintained the 3rd lowest crime rate amongst the Home Office cohort of 15 Community Safety Partnership's deemed demographically similar to Wirral.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
First-time entrants to the youth justice system (10-17 year olds, as a rate per 100,000 of the local general population)	Quarterly Lower is better	177 (Apr 2015 - Mar 2016)	Merseyside Youth Offending Teams (Police Crime Commissioner area): 311 (Oct 2016- Sep 2017)	180 (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016)	177 (Jan-Dec 2016)	174 (Apr 2016 - Mar 2017)	171 (Jul 2016 - Jun 2017)	157 (Oct 2016 - Sep 2017)	157 (Oct 2016-Sep 2017)	Better	The rate of first-time entrants to the youth justice system for the rolling year October 2016-September 2017 has fallen by 15% to 157, compared to the 184 rate for October 2015-September 2016.
Reduce Youth Re-offending (Average number of re-offences per re-offender)	Quarterly Lower is better	3.92 (Jan-Dec 2014)		3.75 (Apr 2014 - Mar 2015)	4.00 (Jul 2014 - Jun 2015)	3.88 (Oct 2014 - Sept 2015)				n/a	Latest available data is for Q3 (2017-18) which was 3.88. This is due to changes made by the Ministry of Justice in the methodology for this measure; data calculated with the new methodology is not comparable to previous quarters. It was agreed by the Safer Wirral Partnership Board that from 2018-19 repeat offender data will be reported.
Violence that causes an injury to an individual victim (not including homicide) recorded by the Police	Quarterly Lower is better	1,982 (2014-15)	Ranking within 15 Most Similar Community Safety Partnership Groups: 3 (Mar 2017- Feb 2018)	2,359 (2016-17)	659 (Apr-Jun 2017)	1,313 (Apr-Sept 2017)	1,912 (Apr-Dec 2017)	2,569 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	2,569 (Apr 2017-Mar 2018)	Worse	The number of crimes of violence causing injury has increased by 9% compared to the same period last year. However Wirral remains the 3rd lowest rate of violence with injury per population within the Home Office benchmarking group of 15 Community Safety Partnerships and the second lowest rate per population in Merseyside

## Attractive local environment for Wirral residents

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

It has been another important year in delivering our commitment to create an attractive local environment for our residents and visitors. We are effectively mid-term within the timeframe of the Wirral Plan and therefore keen to determine if the key long term actions we have been pursuing are having the desired effect. I believe that we are beginning to see positive changes in terms of driving behaviour change to address environmental crime as well as outcomes such as more and more people getting involved and active (often for the first time) in their local community. However we remain concerned about our waste recycling performance which has again reduced from the previous year, we will therefore be putting in actions to address the position through the waste management plan, which will include a targeted communications programme.

Highlights of the year include:

- We have continued to maintain high standards of street cleansing across the vast majority of the borough and are focusing on locations that require additional resource to maintain.
- We successfully delivered the second grot spot action plan, taking action to address over 20 blighted locations in private or unknown ownership and previously adversely affected the quality of people's lives.
- The Love Where You Live campaign to support volunteer groups has been fully established, with new groups coming forward and people enjoying being active in their local community.
- The 'Love More Waste Less' programme of community events and engagement has been successfully delivered on a range of environmentally related issues.
- New dog foul bag dispensing boards have been installed in 10 locations across Wirral with support from our partners and working well.
- We have demonstrated our commitment to zero tolerance towards environmental crime committed in Wirral through the continued issuing of implementation of Fixed Penalty Notices for littering, dog fouling and alleyway dumping, and in doing so have increased education and awareness of the impact environmental crime has on our living and working environments.

Wirral Plan Indicator	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Maintain local environmental quality (LEQ) via the street cleansing of litter, detritus, graffiti. (Main Gateways and Retail Areas)	Quarterly Higher is better	97.5% (2014-15)		95.2% (2016-17)	Blue Actual: 97.9% Target: 93.2% (Q1 2017-18)	Blue Actual: 96.9% Target: 93.2% (Q2 2017-18)	Blue Actual: 96.7% Target: 93.2% (Q3 2017-18)	Blue Actual: 98.1% Target: 93.2% (Q4 17-18)	Blue Actual: 98.1% Target: 93.2% (2017-18)	Better	During this year the cleansing operations of identified high priority areas (shops and key gateway routes) continues to demonstrate excellent performance levels borough wide
Achieve 100% kerbside recycling of domestic waste by 2020	Quarterly Higher is better	36.30% (2014-15)		35.90% (2016-17)	Amber Actual: 35.50% Target: 38.50% (Q1 2017-18)	Amber Actual: 35.50% Target: 38.50% (Q2 2017-18)	Red Actual: 31.60% Target: 36.50% (Q3 17-18)			Worse	3rd quarter performance (Oct-Dec 2017). The third quarter performance has been lower than expected. Both the quantity of garden waste and the quantity of dry recycling collected is less than the same period last year. Garden waste tonnages have likely been affected by a wetter Summer and also a reduction in the number of subscribers compared to last year. The tonnage of dry recycling continues to fall, whereas the tonnage of general waste is still increasing. This trend is the same for the majority of North West authorities for which there is data – most have seen an increase in residual tonnages and all have seen a reduction in overall recycling.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (Littering)	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		11,458 (2016-17)	Blue Actual: 2,389 Target: 2,000 (Apr-Jun 2017)	Blue Actual: 4,406 Target: 4,000 (Apr-Sept 2017)	Green Actual: 6,103 Target: 5,750 (Apr-Dec 2017)	Green Actual: 7,797 Target: 7,500 (Q4 17-18)	Green Actual: 7,797 Target: 7,500 (2017-18)	Worse	Although litter enforcement performance is less than achieved for last year (11,458), performance still exceeds the target set for this year. Performance is subject to change and the legal parameters such as increasingly restricted access to private land. Our view is we still have work to do to achieve the behaviour change that will see a significant reduction in dropped litter and improved local environmental quality particularly in residential areas.
Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (dog fouling)	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)		208 (2016-17)	Green Actual: 48 Target: 45 (Apr-Jun 2017)	Green Actual: 87 Target: 90 (Apr-Sept 2017)	Green Actual: 141 Target: 130 (Apr-Dec 2017)	Blue Actual: 192 Target: 170 (Q4 17-18)	Blue Actual: 192 Target: 170 (2017-18)	Worse	Dog fouling enforcement performance has exceeded the target set for 2017-18 although performance is lower when compared to same time last year. Performance is subject to change and the legal nuances and parameters under which the service operates. Our view is we still have work to do to achieve behaviour change by the minority of dog owners who do not pick up after their dog.
People who think dog fouling is a problem in their local area.	Annual Lower is better	56.0% (Oct 2015)							62.0% (Dec 2017)	n/a	The increase in the number of people who think dog fouling is a problem in their local area, reflects the heightened awareness of the problems associated with dog owners not picking up after their dog. In reality the Council has been receiving less complaints or reports about dog fouling from residents and our own environmental monitoring arrangements conclude that dog fouling instances are not increasing. The Council has embarked on a long term approach to achieving behaviour change amongst the dog owners who currently don't pick up after their dog, acknowledging that it will take some years to effect. The Council remains committed to the behaviour change approach and are currently reviewing operations to step up enforcement at known dog fouling hotspots.
Reduce the total amount of waste produced by each household.	Quarterly Lower is better	502.15 (2014-15)		531.84 (2016-17)	139.14 (Apr-Jun 2017)	274.20 (Apr-Sept 2017)	412.39 (Q3 17-18)			Worse	Cumulative total - up to and including Quarter 3. The tonnage of general (non recycling) waste produced per household has increased compared with the same quarter last year. The reason for this increase is not clear, but this is a similar trend amongst other authorities in the North West (for which Qtr 3 data is available), the majority of which have also seen an increase in the quantity of general waste collected. In 2018/19, we will be carrying out a review of authorised additional green (general waste) bins.

Supporting Measure	Indicator	Wirral Plan Start	Benchmark Data	Year End 2016-17	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	Year End 2017-18	Trend (See Key)	Comment
Increase level of school recycling	Annual Higher is better	35.00% (2014-15)		45.00% (2016-17)					48.00% (2017-18)	Better	Another successful year improving recycling at Wirral's schools. In 2016/17, there were 60 schools out of 107 that were recycling 50% or more of their waste, with 13 schools recycling 60% or more (and 12 recycling less than 30%). In 2017/18, this increased to 85 schools recycling 50% or more and 16 schools recycling 60% or more (with only 8 schools recycling less than 30% of their waste).
Increase the number of garden waste subscribers	Quarterly Higher is better	(n/a)			36,065 (Apr-Jun 2017)	38,593 (Apr-Sept 2017)	39,188 (Apr-Dec 2017)	39,565 (Q4 17-18)	39,565 (2017-18)	n/a	Subscriber numbers have decreased in 2017/18, possibly due to the removal of the £5 online discount, effectively creating a £10 increase within a year. However, a promotion was run from January to March, offering a subscription for the remainder of the current subscription year (until the end of May 2018) for the reduced price of £15. This led to 394 new subscriptions in Qtr4, compared with only 212 during Qtr4 of 2016/17. Promotional activity for the new subscription year 2018/19 has begun.

Report Key

Trend - Performance is shown as Better, Same or Worse compared with the last reporting period except for: Increase the number of events in Wirral's parks, beaches and open space, number of smokers helped to stop smoking, number of smokers still quit at 4 weeks, number of pregnant women helped to stop smoking, number of people helped to lose weight, Bring 1,250 empty properties brought back into use, reduce homelessness through prevention, reports of ASB to Merseyside Police, number of crimes recorded by the police, violence that causes an injury to an individual victim (not including homicide) recorded by the Police, kerbside recycling, number of environmental offences (littering and dog Fouling), amount of Household Waste and Garden Waste subscribers which are compared with same period the previous year.

Target - Where targets apply, these are shown as either Blue, Green, Amber, Red based on the agreed tolerance range for individual measures.

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# Wirral Plan - Environment 2017-18 Year End Report

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Wirral Plan 2020

# Environment Summary

## Key Achievements:

### **Leisure and Culture**

- Birkenhead Park received the World Urban Parks Gold Award and Wallasey Beach and the Breck in Wallasey were awarded Blue Flag and Green Flag awards respectively
- Imagine Wirral was launched at Birkenhead Town Hall to over 130 guests and has since attracted over £100k in external funding

### **Healthier Lives**

- 83 retailers are complying with the "Reducing the Strength" project criteria meaning that Super Strength Lager/Cider is no longer being sold in Birkenhead Town Centre.
- The Ask Us Wirral service has been successfully supported over 50,000 residents, 18,000 more than predicted

### **Attractive Local Environment**

- Over 8000 fixed penalty notices (FPNs) have been issued this year for littering, dog fouling and alleyway dumping offences. Over the last 2 years more than £100k has been invested back into the service and over 20 grot spot sites have been tackled
- The Eco Schools programme now has 90 Wirral schools participating, 46 with Green Flag status

### **Community Services**

- Over £60,000 of funding has been secured for local community groups and organisations

### **Housing**

- 359 affordable homes completed in 2017-18 bringing £10.4m of inward investment with a further 121 homes started and set for completion in the coming year
- 861 homes in the private sector have had hazards removed since the start of the plan to enable those homes to be warmer and safer so residents can live safer in their homes

### **Safe Neighbourhoods**

- A Community Advisory Group has been established to support and engage with local communities

## Areas for Improvement:

### **Leisure and Culture**

- A review of Wirral's Leisure Services and Leisure and Cultural Assets is under development.

### **Healthier Lives**

- Launching "Making Every Contact Count" training to all frontline service has been reconsidered as this training is focused on health care staff and assumes medical knowledge

### **Attractive Local Environment**

- Waste recycling performance is worsening currently at 31.6% with a 2020 target of 50%, actions will be introduced to address this through the waste management plan

### **Community Services**

- The number of residents who say they volunteer regularly or support community groups in Wirral has declined since 2015

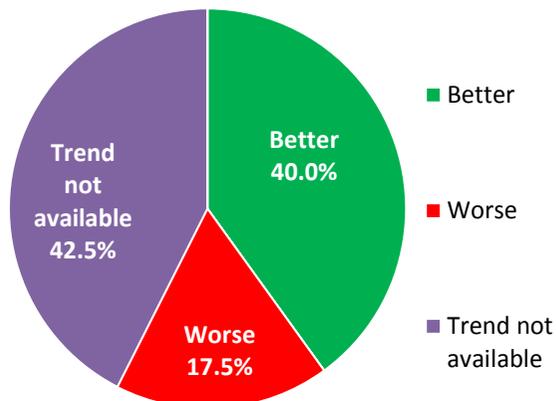
### **Housing**

- Due to resource requirements, the commission of new services for homelessness and socially excluded groups was rescheduled for 2018-19
- Homeless preventions did not achieve expectations, primarily due to increased complexity and a reduction in available accommodation because of welfare reforms

### **Safe Neighbourhoods**

- Both the number of crimes recorded and violence that causes injury continue to rise, however rising crime is being addressed by collaborative early intervention processes through the Safer Wirral Hub; Wirral also still maintains the lowest crime rate in Merseyside

## ENVIRONMENT Trend - compared to 2016-17



## Outcomes for Residents- Compared to the Previous Year

### Leisure and Culture

- 3 measures performing better, 1 worse; Events up by 9%, physically active adults up by 4.6%, 5 more National Quality awards. Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health down by 3.1%.

### Healthier Lives

- 5 measures performing better, 6 being baselined this year; 1.3% less alcohol related admissions, smoking prevalence down by 3.2%, Excess weight in adults down by 7.1%, smoking status at time of delivery down 0.4%, 27% more people used our weight management service.

### Attractive Local Environment

- 2 measures performing better: Level of school recycling up from 45% to 48%; Street cleansing up to 98.1%
- 2 worse: FPNs issued reduced for both littering by 32% and dog fouling by 7.7% (in line with profile to reflect behavioural change)

### Community Services

- No measures to compare to last year

### Housing

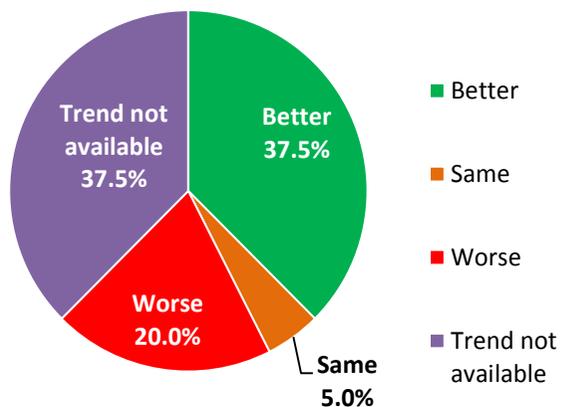
- 4 measures performing better, 2 worse: 666 new homes completed with an additional 607 private sector homes being improved and 290 empty properties brought back into use; compliance inspections up by 223% in year. Homelessness prevention fell by 23%

### Safe Neighbourhoods

- 2 measures performing better; ASB reports down 13%, first time entrants to youth justice system fell by 15%
- 2 measures performing worse; 17% increase in reported crime, the number of crimes of violence causing injury increasing by 9%

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## ENVIRONMENT Trend - compared to Wirral Plan Start



## Outcomes for Residents – Since the Start of the Wirral Plan

### Leisure and Culture

- 3 measures performing better, 1 worse, 1 same; Events up by 21%, 7 more National Quality Awards, Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health up by 2.7%. 2% less volunteers. Number of people who regularly use parks and open spaces remained the same.

### Healthier Lives

- 3 measures performing better, 1 worse, 6 being baselined this year; Smoking prevalence down 1.5%, excess weight in adults down 6.6%, smoking status at time of delivery down 1.9%, alcohol related admissions up 4.2%.

### Attractive Local Environment

- 2 measures performing better, 2 worse: Level of school recycling increased from 35% to 48%; Street cleansing up from 97.5% to 98.1%. People who think dog fouling is a problem up from 56% to 62%, Kerbside recycling has reduced by 4.7% to 31.6%

### Community Services

- 1 measure performing worse: 24% of people volunteer at community groups at least once a month compared to 26% in 2015

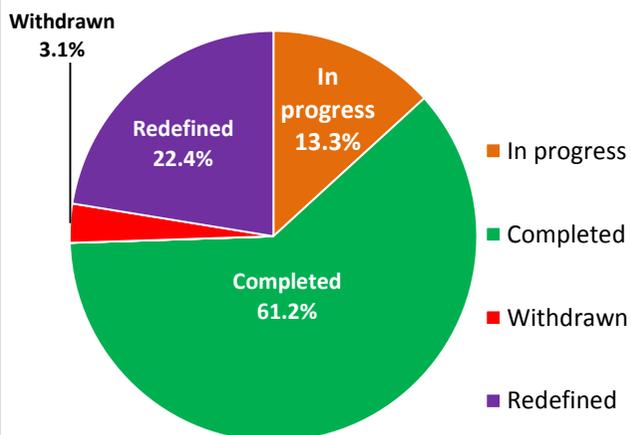
### Housing

- 1,612 new homes built (46% of 2020 target), 1,535 private sector homes improved, (68% of 2020 target), 887 empty properties brought back to use, (71% of 2020 target)

### Safe Neighbourhoods

- 3 measures better: ASB reports down 13%, 90% of residents feel safe outside during daytime, entrants into youth justice system fell by 1.7%. 3 worse: 51% of residents felt safe outside after dark, crimes recorded up by 20%, violence causing injury up by 29.6%

## Environment Theme - Year End Action Status



## Delivery – Doing What We Said We Would

### Leisure and Culture

- Wirral has 7 more National quality awards than the start of the plan and 63 more events were held in our parks and open spaces than 2014-15. We successfully bid for funding for a programme of activity around Tall Ships weekend in May.

### Healthier Lives

- 83 retailers are complying with the “Reducing the Strength” project criteria meaning that Super Strength Lager/Cider is no longer being sold in Birkenhead Town Centre.

### Attractive Local Environment

- 3 initiatives launched to encourage more efficient waste management; including a Food Club in Seacombe, the Refresh project in Woodchurch, teaching residents upcycling and repair skills and school litter picks involving 60 schools

### Community Services

- £50,000 (or) £84,800 grant funding has been secured for small businesses
- 112 volunteers, 27 opportunities and 10 organisations have registered on the Community Action Wirral central volunteering portal.

### Housing

- Established a dedicated Housing Growth Team to accelerate development
- Undertake a Private sector Stock Condition Survey to inform future Housing Strategy and service delivery

### Safe Neighbourhoods

- Initiatives to support and engage with local communities have been implemented

## Next Steps

### Leisure and Culture

- Complete the Leisure and Culture review to identify the most effective model to deliver the best possible services to our residents.
- Work with local and regional partners to deliver key events in Wirral, providing opportunities for resident involvement, increased visitor footfall and investment

### Healthier Lives

- Continue to deliver Wirral’s Tobacco and Alcohol Strategies to reduce the number of people who smoke and reduce the impact of alcohol misuse in Wirral

### Attractive Local Environment

- Launch a live mapping system to provide residents with key environmental information and insight via the Council’s website
- Implement the Waste Management Performance Plan to address recycling, including less greens bins and more recycling

### Community Services

- Develop and launch a Wirral Partnership approach, working with local communities to deliver the Wirral Plan
- Increase funding opportunities for Wirral Businesses

### Housing

- Continue to build more homes in Wirral to meet our economic growth ambitions, improve the quality of Wirral’s housing offer for our residents and meet the needs of our most vulnerable people to enable them to live independently

### Safe Neighbourhoods

- Develop a programme of activity that contributes to the support of those citizens of Wirral who are vulnerable to cyber- crime

## Environment

### Pledge : Leisure and cultural opportunities for all

#### Priority 01: Promote and celebrate Wirral's parks, coast and countryside for leisure activities

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Complete a series of access audits and develop a programme of improvements subject to available funding	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Develop and implement a programme of commercial projects for Wirral's parks, coast and countryside	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Identify and apply for relevant awards to recognise and celebrate Wirral's parks, coast and countryside	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Implement a marketing programme to promote events taking place across Wirral's parks, coast and countryside	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Implement a master plan for each of Wirral's 4 country parks and Birkenhead Park to optimise their potential	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Maximise work related opportunities to engage students of all ages in the leisure and tourism sectors, progress them into apprenticeships, jobs and ensure opportunities for continued professional development	Apr 2016 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.
Progress application for World Heritage Site status for Birkenhead Park	Apr 2017 - Jun 2019	In Progress	

#### Priority 02: Encourage people to take part in sports, leisure, social and physical activities

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Complete a review of Wirral's Leisure services	Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.
Develop a marketing programme to encourage participation in sport and physical activity , particularly those target groups with low participation levels	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Develop the health links between primary care and the network of sports, leisure, social and physical activities available in Wirral	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Maximise opportunities to attract funding to encourage participation	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

<b>Priority 03: Increase pride in Wirral's communities and encourage more residents to volunteer</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Continue to deliver and where possible increase the number of places on National Citizens Service programme available to Wirral's young people aged 16 to 17	Apr 2017 - Dec 2017	Completed	
Deliver volunteering programmes to support Wirral's parks and conservation activity	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.

<b>Priority 04: Develop creative partnerships and a cultural events programme to promote arts, culture and heritage in Wirral</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Develop a calendar of events for 2017 for local arts, music and heritage events	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Develop a survey to map existing community arts, culture and creativity individuals, organisations and businesses in Wirral	Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Completed	
Implement a programme of networking events for Wirral Culture Tank 2017 - 2020	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Explore feasibility of creating a knowledge and funding hub to provide advice and support for small creative sector organisations	Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Completed	

<b>Priority 05: Increase resident and visitor participation in Wirral's arts, culture and heritage offer to promote its educational, social and wellbeing benefits</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Create a Wirral Cultural Ambassadors programme to promote culture and creativity across the borough	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.
Implement a communications plan to celebrate and promote arts, culture and heritage events in Wirral	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 06: Promote Wirral on an international stage as part of the Liverpool City Region to attract world class arts, heritage and culture events and exhibitions**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Apply for regional and national awards which recognise Wirral's culture and heritage offer	Apr 2017 - Mar 2021	In Progress	
Apply for regional, national and international funding to promote and showcase Wirral	Apr 2017 - Mar 2021	In Progress	
Deliver innovative events to showcase Wirral	Apr 2017 - Mar 2021	In Progress	
Work as part of the Liverpool City Region to develop and support a place-based strategy and the city region's plans for a Local Cultural Partnership (LCP).	Apr 2017 - Mar 2019	In Progress	

**Priority 07: Maximise the contribution of the arts, heritage and culture to the local economy**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Complete review of Wirral Council's leisure and culture assets	Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.
Ensure the training offer for the arts, culture, heritage and tourism sector supports the priorities for business growth and development	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Establish innovative spaces for use by creative businesses	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Work with Beautiful Ideas to inspire innovative projects in partnership with Wirral residents	Apr 2017 - May 2017	Completed	

**Pledge : Wirral residents live healthier lives****Priority 01: Reduce the number of people who smoke in Wirral**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver Wirral's Tobacco Strategy to reduce the number of people who smoke in Wirral	May 2017 - Mar 2021	In Progress	

**Priority 02: Reduce the impact of alcohol misuse on individuals and communities**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver Wirral's Alcohol Strategy to reduce the impact of alcohol misuse on individuals and communities	May 2017 - Mar 2021	In Progress	

**Priority 03: Increase the number of people with a healthy weight in the borough**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Consolidate the Better Food Wirral brand and implement Better Food Wirral Innovation Schemes	Apr 2017 - Mar 2021	Completed	
Develop and commission treatment pathway for local people who are overweight and obese	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The wording and timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19.
Develop and implement work to address early years food culture	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Develop a set of actions to be delivered by local organisations to support people to maintain a healthy weight.	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	

**Priority 04: Support people to take more control of their health and wellbeing**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver and measure effectiveness of the Connect Us programme which aims to increase residents' connections within their communities and target health-related work lessness.	Feb 2017 - Jan 2019	In Progress	
Deliver the 'Move On Up' project to help support people with low level mental health issues	Apr 2017 - Jan 2019	In Progress	
Develop and deliver a programme of marketing activity across the partnership to raise awareness of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Encourage employers across Wirral to support their staff to be healthy and well	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Launch 'Making every contact count' training to frontline services to support and encourage local people across Wirral to make positive changes to their health and wellbeing	Apr 2017 - Nov 2017	Withdrawn	Following discussions with local partners it has become apparent that a roll out of "Making Every Contact Count" training would not be appropriate, as this training is focused on health care staff and assumes medical knowledge. The local approach will link with our neighbourhood work and the 5 Ways to Wellbeing campaign.
Subject to Council approval, implement a Cumulative Impact Policy in a defined area of Birkenhead	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
To deliver and measure the effectiveness of Ask Us Wirral which will provide one service to access advice service from multiple locations across the borough	Apr 2017 - Mar 2020	Completed	
Promote the dangers of drug use to young people to ensure they can make informed decisions.	Jul 2017 - Jul 2018	In Progress	

**Pledge : Community services are joined up and accessible**

**Priority 01: Inspiring people to become more involved in their communities**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Build community networks through working with community connectors, supporting existing community leaders and identifying new ones	Apr 2017 - Jan 2019	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Build local knowledge by identifying what activities are happening across Wirral	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Work with communities to deliver the Wirral Plan by developing a future model for working in neighbourhoods which promotes and supports community involvement	Apr 2017 - Oct 2017	Completed	
Work with local councillors to inspire people to become more involved in their local area	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 02: Encouraging more people to volunteer in Wirral**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Increase volunteering in line with the Wirral Plan by working with partners to prioritise and promote opportunities which support the 2020 pledges	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Promote employer-supported volunteering and Corporate Social Responsibility by creating a central hub which allows skills to be matched to opportunities	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Raise the profile of volunteering through targeted marketing and promotion using a range of channels	Mar 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Reward and recognise the contribution of volunteers by developing schemes which build on best practice	Apr 2017 - Apr 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19

<b>Priority 03: Working together to remove barriers</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Develop a co-ordinated approach for the Wirral Partnership to advertise and recruit volunteers for formal volunteering opportunities	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Increase external funding coming into the borough to help small organisations to develop	Apr 2017 - Apr 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Provide a positive experience for volunteers by creating a set of good practice principles for organisations	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Provide links to available support, training and ongoing development for volunteers	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	

**Pledge : Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents**

<b>Priority 01: Building more houses in Wirral to meet our economic growth ambitions</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
Cabinet Approval of final Core Strategy Local Plan and submission to Secretary of State	Apr 2017 - Jul 2019	In Progress	
Deliver Wirral's 2016-2021 Shared Ownership and Affordable Housing Programme which will deliver 283 new affordable homes by 2021	Apr 2017 - Mar 2021	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity that this work will take place in partnership with Registered Providers
Establish a dedicated Housing Growth Team to support Private Sector and Registered Provider partners to accelerate development	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
To conduct a wider review of potential development options to identify housing sites to support the delivery of new homes in the Borough	Apr 2017 - Oct 2017	Completed	
Undertake a feasibility review of the opportunity to deliver housing via a new company or delivery model	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 02: Improving the quality of Wirral's housing offer for our residents**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Identify opportunities to design and plan the introduction of models of 'assisted' and 'smart home' technology	Apr 2017 - Mar 2020	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Inspect all homes requiring mandatory or additional licensing for compliance.	Jul 2016 - Mar 2020	Withdrawn	This action has been withdrawn as it is monitored as a supporting measure (1,200 homes requiring mandatory or additional licenses will be expected by 2020)
Reduce fuel poverty and increase disposable income for vulnerable households through targeted energy programmes	Apr 2017 - Mar 2020	In Progress	
Reduce the number of homes with serious hazards to provide more warmer, safer homes	Apr 2016 - Mar 2020	Withdrawn	This action has been withdrawn as it is monitored as a outcome indicator (Improve 2,250 private sector properties)
Review the current Selective Licensing Scheme and complete a feasibility study on the potential to extend the Scheme	Feb 2017 - Mar 2020	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity following recommendation of cabinet for potential expansion of selective licensing
Undertake a Private sector Stock Condition Survey to inform future Housing Strategy and service delivery	Sep 2017 - Jun 2018	Completed	

**Priority 03: Meeting the housing and support needs of our most vulnerable people to enable them to live independently**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Commence homelessness review to inform the development of the 2018-2023 Homelessness Strategy	Oct 2017 - Sep 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity following introduction of Homelessness Reduction Act.
Commission new services for homelessness and socially excluded groups in line with commissioning plan	Jan 2017 - Dec 2017	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery
Contribute to the delivery of a pilot Liverpool City Region (LCR) specialist accommodation based support service for domestic abuse	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Deliver Liverpool City Region (LCR) Homelessness offer as part of Trailblazer approach	Apr 2017 - Mar 2020	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery
Develop Supported Housing Strategy for all vulnerable client groups	Aug 2016 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery
Establish a clear Learning Disabilities Strategy for commissioning to ensure current and future housing needs of people with Learning disabilities are addressed	Mar 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Review and evaluate the Liverpool City Region Asylum Seeker Dispersal Programme and Syrian Person Resettlement Programme	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Undertake pilot for delivery of enhanced sheltered provision to increase housing options for older people	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Work with all partners to monitor the range and cumulative impact of welfare reforms, co-ordinate an impact assessment and develop effective responses	Jun 2016 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Work with Registered Providers and private companies to deliver 300 additional Extra care homes	Oct 2014 - Mar 2020	In Progress	

## Pledge : Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe

### Priority 01: Build Stronger and more confident communities where people feel safe

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver a programme of Community Pay Back Work centred on improving the local environment	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	
Implement a programme to improve direct links to Wirral communities to encourage people to report anti-social behaviour and crime	Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Completed	
Produce and implement a Partnership Communications Plan to promote community safety initiatives and achievements	Apr 2017 - Sep 2017	Completed	

### Priority 02: Improve Community Safety by tackling the cause and impact of crime and anti-social behaviour

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Carry out a review of Community Safety Partnership projects to develop a more integrated approach to resolve anti-social behaviour and increase the use of informal resolution	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

### Priority 03: Protecting the most vulnerable people in our communities

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Implement programmes to reduce crime against vulnerable people, hate crime and repeat offending	Apr 2017 - Dec 2019	Redefined	The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery and the timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19

### Priority 04: Deliver greater integration with all relevant partner agencies to achieve a Safer Wirral

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Implement Phase 2 of the delivery model for the Safer Wirral Hub which will include the transformation of services and the development of an Early Intervention Team	Jan 2017 - Oct 2017	Completed	

## Pledge : Attractive local environment for Wirral residents

### Priority 01: Love Where You Live

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Develop a Community Environmental Champion module in collaboration with Member Services, to provide Councillors with the information and tools to advise and enable pro-environmental behaviour and action in their ward; to be included in the Council's new Councillor Training Programme	Feb 2017 - Oct 2017	Completed	
Develop an action plan and a programme of activity to engage with local residents, schools, partners and businesses to encourage better waste management	Jan 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Produce a volunteer kit to increase environmental volunteering activity in our communities; to include information and practical resources	Nov 2016 - Mar 2018	Completed	

### Priority 02: Driving Behaviour Change

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver a behaviour change initiative pilot in conjunction with the Behaviour Insight Team to tackle flytipping and develop a methodology to measure the impacts. Determine the transferability to other parts of the Council / other Council services	Apr 2017 - Oct 2017	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19
Develop a local deal to provide clear expectations of residents and businesses and detail the Council's role in correct waste management; including the feasibility of introducing a Love Wirral Business Award scheme	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Redefined	The timescales have been refreshed in line with business priorities and action progress during 2018-19 The wording of this action has been made more specific to ensure clarity of delivery
Examine options, through focus groups with schools, Councillors and other Council services, to investigate methods to reduce littering by minors (ages 10-18); including the introduction of litter FPNs to minors and/or restorative justice. Produce an options report with recommendations for consideration	Feb 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Research options and produce a recommendations report to increase or improve the enforcement action available to the Council for flytipping (under new powers granted in May 2016) and dog fouling (Public Space Protection Order)	Oct 2017 - May 2018	Completed	

**Priority 03: Put Resources Where They Are Needed**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Review the street cleansing service across the Wirral and produce an options report; to ensure resources are allocated to provide appropriate efficiencies and to meet demand / priority locations	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 04: Tackling Untidy Land**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Develop and produce an information pack to support the improvement of untidy/neglected land by Registered Social Landlords (RSL) and private landlords	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 05: Waste Prevention & Reuse**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Deliver Wirral Climate Change Strategy 2014-19 and facilitate integration into the Wirral Plan and existing strategies to support delivery.	Apr 2017 - Mar 2019	Completed	
Encourage all schools to measure their food waste and help them to develop an action plan to reduce wasted food. For unavoidable food waste, trial alternative composting techniques with at least 10 schools and encourage all schools to join the ReFood food waste collection service.	Apr 2017 - Jul 2018	Completed	
Liaise with Merseyside Regional Waste Authority (MRWA) to develop collaborative working with the other Merseyside districts for waste prevention activities. Produce an action and delivery plan for 2017/18	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Liaise with RSLs and Third Sector organisations to research reuse and repair opportunities. Produce an options report and action plan for increasing reuse and repair.	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 06: Residual Collections**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Develop a training programme for collection crews, to ensure they have up to date recycling knowledge and are applying the waste collection policy consistently	Apr 2017 - Oct 2017	Completed	
Following agreement of the amended Waste Collection Policy, carry out a programme of audits to assess continuing authorisation of additional residual capacity. Liaise with Biffa to agree on a way forward to tackle presentation of unauthorised bins	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 07: Kerbside Recycling Collections**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Develop an interim plan to improve recycling and reduce contamination and to support any future changes to the domestic waste management systems	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	
Examine the opportunities and implications of the 'Circular Economy' to Wirral Council e.g. keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life. Report on the opportunities	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Completed	

**Priority 08: Food & Garden Waste Collections**

Action	Timescale	Status	Rationale
Investigate the feasibility of gas-powered public transport and environmental services vehicles (from food waste recycling)	Apr 2017 - Mar 2020	Completed	

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## Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 5 July 2018

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Environment Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme Report</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Chair of the Committee – Councillor Tony Jones</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report explains the process of developing and managing the scrutiny work programme for the municipal year. The Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other three Overview & Scrutiny Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges which are within the remit of the Committee.

It is envisaged that the work programme will be formed from a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. This report provides the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

Members are requested to:

1. Approve the proposed Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2018/19, making any required amendments.
2. Support a proposal to convene a dedicated work programme planning session, open to all Members of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The purpose of the session is to give further detailed consideration to the Committee's work programme prior to the next scheduled Committee meeting in September.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure members of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual work programme.

### 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

### 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### 3.1 THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND THE WIRRAL PLAN

The work programme should align with the priorities of the Council and its partners. The programme will be informed by:

- The Wirral Plan pledges
- The Council's transformation programme
- The Council's Forward Plan
- Service performance information
- Risk management information
- Public or service user feedback
- Referrals from Cabinet / Council

The specific Wirral Plan pledges and associated strategies of particular relevance to the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee are:

<b>Pledge</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
Leisure and cultural opportunities for all	Wirral's Leisure Strategy Wirral's Culture Strategy
Wirral residents live healthier lives	Wirral's Residents Live Healthier Lives Strategy
Community services are joined up and accessible	Wirral Together Strategy (in development)
Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents	Housing Strategy
Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe	Ensuring Wirral's Neighbourhoods are Safe Strategy
Attractive local environment for Wirral residents	Managing our Waste Strategy Loving our Environment Strategy

### 3.2 PRINCIPLES FOR PRIORITISATION

Good practice suggests that, in order to maximise the impact of scrutiny, it is necessary to prioritise proposed topics within the work programme. Members may find the following criteria helpful in providing a guideline towards ensuring that the most significant topics are prioritised:

<b>Principles for Prioritisation</b>	
Wirral Plan	Does the topic have a direct link with one of the 2020 pledges?
	Will the review lead to improved outcomes for Wirral residents?
Public Interest	Does the topic have particular importance for Wirral Residents?
Transformation	Will the review support the transformation of the Council?
Financial Significance	Is the subject matter an area of significant spend or potential saving?
	Will the review support the Council in achieving its savings targets?
Timeliness / Effectiveness	Is this the most appropriate time for this topic to be scrutinised?
	Will the review be a good use of Council resources?

By assessing prospective topics using these criteria, the Committee can prioritise an effective work programme that ensures relevance and the highest potential to enhance outcomes for residents.

### 3.3 DELIVERING THE WORK PROGRAMME

It is anticipated that the work programme will be delivered through a combination of:

- Scrutiny reviews undertaken by task & finish groups
- Evidence days and workshops
- Committee reports provided by officers
- Standing committee agenda items, for example, performance monitoring and financial monitoring
- Spotlight sessions
- Standing panels (where deemed necessary)

As some of the selected topics may well cut across the Wirral Plan themes, it is anticipated that some of the scrutiny topics may be of interest to members of more than one committee. In these circumstances, opportunities for members of more than one committee to work jointly on an item of scrutiny work will be explored.

Regular work programme update reports will provide the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

### **3.4 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS**

#### Further Development of the Scrutiny Work Programme

In consideration of how best to further develop the work programme for the 2018/19 municipal year, it is proposed that a dedicated work programme planning session is arranged before the next Committee meeting in September. This session will be open to all Members of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members not able to attend are invited to suggest possible topics for inclusion in the work programme to the Chair or their Party Spokesperson.

#### Modern Slavery Scrutiny Review

A Task & Finish Scrutiny Review on Modern Slavery has been carried over into the 2018/19 work programme. A number of evidence sessions have been held and it is understood that the Council will be implementing LGA guidance to develop a Modern Slavery Strategy. As part of the scrutiny review, the Review Panel has agreed to include a session to review the Council's draft strategy as part of pre-decision scrutiny.

#### Risk

In the previous municipal year, a number of Members highlighted the need for scrutiny to consider risk as part of the scrutiny work programme. To develop Members' understanding of risk and risk management, a number of 'risk awareness sessions' will be delivered early in the municipal year. Proposals for how scrutiny considers risk as part of the scrutiny work programme can then be developed through Member feedback.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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**APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1:** Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work programme

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

Council Meeting	Date

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**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Item	Format	Officer
Financial monitoring – 2017/18 Q4	Officer Report / Presentation	Peter Molyneux – Senior Manager, Finance
<p>Fly-Tipping</p> <p><i>Follow-up report requested as part of Notice of Motion at O&amp;S meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Item deferred from O&amp;S meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018</i></p>	Officer Report	Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner, Environment / Mike Cockburn – Lead Commissioner, Environment
<p>Wirral View</p> <p><i>Agreed at O&amp;S meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018</i></p>	Presentation	Kevin MacCallum – Head of Communications
<p>Single Use Plastics</p> <p><i>Follow-up report requested as part of Notice of Motion at O&amp;S meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. Item deferred from O&amp;S meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018</i></p>	Officer Report	Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner, Environment / Mike Cockburn – Lead Commissioner, Environment
<p>Core Strategy Local Plan Progress Update</p> <p><i>Standing Item agreed at Special Meeting of the Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017</i></p>	Report	David Ball - Assistant Director Environmental Services
Performance Monitoring – 2017/18 Q4	Report	Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner, Environment
Scrutiny Work Programme Update	Report	Report of the Chair

## ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS – TO BE SCHEDULED

Item	Format	Approximate timescale	Lead Officer
Wirral's Waste Management Strategy	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Wirral Together Strategy	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Coastal Strategy Scrutiny Review follow-up report	Officer Report	TBC	TBC
Social Isolation - (Review of social isolation and loneliness in Wirral - current approaches and interventions)	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Healthier Lives Strategy / Action Plan update	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Alcohol Strategy update	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Smoking Strategy update	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Management and Regulation of Private Sector Housing (selective licensing scheme)	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Housing Partner Update	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Safer Wirral Hub update (progress on phase 2 implementation)	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
Current strategies to prevent and reduce Crime and ASB /Assessment of Restorative Justice approaches in Wirral	Committee Report / Presentation	TBC	TBC
New Ferry Explosion - update of housing and support arrangements for affected residents and businesses	Committee Report	TBC	TBC
Review of Litter and Dog Fouling Enforcement – impact in Birkenhead (Committee request, Min 31(2), November 2017 OSC)	Committee Report	TBC	TBC
Update report on implementing Playing Pitch, Min 32(2), November 2017 OSC	Committee Report	TBC	TBC

## WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE COMMITTEE

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Officer	Progress / Comments
Economic Viability Assessments and Community Infrastructure Levy	Task & Finish Scrutiny Review	2018/19	TBC	To commence in 2018/19 municipal year.
Libraries (deferred pending outcome of transformation scrutiny)	Task & Finish Scrutiny Review	TBC	TBC	
Transforming Wirral – Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services, Future Provision of Services	Workshop	TBC	Mark Smith	1 <sup>st</sup> Session 11/09/17 2 <sup>nd</sup> Session TBC
Transforming Wirral – Further business cases	Workshops	TBC	TBC	
Budget Scrutiny	Workshop	TBC	Mark Smith	
Wirral Flood & Water Risk Management Partnership	TBD	2018/19	David Ball	
Reality Check Visits	Site visit	TBC		

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