



## Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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|---------------|--|
| <b>Date:</b>  | <b>Thursday, 20 September 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. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **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.

3. **MINUTES (Pages 1 - 24)**

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the following meetings of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 5 July 2018 (ordinary meeting);
- 5 July 2018 (special meeting); and
- 17 July 2018 (call-in meeting).

4. **FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT - 2018 -19 QUARTER 1 (Pages 25 - 56)**
5. **CORE STRATEGY LOCAL PLAN PROGRESS UPDATE**

To receive a verbal update.

**6. KINGDON - PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

To receive a verbal update

**7. WIRRAL FLOOD & WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP -  
TERMS OF REFERENCE (Pages 57 - 66)**

**8. 2018/19 QUARTER 1 WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE (Pages 67 -  
84)**

**9. RECYCLING IN WIRRAL**

To receive a presentation

**10. ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK  
PROGRAMME REPORT (Pages 85 - 94)**

**11. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIR**

## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 5 July 2018

Present: Councillor T Jones (Chair)

|             |           |                               |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Councillors | S Foulkes | S Jones                       |
|             | B Berry   | B Kenny                       |
|             | A Brame   | C Muspratt                    |
|             | K Cannon  | T Smith                       |
|             | T Cottier | A Sykes                       |
|             | G Ellis   | RL Abbey (In place of W Ward) |
|             | A Hodson  | M Jordan (In place of T Cox)  |

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

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any items on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

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

No such declarations were made.

### 2 MINUTES

With reference to Minute No. 53 (paragraph relating to cash/card payments for Invigor8 membership) a Member highlighted that Councillor Tony Jones had been quoted, and that it had in fact been Councillor Tony Smith who initiated the comment.

Subject to the above correction, it was:

**Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 28 March, 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.**

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

Further to Minute 40(2) of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 December 2017, and Minute 46 of the meeting of the Committee held on 31 January, David Ball, Assistant Director Major Growth Projects and Housing Delivery provided a verbal update on progress related to the Wirral Local Plan. He informed the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee that since his earlier reports the Council had invested additional staffing resource to aid the Plan preparation and process. He further informed that a report on the Wirral Core Strategy Local Plan had been scheduled for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Cabinet on 23 July, 2018.

The Assistant Director Major Growth Projects and Housing Delivery updated the Committee that the Cabinet Report would include information on the current position relating to land options for housing. He added that, contrary to recent press coverage on the subject of the Green Belt, no decisions had been, or would be made until Members had sight of and had been consulted on the full report.

The Assistant Director Major Growth Projects and Housing Delivery further informed that no decision had been forthcoming from the Secretary of State in respect of the need for intervention.

The Chair thanked Mr Ball for his attendance and his update regarding the current state of progress regarding the Wirral Core Strategy Local Plan.

**Resolved – that the verbal report be noted.**

### 4 **WIRRAL VIEW**

Kevin MacCallum, Head of Communications provided a verbal update on the Council's 'Wirral View' publication, detailing work currently underway, its content and issues surrounding its distribution.

The Head of Communications informed the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee that Wirral View had been launched in October 2016, and that the most recent edition was the Council's 17th. Members were apprised that Wirral View was not produced during the purdah periods associated with various elections in the past two years. The next edition of Wirral View was due in July.

Members were told that Wirral View was printed by one of the Council's main media partners in the borough, and distributed by a local company. Most photography and all design, writing, editing and subediting was done in-house by the Council's communications team.

The Head of Communications informed that Wirral View had been introduced alongside a new website and new approach to social media. The website 'Wirralview.com' had been successful and the Council's new approach to social media – using more video, more engaging content had been extremely successful e.g. the video announcing the reopening of the Tower Road Bridge had been viewed more than 90,000 times on Facebook within the first 48 hours of its initial posting.

Mr MacCallum explained that the Council had also launched an e-edition of 'Wirral View', which had already accumulated more than 13,000 subscribers from the first two editions.

On the subject of advertising, the Committee noted that Wirral View had never been a vehicle to generate income - that was not its primary purpose. The Communications Office had deliberately priced advertising space much higher than local newspapers, avoiding conflict or possible charges of unfair competition. The Head of Communication informed that given this approach, the Council does still accept advertising business, but does very little sales and marketing to promote ad space.

Mr MacCallum explained that the Council has launched digital advertising, and was also working on new outdoor advertising products, to mitigate the financial impact on the council of not promoting advertising within Wirral View.

Members were informed that that the Council was now on its second supplier distribution – and how this had been the biggest challenge for the project. The Head of Communications that this aspect of the project had not been good enough, and was overshadowing the product itself. He added that the Communications Team were presently developing a number of proposals which would change how this particular element of the Wirral View project would be managed.

The Committee was apprised that more information on this and other aspects of the project will be available in autumn of 2018. Members agreed that Partners and Community Groups had welcomed Wirral View, and valued it as a way of getting clear, important information to residents. Community organisations valued the publication, as a vehicle for promoting stories, events and information relating to their work. Mr MacCallum informed that the majority of this sort of information would not be covered by the local media – there simply wasn't the available space.

The Head of Communications summarised his report explaining that the delivery aspect of the Wirral View project had been incredibly difficult and frustrating. He concluded his report stating that further discussions would be held by the Cabinet, detailing new proposals to help improve the distribution performance.

Members questioned Mr MacCallum, and provided a variety of anecdotal evidence, on the subject of inconsistent or non-existent distribution issues in particular areas of the borough, but also commented on the positive feedback received regarding the content and quality of the publication from community organisations and residents.

The Chair thanked the Head of Communications for his presentation.

**Resolved – That the verbal report be noted.**

## 5 THE EXTENT AND IMPACTS OF FLY-TIPPING ON WIRRAL

Rob Cain, Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer introduced his report that provided 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 also informed Members of the action the Council had and will be taking against offenders, including future developmental activity to combat fly-tipping.

The Senior Environmental Enforcement Officer apprised Members that Fly-tipping” was a term commonly used to refer to the illegal, unauthorised and wanton deposit of waste. “Fly-tipping” itself was 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.

The report informed that, in reality, most fly-tipping on Wirral was committed by residents disposing of waste onto highways, open land or into rear passageways. At its most extreme level, fly-tipping was committed on industrial scales by organised criminal groups, often disposing of commercial or hazardous waste for the purposes of financial gain or tax avoidance. The control, investigation and ultimate eradication of fly-tipping on Wirral was important because it can have a devastating impact on the local environment and detrimentally affect the lives of Wirral’s residents. The report further informed that Wirral Council had made a commitment through the corporate pledges set out in the Wirral Plan, to create an attractive local environment for Wirral residents and visitors.

In response to Member questions, Mr Cain provided the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a detailed summary on key areas of the Council’s actions to combat fly-tipping, that included additional information on:

- The Council’s duty under Section 89 of The Environmental Protection Act 1990;

- Removal of waste following legal process, and actions to recover costs;
- Investigations of specific areas of fly-tipping / hot spots;
- Use of CCTV; and
- Information requests to the DVLA to help identify perpetrators when a vehicle had been used to carry out fly-tipping.

**Resolved – That**

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) the actions of the Council to address this issue be endorsed.**

**6 DEVELOPING THE SINGLE USE PLASTIC FREE WIRRAL POLICY**

Michael Cockburn, Lead Commissioner – Environment Strategy and Partnerships introduced his report and provided a verbal presentation on the development of a Single Use Plastic (SUP) Free Policy for Wirral. The report informed that at its meeting of December 2017 the Council passed a resolution on single use plastic (SUP) and requested Cabinet to set in motion actions to develop a comprehensive policy on phasing out SUP and associated actions as recommended by Council to put Wirral in a leading position on ‘SUP Free’. Strategically, the policy supported the Wirral Plan pledge to create an attractive local environment for Wirral residents.

Mr Cockburn informed that in response to the Council resolution, officers had subsequently developed an approach to addressing SUP and formulating the SUP Free Wirral Policy, where it was proposed the following be included:

- The development of an SUP free communications and public awareness campaign - to include a briefing for all Council staff.
- Amendment of 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 be developed to provide SUP alternatives.
- The development of a voluntary SUP code for Wirral businesses in conjunction with the Wirral Chamber of Commerce.

- Encourage strategic partners to adopt SUP free policies and work together to eradicate SUP.

The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted that 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 to help drive behavioural changes in the way people relate to their local environment via the Love Where You Live campaign.

The report further informed that the Council and its partners had already made progress in putting into place key aspects of the SUP Free Wirral policy.

Mr Cockburn apprised the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the BBC's Blue Planet series in late 2017, and the daily media coverage on SUP since, had exercised public opinion and concern, he added that the China crisis and resulting market collapse for disposal/recycling abroad had resulted in the local (UK) stockpiling of plastics.

Members noted that the Waste Disposal Authority's inability to receive hard plastics means that it wasn't being recycled across the City Region. This, in addition to feedback and concerns raised by local communities particularly those beach-combing on Wirral's beaches, was driving the implementation of SUP free policies.

Mr Cockburn's presentation highlighted the Government's 4 point plan due to be launched later this year, that aimed to:

- cut amount plastic in circulation;
- reduce the number of different plastics in use;
- address declining recycling performance; and
- make it easier for people to recycle.

Consultation was also underway on a proposed deposit / return scheme for plastic drinking bottles, and other considerations included a potential levy for SUP and a Supermarket directive regarding packaging.

Following this meeting, Mr Cockburn explained that it was hoped that following Council ratification of a SUP Free Wirral Policy, the Policy would be fully established during 2018/19. Council services were currently reviewing service provision to identify SUP products that can be removed/replaced across a wide variety of services i.e. education, licensing, procurement, event management and leisure services. He added that, for example, vending provision aimed to become SUP free, with further provision of water fountains in appropriate locations (leisure centres).

Members noted that most of Wirral's schools were part of the Eco Schools programme over 56 of which held Green Flag status. Eco Schools' interactive educational packages were to be updated to include SUP Free.

In response to Member questions, the Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny and the Lead Commissioner – Environment Strategy and Partnerships provided additional information on a number of key areas, these included:

- Primary Legislation;
- Plastic free aisles in supermarkets;
- Alternative road surfaces i.e. the use of recycled plastics;
- Progress on recycling arrangements for hard plastics to address stockpiling.

**Resolved – That the proposals for the Single Use Plastic Free Wirral Policy be noted, and recommended to the Cabinet Member Environment for implementation.**

## 7 2017/18 QUARTER 4 AND YEAR END WIRRAL PLAN PERFORMANCE

Carl Gurnell, Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny introduced a report of the Strategic Commissioner, Environment that provided 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 Quarter 4 report was included as Appendix 1 to the report, and provided a description of the progress in Quarter 4 that included available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

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

The Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny informed that the detailed 2017/18 Action Plan has been included in the report with rationale for any redefined or withdrawn actions identified.

In response to Member questions, the Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny and the Strategic Commissioner: Environment provided additional information on a number of key areas, these included:

- Prevention of homelessness;
- Increasing the number of subscribers to the Council's Garden Waste Collection Service;
- Additional funding secured for local community groups and organisations;

- Waste recycling performance and the issues surrounding disposal of hard plastics;
- Issuance of Fixed Penalty Notices in respect of littering and dog fouling; and
- Kerbside recycling.

The Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny informed that a number of the indicators face a time lag caused by the availability of data, as they are national data sets requiring validation prior to release and that statistical analysis can be complex in some cases e.g. domestic violence, where a higher reporting figure is considered better in terms of a requirement to raise awareness and increase reporting, whereas more cases of such incidents is clearly worse. He added that in other areas of statistical reporting the Council has to use the best data available, which may in some cases be older data, in which case the report provided additional comment / clarification.

Members requested further detail on a number of areas, namely:

- Validation of data in respect of Homelessness – May 2018 figures;
- Recirculation of the information relating to Garden Waste Collection Service – presented at the recent Budget Option Workshops – and information regarding the Council’s target figures for this service; and
- Expected date for a report to Members on the review into Wirral’s Leisure Services and Leisure and Cultural Assets (currently under development).

The Strategic Commissioner Environment confirmed that a number of the indicators could be affected by a time lag caused by the availability of data, but advised that he would respond to the specific points raised by Members after the meeting.

Members thanked the Team Leader Performance and Scrutiny and the Strategic Commissioner: Environment for their contributions.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

## 8 **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME REPORT**

The Chair introduced his report that provided an update regarding progress made since the last Committee meeting held on 28 March, 2018. The report informed that the current work programme be formed of a combination of scrutiny reviews, workshops, standing items and requested officer reports. The Chair advised that the agenda report provided the Committee with the opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. A summary listing of topics for consideration in the current work programme for the Committee was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Chair suggested that Members of the Committee forward their preferences for priority work topics via email direct to him, or via the relevant Political Party Spokesperson.

**Resolved – That the content of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme be noted.**

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## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 5 July 2018

Present: Councillor T Jones (Chair)

|             |           |                               |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Councillors | S Foulkes | S Jones                       |
|             | B Berry   | B Kenny                       |
|             | A Brame   | C Muspratt                    |
|             | K Cannon  | T Smith                       |
|             | T Cottier | A Sykes                       |
|             | G Ellis   | RL Abbey (In place of W Ward) |
|             | A Hodson  | M Jordan (In place of T Cox)  |

In attendance: Councillor M Patrick, Cabinet Member Environment

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

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any items on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

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

No such declarations were made.

11 **GRASS CUTTING AND WEED CLEARANCE PROGRAMME**

Following receipt of a requisition for a special meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee from three members of the Conservative Group, *'to discuss the Council's problems with the grass cutting and weed clearance programme resulting in areas of our Borough resembling uncared for and derelict wasteland'*, a special meeting was arranged, following consultation with the Chair and Party spokespersons. A summary report had been prepared that provided initial information on weed control and the mowing of highway verges to assist Members of the Committee in their consideration of issues, as follows:

**Weed control:**

“A new contract for hard surface highway weed control started in May 2018. Both Spot and Schedule Monitoring are in place. The contractor is working to a schedule and reports progress each day using a table template. This information is going to be placed on the council’s website grass cutting and grounds maintenance page so that members of the public can identify where the contractor has got to. The glyphosate herbicide leads to signs of weed dying ten to fourteen days after application. If an area is missed, or the spray applied has not taken due to rain, the contractor is required to re-treat the area.

“There were some initial mobilisation issues which are being resolved through Contract Mobilisation/Monitoring meetings. The Terms of the Contract are that the contractor will not be paid for phase one (the May/June round) until after end of June and this is dependent on evidence of phase one (May/June) being satisfactorily completed, with evidence of weed death 10/14 days after application.

“Unfortunately due to very wet ground conditions in April and early May spraying was delayed whilst weeds grew strongly.

**Mowing of highway verges:**

“The grass cutting of highway verges is currently scheduled to take place as follows:

“Urban verges are cut every three weeks from mid-March to October, except during May to June when the cut occurs every four weeks due to work load from extra growth. The longer period between cuts in May and June is a reflection of the extra time it takes to complete the ‘round’ at this time of year, due to the fast grass growth at that time of the year. A small number of urban verge areas are cut four times a year.

“Rural verges are cut once a year (mid-July to mid-August, subject to flowering conditions and weather conditions. Semi-rural verges and rural verges at road junctions and along established rural road pedestrian pathways are cut four times a year between March and October, to keep view lines clear and enable the paths to be used”.

The Chair invited signatories to the requisitioning of the meeting - Councillors Adam Sykes, Bruce Berry and Andrew Hodson - to summarise their concerns.

Councillor Sykes informed that he had been in approached by many residents regarding the state of verges and roadside weeds, and provided an anecdotal example of a location where delivery drivers were unable to see road signage. He asked for an update on what was being done to address the situation, adding that excuses about ‘the weather’ (which happens every year), and political excuses ‘blaming the tory government cuts’ would not suffice.

Councillor Bruce Berry added that the same situation regarding the issue of weeds had occurred last year, and the explanation had been 'the weather' and 'strength of the weed killer'. He added that the problem existed across the borough and that a permanent solution was required to tackle the problem once and for all. He understood that the Council had provided a second team to support the current contractor, but questioned why the Council would be paying extra to supplement a service that was already contracted.

Councillor Mathew Patrick, Cabinet Member: Environment responded stating that, yes the situation was not good enough, but it had not been necessary to convene a meeting of the Committee to receive a response he would quite happily have provided information on the subject, but none of the Members had contacted him.

Councillor Patrick continued, stating that Officers were taking action in priority areas and that some parts of the borough were requiring 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> spraying to ensure the problem was being tackled efficiently. He added that he would not be 'blaming the government for the weather', adding that some elements of the contract were confusing, but the contractor was being held to their contracted service. In terms of actually getting the job done i.e. weed clearance, this was the Council's first priority.

David Armstrong, Corporate Director for Delivery Services also responded to Members, apologising for the current position, re-iterating that Officers were working hard to deal with the issue. He explained that there had been variations in the recent past regarding past external contracting, in-house servicing and now an external contract that had meant that procurement and implementation of the contract had started later than expected. Issues regarding the use of casual workers, who when trained would leave the service added to the issues faced in delivery of the contract.

Members were apprised that some areas of the borough suffered due to the inefficiency of using mechanical sweeping (due to parked vehicles) and this too was being reviewed. The recent spell of hot, dry weather had actually helped the Council make up lost time, and the contractual verge cutting was now almost back on track. Mr Armstrong also stated that the Council was working with the contractor, jobs were being monitored and payments would not be made for work that was not completed.

Members thanked Councillor Patrick and Mr Armstrong for their honest and frank responses to questions raised.

Members provided a variety of examples of issues facing specific localities, questioned officers of the Council's approach to particularly virulent weeds i.e. Japanese Knotweed where infected areas border publicly owned land / open

spaces, involvement of MPs, uninformed or inappropriate comments in the press, and the focus on getting basic services right.

Councillor Sykes responded to a Member comment stating that he and other Members had been in contact with Officers regarding this matter, but had not been able to direct queries to the Cabinet Member, due to the fact that a summary list of the revised Cabinet Portfolios had not been made available until recently.

The Chair summarised the discussion and thanked the Cabinet Member and Officers for what was a positive report on actions, prioritisation of works and a pragmatic approach to tackling the issue utilising the resources available.

**Proposed** by Councillor Steve Foulkes

**Seconded** by Councillor Ron Abbey

“We thank the Officers for their full and frank report and notes the difficult circumstances in which they operate.

We welcome the Leader’s and Cabinet Member’s comments about getting basic services right as a priority this year. Weed control and grass cutting are some of the much valued basic services.

However poor performance is detrimental not only to the visual environment but also causes drainage issues for residents. We would encourage public engagement and self-help.

We look forward to working with the Cabinet to improve this much valued service”.

**An amendment was submitted, as follows:**

**Proposed** by Councillor Adam Sykes

**Seconded** by Councillor Bruce Berry

Following the final paragraph, insert the following:

“Committee notes the positive progress made so far, but also notes that weed growth is now so prevalent and strong Committee does not believe that spraying alone will have the desired effect of ridding our streets and open spaces of the weed growth, and requests that further action be taken to ensure weeds are removed.

Committee requests that updates on grass cutting and weed control be brought as a standing item to this committee’s cycle of meetings”.

Following a short debate and Councillor Steve Foulkes having replied, the amendment was put and lost (6:8) (One abstention, the Chair).

The original motion was then put and carried (14:0) (One abstention, the Chair).

**Resolved: That**

**The Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee thank the Officers for their full and frank report and notes the difficult circumstances in which they operate.**

**We welcome the Leader's and Cabinet Member's comments about getting basic services right as a priority this year. Weed control and grass cutting are some of the much valued basic services.**

**However poor performance is detrimental not only to the visual environment but also causes drainage issues for residents. We would encourage public engagement and self-help.**

**We look forward to working with the Cabinet to improve this much valued service.**

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## **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, 17 July 2018

Present: Councillor T Jones (Chair)

Councillors B Berry G Ellis  
S Foulkes B Kenny  
A Brame C Muspratt  
K Cannon T Smith  
T Cottier A Sykes  
T Cox AER Jones (In place of G Wood)

In attendance: Councillors P Cleary, P Gilchrist, M Patrick

Apologies Councillors A Hodson

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

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any items on the agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

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

No such declarations were made.

### **13 CALLED-IN BUSINESS - DELIVERY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT**

The Chair referred to the Cabinet Member, Environment decision of 18 June, 2018 in respect of the approval of appointment for a contract to undertake environmental enforcement services.

The decision had been called-in by Councillors Phil Gilchrist, Allan Brame, Chris Carubia, Stuart Kelly, Dave Mitchell and Pat Cleary, on the following grounds:

"We hereby give notice that we wish to Call-In the Cabinet decision dated 18 June 2018 to approve the appointment of Kingdom Environmental Services for the delivery of the Environmental Enforcement Contract for a period of 3 (three) years with the option to extend the contract (conditional) for a further 3 (three) years.

Call In deadline date: 25 June 2018  
Submitted: 25 June 2018

Reason(s) for Call In:

The process has been concluded so close to the expiry of the current contract that this has presented a very limited opportunity for Members to consider the scope and extent of the contract.

Members have had also had insufficient opportunity to explore the scope and specification of the revised contract so that they can be satisfied the contractor will meet requirements that Members might reasonably expect.

Members need to be satisfied that there is a proper balance between changing the behaviour of the public and the generation and share of income from the fines. In particular, we have concerns about the financial model within the bid being predicated on a “per ticket” share of income.

The published documentation provides little information on the financial arrangements, costs and income generation, the process of setting targets and the spread of activity throughout Wirral. Members wish to be fully apprised of the way in which priorities are set, resources are targeted and employees are directed and supervised.

Members believe that the approach to litter enforcement approved by Council needs to be undertaken in a way that secures public support and understanding. They, therefore, wish to be satisfied that the aim of reducing litter is not undermined by suspicions that the ease of generating cash from some crackdowns and fines leads to the prioritising of some activities rather than others.

Members seek formal recognition that as section 4.2.1 of the ‘invitation to tender’ states that ‘The Service Provider shall deliver the Services in accordance with both overarching Legislation and the standards set by the Council...’ and this includes ‘Operational and Statutory Guidance’, the DEFRA Guidance <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/enforcementofficers-issuing-fixed-penalty-notices> (issued on 23 March 2015 and last updated 15 February 2017) shall be properly followed in all circumstances.”

**Explanation of Call-in by the Lead Signatory – Councillor Phil Gilchrist**

Councillor Gilchrist summarised the reasons for Call-In regarding the Decision taken by the Cabinet Member, Environment in relation to the appointment for a contract to undertake environmental enforcement services. He explained that being part of a ‘Keep Britain Tidy’ generation, raised to take their rubbish home, or dispose of it in a bin, clear and sensible guidelines should in a perfect world be sufficient to educate. He acknowledged that enforcement services were required, but given the volume of anecdotal stories surrounding the contractor, he questioned the contract extension and the decision making processes of the contractor surrounding the current deployment of their

operatives. He further questioned what procedures or guidance was in place for operatives when dealing with vulnerable persons.

The Chair invited questions to the Call-in lead signatory from the Committee and his responses included the following:

- Request for information regarding the various classifications of litter including, but not necessarily be restricted to; food, dog fouling, packaging, cigarettes, and other. He further questioned the availability of information regarding the link between sites, litter classification and numbers of penalty notices issued.
- A request for information regarding the financial cost of the contract and whether office space was also provided.
- Councillor Gilchrist stated that he was not anticipating cancellation of the contract, but would ask that further evaluation take place, perhaps suspending the contract for a year, to enable a tightening of procedures and processes to help raise public confidence, to match an in-house service provision in terms of standards and accountability.
- Councillor Gilchrist pointed out that he felt consideration of the contract extension appeared rushed, and that given work must have started the previous year he felt that the decision had been taken extremely close to the renewal date.

#### **Explanation of the decision taken by the Cabinet – Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Matthew Patrick**

Councillor Matthew Patrick re-iterated his reasons for his decision, and stated that Wirral is a beautiful place to live in and work and visit, having a fantastic and unique environment which people love to experience and enjoy. He added that the vast majority of Wirral's residents are proud of the borough and want to do the right thing to cherish and protect the local environment. However there was a sizeable minority of residents and visitors who do not respect Wirral's environment and damage or defile it through irresponsible and illegal actions. Wirral Council had made a commitment through the corporate pledges set out in the Wirral Plan, to drive behaviour change and transform the relationship between residents and their local environment.

Councillor Patrick further stated that the Council had demonstrated during recent years that it was serious about tackling environmental crime through enforcement action. The high profile deterrent created through the enforcement regime of the initial Environmental Enforcement Contract was regarded as a key element that would drive behaviour change over time. The Council's first Environmental Enforcement Contract, which had been in place since the summer of 2015, had proven to be successful in tackling key environment crimes such as littering and dog fouling, with tens of thousands of enforcement actions taken and a number of high profile public awareness campaigns delivered. The first contract had enabled the Council to commence the journey to drive behaviour change with some early signs that it is beginning to happen. The Council wished to build on the initial work of the first enforcement contract by establishing the next contract, recognising that there

was more work to be done over time and, through the deterrent of enforcement action, to achieve the behaviour change being sought.

The Council had also taken the opportunity when preparing the new contract to review environmental enforcement requirements and identify priorities moving forward. Therefore the scope and specifications of the new contract had been revised from those for the original contract to reflect identified priorities and requirements.

In summary, Councillor Patrick added that he was entirely satisfied, and supportive of the Council's awarding of the contract.

The Chair invited questions to the Cabinet Member from the Committee and his responses included the following:

- Statistical evidence showed that the primary offenders in terms of littering were males between the ages of 20 and 59 years.
- Discarded cigarette butts are classed as litter.
- Members of the Public and Councillors are requested to help tackle the problem of littering by providing details of problem locations.
- The contract has been revised to extend the hours of enforcement from 07:00hrs – 20:00hrs, to 06:00hrs – 22:00hrs.
- Contract has been checked to prevent legal challenge, and is accordance with Government guidelines.
- Given there have been in the region of 25 thousand fines issued, only a very small percentage have been challenged. 11 cases have ended up in court, 10 of which have upheld the contractor/Council prosecutions.

The Chair informed that the reasons for the Call-In were stated to be doubts as to whether the proposed contract was a suitable means of achieving the objective of a reduction in littering and other environmental offences in the Borough. The signatories to the Call-In were not maintaining that the successful tendered was an unsuitable contractor and therefore the debate and evidence should concentrate on the suitability of the contract, not that of the successful contractor.

## **Evidence from Call-in Witnesses**

### **1. Sara Murphy – Resident**

Ms Murphy expressed a view that littering should not be condoned, and was supportive of educational work to instil greater local pride. However she had concern over the contractor's actions and targeting of less affluent areas of the borough. Ms Murphy commented that she did not believe that the majority of people were deliberately littering and felt that the actions of the Council's contractor was having a marginal effect on behaviour and was unfair.

## **2. Eileen McKane - Resident**

Ms McKane provided an example of how the Council's contractor had been heavy handed and bullying in its approach to her in respect of a case of dog fouling, that when challenged at several stages, had ultimately been dropped. Ms McKane explained that during the challenge process the contractor's behaviour had further impacted on her health.

## **3. Janet McBryde and Michael King – Residents**

Ms McBryde and Mr King provided a similar example of the contractor's behaviour in respect of another incident of dog fouling where an experienced officer and trainee had followed them home to their property, attending again the following day. Ms McBryde informed that during the course of her challenge to the prosecutions (2 fixed penalty notices issued – because she owned 2 dogs) no video footage of the incident was forthcoming from the contractor and cases were cancelled at appeal as a result.

## **4. June Ormerod – Resident, and Frances Deakin – Scheme Manager, Clifford Grange**

Ms Deakin explained on behalf of Ms Ormerod (a resident at Clifford Grange) that as an elderly, vulnerable and disabled person the contractor had been overzealous in their approach to a charge of littering (a small piece of paper had blown from Ms Ormerod's car boot when loading) She explained that common sense should have prevailed, particularly when dealing with elderly, vulnerable persons.

## **Evidence from Cabinet Member's witness – Andy McCartan, Commissioning Services Manager**

Mr McCartan explained the procedures relating to the award of the contract and how the objective of the evaluation exercise was to identify the bidder having the capability and capacity to meet the Authority's requirements and execute the contract with a view to a contract commencement date of 1 July 2018.

The subsequent report and officer recommendation had been compiled on behalf of the Environmental Enforcement Evaluation Team following the completion of the evaluation of ITT submissions received in relation to OJEU Notice. In seeking to elicit market interest and establish market capacity, an initial Soft Market Testing Exercise had been undertaken in December / January 2017/18 at which 3 bidders presented outline solutions to the Authority. He explained that the Environmental Enforcement market remained immature with only a limited number of specialist providers. Consequently, the Council had not expected a high number of returns for the procurement and the option to operate the service internally was not considered due to an internal lack of capacity, investment and experience following previous unsuccessful attempts.

The Chair invited questions to Mr McCartan from the Committee and his responses included the following comments:

- The need to balance behavioural change within the constraints of a financial model. Wirral Council had utilised a 'per ticket' payment to the contractor - paid only when a valid ticket had been issued – as opposed to an hourly rate payment, with no guarantee of enforcement actions to address the problem of littering.
- Priorities had been set by Council as part of the contract. Details of routes, hotspots, and comprehensive operating programme were all freely available to Councillors.
- Councillors were actively encouraged to have input to the ongoing monitoring of the contract and provide suggestions for locations needing enforcement action.
- Improvements to the new contract included extended / new operating hours.
- The aim of the contract also included the need to secure public support to change behaviours with regard to littering – the contract did not prioritise income generation.
- Dog fouling and littering (including discarded cigarette butts) remained a priority.
- Litter is litter, and leaving litter is an offence.
- The contractor operates under statutory and DEFRA guidance. Terms and conditions of the contract are binding, and the contractor must act lawfully within the contract requirements.
- DEFRA guidance explains that before action is taken to prosecute, the offender has the opportunity to 'pick up'.
- The contractor had done an excellent job over the past 2 years, and had been making progress in tackling poor behaviour as a result.

### **Summary of the Lead Signatory – Councillor Phil Gilchrist**

Councillor Phil Gilchrist thanked the members of the public for their attendance and contributions, which he felt had identified the need for further training of contractor staff. He agreed that a robust approach to tackling of littering was required, but should be balanced by the behaviour of the contractor and clarity about what the contractor can, and cannot, do. He added that there was significant public interest in the proportionate use of powers and clarification over the term 'evidence of intent'.

### **Summary of the Cabinet Member – Councillor Matthew Patrick**

Councillor Matthew Patrick thanked everyone who had attended the meeting, and he too echoed the point raised by Councillor Gilchrist, thanking residents for their attendance and contributions, stating he was sorry that in doing so they had to revisit what had been stressful situations.

Councillor Patrick added that, as mentioned in his opening remarks, there was a definite need to educate people on the damage that littering does to the environment and how enforcement played a key role in raising awareness of

the problem. He stood by his decision to award the contract and was satisfied that the levels of complaint regarding the actions of the contractor were low.

### **Committee debate**

A Member commented that it would be helpful in future for Councillors to have access to performance data, examples of appeals and summary of the numbers of people requesting video footage.

Another Member commented that the contract had been awarded fairly, and the contractor was clearly the right company, demonstrating expertise in all aspects of the contractual requirement.

Members expressed support of efforts in trying to achieve environmental improvements and the need for enforcement as part of that process. It was felt that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had a role to play in monitoring how the Council manages its contract and ensure that unfair treatment is challenged.

The Committee acknowledged that enforcement of littering was a thankless task and not an easy job, but the Council was making best efforts to set priorities for specific locations and effect behavioural change.

It was moved by Councillor Brian Kenny and seconded by Councillor Adrian Jones, that –

“This Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, having listened to the lead signatory, relevant Cabinet Member, all witnesses, and the views of the members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, believes that the decision taken by the relevant Cabinet Member, in relation to the delivery of the Environmental Enforcement Contract, be upheld”

The motion moved by Councillor Brian Kenny was put and carried (12:1).

**Resolved (12:1) - This Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, having listened to the lead signatory, relevant Cabinet Member, all witnesses, and the views of the members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, believes that the decision taken on 18 June 2018 by the Cabinet Member for Environment in relation to the delivery of the Environmental Enforcement Contract, be upheld.**

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**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Thursday, 20 September 2018**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>REPORT TITLE:</b> | <b>Financial Update</b><br><br>1. <b>Financial Monitoring Report<br/>Quarter 1 2018/19</b><br>2. <b>Budget 2019/20</b> |
| <b>REPORT OF:</b>    | <b>Director of Finance &amp; Investment (S151)</b>   |

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report is coming to this committee to update on the financial position of the Council.

The following report and appendices sets out the projected revenue and capital monitoring position for 2018/19 as at the close of quarter 1 (30 June 2018).

The report also provides details of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20-2022/23 (MTFS) and preparation of the budget for 2019/20.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1 That members note the report and appendices.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees receive regular financial updates throughout the year. These allow Committees to understand the financial position of the council and to scrutinise decisions and performance as required.

### 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Not applicable

### 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 This report supplies financial information in the form of revenue and capital cabinet reports for the council as a whole in a portfolio structure. The quarter 1 revenue forecast is an overall overspend of £0.6 million for the year. Environment and Leisure and Recreation Services forecast overspends making up the majority of this.

The quarter 1 capital report recommends that Cabinet agree the 2018/19 Capital Programme of £86.4 million which takes into account re-profiling identified during the 2017/18 final accounts process together with any additional grant funding notified to the Council. Expenditure to date is £5.0 million.

- 3.2 The detail for the portfolios Environment, Housing and Planning and Leisure and Recreation Services within the reports is the key information for this scrutiny committee.

The quarter 1 revenue report shows a £705,000 overspend for Environment. The quarter 1 capital report shows an expenditure of £492,000 on a programme of £13.52 million.

#### **Budget 2019/20**

- 3.3 In July the Cabinet agreed a new MTFs covering the period 2019/20 – 2022/23 during which the Council will continue to implement the pledges contained in the Wirral Plan whilst operating in a challenging financial environment.

## Budget Projections 2019/20-2022/23: Budget Gap Forecast

| PROJECTIONS                       | 2019/20<br>£m | 2020/21<br>£m | 2021/22<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cumulative Budget Gap             | 45            | 62            | 65            | 67            |
| Annual increase in the Budget Gap | 45            | 17            | 3             | 2             |

During this period Council continues to face financial constraints and pressures. The medium term financial planning period to 2023 will see continued grant funding reductions and financial pressures as a result of increasing demand. Aligned to this the Council will in 2020, assume full responsibility for the raising and collection of income generated locally that will be used to fund the services accessed by Wirral residents.

3.4 The MTFs from 2019 to 2023 describes the way that Council will address these challenges via a three phased approach:

- The Medium Term Financial Strategy describes what the future financial position of the Council will look like, what our challenges are and how we will allocate our resources to meet our corporate priorities and achieve the outcomes of the Wirral Plan. Working through strategies to resource Council priorities through additional income. Strategies such as the Growth Strategy, Income Strategy, Commercial Strategy will all lead to greater income in the future.
- The Medium Term Financial Plan describes how we are currently financed and future changes to this, our approach to meeting the financial challenges and how we will measure this.
- The Financial Resilience plan describes how we can evidence our financial sustainability over the medium term to provide assurance to local taxpayers that we are providing value for money, our process for decision making is robust and we are safeguarding public funds.

3.5 Over the period the Council will seek to achieve the following to resolve the funding gap:

### **Short Term**

Growth in income sources will make a limited contribution with the amount of council tax growing through new homes being built. Business rates are also expected to increase along with fees and charges increasing too. Saving proposals will have to make up a significant part of the resolving of the funding gap.

### **Medium to Long Term**

In the long term the Councils plan is to change approaches so that it can raise or generate more income itself and be less reliant on central government. This will be through:-

- Income and investments. Aiding local economic development so that the area becomes more self-sufficient through economic growth, community involvement and social action.
- Transform how the Council works and operates to improve service and pledge outcomes and reduce costs.
- Working with partners and residents to provide the tools to get people into employment and improve health. Through this route there will be better life outcomes and a reduced need for social care.

### 3.6 Role of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Each year the Council is legally bound to set an annual budget, agreed by Full Council. The process for budget setting for each year 2019 – 2023 is a continuous one with activities taking place all year round to ensure a balanced annual budget can be set. The development of financial proposals for future years will take place via a Cabinet Portfolio aligned approach to action planning and budgeting. Budget proposals are encouraged organisation wide. Overview and Scrutiny Committees activities focus on the consideration and response to draft budget proposals for the coming financial year as proposed by Cabinet. All Committees are involved and may propose financial proposals, making any comments and recommendations, including in relation to the draft budget considered by Cabinet.

- 3.7 The Council is currently working on setting a balance budget and work has commenced on this. The key dates and timeline are as follows:

| Event   | Date                           |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Cabinet agree draft budget proposals for formal consideration   | November/December 2018         |
| Overview and Scrutiny Committees consider and review draft budget proposals   | Various dates in December 2018 |
| Comments on draft budget proposals to Cabinet   | January 2019                   |
| Cabinet approve budget 2019/20 and an updated MTFS to 2023 taking account of Overview and Scrutiny recommendations and make Council Tax recommendations to Council. | 18 February 2019               |
| Full Council consider budget and Council Tax  | 4 March 2019                   |

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Financial implications are contained within the report and appendices. These explain the revenue budget and forecast spend positions and the capital programme budget and spend to date. The budget setting and planning process is integrated with the Wirral Plan. Further resource implications are detailed within the Medium Term Financial Strategy and these implications are reviewed by the reports revising the financial position submitted to Cabinet throughout the year.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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

6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 There are none directly relating to this report. The monitoring of financial performance is important to ensure robust financial control procedures are in place. This report outlines the MTFs 2019/20-2022/23 considered by Cabinet. The council faces financial challenges in this period as it seeks to increase income, reduce costs whilst transforming its approach to services. There is a risk in future years that the Council does not achieve a planned approach.

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

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

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 This report is essentially a monitoring report which reports on financial performance.

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#### **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Revenue Monitoring 2018/19 Quarter 1  
Appendix 2 – Capital Monitoring 2018/19 Quarter 1

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

| <b>Council Meeting</b>                                       | <b>Date</b>  |
|--|--------------|
| Budget Council   | 5 March 2018 |
| Cabinet – Revenue Monitoring 2017/18 Quarter 1               | 16 July 2018 |
| Cabinet – Capital Monitoring 2017/18 Quarter 1               | 16 July 2018 |
| Cabinet – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20-<br>2022/23 | 16 July 2018 |

**CLLR JANETTE WILLIAMSON****CABINET****16 JULY 2018****REVENUE MONITORING 2018/19****QUARTER 1 (TO JUNE 2018)****Councillor Janette Williamson, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, said:**

“The Council set a balanced, sustainable and fair budget in March 2018, despite significant government cuts and increasing demand for costly, specialist children’s social care services. No additional funding from government has been forthcoming to support this national crisis. Setting the budget for 2018/19 under such difficult circumstances was tough but we continued to protect those services most important to our most vulnerable and target our resources to the areas that matters most to our communities.

Already during Quarter 1 we are feeling the extent of our reduced funding with pressures already mounting in some areas as demand continues to rise. We have a robust programme of recovery with intervention and demand management taking shape to ensure we can mitigate pressures in year.

At the end of Quarter 1 we are forecasting an overspend of 0.2% of the net budget. This is early and while cautious it is prudent to ensure we forecast a realistic representation, I am confident that the plans and restrictions we have in place will once again enable us to deliver a balanced budget for the coming year.”

## **REPORT SUMMARY**

This report sets out the projected revenue position for 2018/19 as at the end of Quarter 1 (30 June 2018).

The forecast outturn position as at the end of Quarter 1 is a potential overspend of £0.617m. It is anticipated that mitigating savings can be identified to offset the potential overspend, however as these are yet to be formalised, it is prudent to report an overspend position.

Since the 2018/19 budget was set in March 2018, there are several areas of significant pressure across the Council as a result of increasing demand and there is a robust mitigation programme in place to ensure these pressures do not materialise.

The report provides an update on the achievement of savings proposals for 2018/19, some of which are currently not being realised, however areas to offset these via other means are being explored so that the total savings target can be met by the end of the year.

In addition to formal Quarterly reporting to Cabinet, the budget position is reported monthly at Directorate Management Team meeting and the Strategic Leadership Team. This is to ensure any early warning highlighting pressures can be collectively resolved. The outcome of the quarterly monitoring and any medium to long term effects is fed into the Medium Term Finance Strategy to ensure the impact can be assessed against the council's future financial sustainability

This is a key decision which affects all Wards within the Borough.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 The Quarter 1 forecast to the year-end of a £0.617m overspend which incorporates a number of adverse variances across the range of portfolios, be noted.
- 2 To note that Officers continue to identify actions and take measures to effectively manage the overall budget and reduce the impact of any adverse projected pressures that may result in overspends.

## 1.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Council, having set a Budget at the start of the financial year, needs to ensure the delivery of this Budget is achieved. Consequently there is a requirement to regularly monitor progress so corrective action can be taken when required which is enhanced with the regular reporting of the financial position.

## 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This is a monitoring report but any options to improve the monitoring and budget accuracy will be considered.

## 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 3.1 CHANGES TO THE AGREED BUDGET

- 3.1.1 The 2018/19 Budget was agreed by Council on 5 March 2018. There have not been any changes to the budget since it was agreed. The budget by Portfolio for the year is included below:

**Table 1: 2018/19 Net Budget by Portfolio**

|                                 | £000           |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Adult Care and Health           | 90,068         |
| Children and Families           | 80,992         |
| Environment                     | 28,868         |
| Finance and Resources           | 9,983          |
| Highways and Transport          | 39,085         |
| Housing and Planning            | 19,396         |
| Jobs and Growth                 | 1,107          |
| Law and Order                   | 4,398          |
| Leader of the Council           | 8,891          |
| Leisure and Recreation Services | 17,732         |
| <b>Total Net Budget</b>         | <b>300,520</b> |

- 3.1.2 For this report the budget has been analysed between the new Cabinet Portfolios confirmed at Council on 15 May 2018. Once the new Senior Management structure takes effect from 1 July, the following reports will be structured in this way.

## 3.2 PROJECTIONS AND KEY ISSUES

3.2.1 The projected Outturn position as at the end of June 2018 and Portfolio updates are detailed in the following sections.

**Table 2: 2018/19 Projected Forecast Outturn**

| <b>Portfolio</b>                | <b>Revised Budget</b> | <b>Forecast Outturn</b> | <b>Variance £000</b> | <b>Variance %</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Adult Care and Health           | 90,068                | 90,068                  | 0                    | 0                 |
| Children and Families           | 80,992                | 80,992                  | 0                    | 0                 |
| Environment                     | 28,868                | 29,243                  | -375                 | -1.2              |
| Finance and Resources           | 9,983                 | 9,895                   | 88                   | 0.9               |
| Highways and Transport          | 39,085                | 39,085                  | 0                    | 0                 |
| Housing and Planning            | 19,396                | 19,396                  | 0                    | 0                 |
| Jobs and Growth                 | 1,107                 | 1,107                   | 0                    | 0                 |
| Law and Order                   | 4,398                 | 4,398                   | 0                    | 0                 |
| Leader of the Council           | 8,891                 | 8,891                   | 0                    | 0                 |
| Leisure and Recreation Services | 17,732                | 18,062                  | -330                 | 1.9               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>300,520</b>        | <b>301,137</b>          | <b>-617</b>          | <b>-0.2</b>       |

## 3.3 PORTFOLIO UPDATES

### 3.3.1 Adult Care and Health – Balanced

- Adult Social Care and Health are currently anticipating a demand pressures of £3m to the year end.
- The pre-agreed 4-year learning disability and mental health savings targets set in April 2017 aim to offset £2m of this pressure and a detailed project plan including arrangements for consultation and engagement where this is required, is being developed. To manage the range of complex projects, a Programme Lead Commissioner has been appointed, on a joint funded basis with the CCG to lead on the coordination and delivery of the efficiencies.
- The remaining £1m will be delivered through Wirral Community Foundation Trust, via a combination of existing packages of care reviews and an offer for appropriate levels of care in the community that will promote independence for service users.

### 3.3.2 Children and Families – Balanced

- The cost of Looked After Children (LAC) continues to present a pressure for the Directorate. The number of LAC has stabilised over the past 6 months with only a small number of new placements agreed. However, the increasing complexity of needs still represents a challenge in reporting a balanced budget.
- The investment provided in the 18/19 budget is taking shape with new practices embedded within the Directorate creating efficiencies and enabling reactive expenditure to be diverted to prevention.

### **3.3.3 Environment – Overspend of £0.375 Million**

- Within the Waste & Environment contract a £0.4 million anticipated saving on establishment costs has not materialised and alternative areas are being explored and recovery plans being developed to offset the saving. The overspend is currently being offset by one-off underspends elsewhere within the Directorate and every effort is being made to mitigate this pressure for 2019/20.

### **3.3.4 Finance and Resources– Underspend of £0.088 Million**

- An underspend of £0.5m is forecast on the cost of borrowing due to a lower than anticipated schedule for financing the capital programme. The programme however is not static and there could be further projects that require capital financing during the year. It is expected that any new projects are self-financing but as there is often a lead in time for benefits to be realised, there is a risk that this underspend could reduce in the event of any new major capital initiatives.
- The underspend is being offset in part by a pressure within the Council contribution to the Coroners Service which is part of a shared service hosted by Liverpool City Council. Dialogue will take place with Liverpool City Council to establish what plans they have for mitigating the pressures. Minor areas of underachievement of income from traded services is also offsetting the overspend.

### **3.3.5 Highways and Transport – Balanced**

- The Portfolio is currently experiencing a pressure as a result of an underachievement of car parking income which is being offset by the management of Commissioning Support budgets to prioritise and streamline highway maintenance works. It is anticipated that this an in-year pressure that will be fully resolved in 2019/10.

### **3.3.6 Housing and Planning – Balanced**

- Within the buildings service a potential overspend on rent and rates and other associated premises costs is currently being offset by efficiencies on plant, property and machinery expenditure and income receivable from Design Consultancy.

### **3.3.7 Law and Order – Balanced**

- Community Safety is currently forecasting expenditure pressures that are anticipated to be offset by future restructuring proposals.

### **3.3.8 The Leader of the Council – Balanced**

- A review of Communication, Marketing Press & PR budgets is being undertaken with a view to 'right-sizing' these budgets to offset historic income pressures. This will be undertaken by Quarter 2 and should alleviate any future pressures in this area.

### 3.3.9 Leisure and Recreation Services– Overspend of £0.33 Million

- The 2018/19 budget was predicated on the expectation that savings options relating to a more flexible work programme at Woodchurch and new football pitches would be fully achieved. However, continuing delays in the implementation of both of these projects will mean that not all these savings will come to fruition in 2018/19. Alternative areas to achieve these income targets are being explored with a view to offsetting the overspend by the end of the year.

## 3.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF SAVINGS

- 3.4.1 As part of the budget setting process for 2018/19 a range of savings options were agreed. These are monitored monthly to ensure their achievement is progressing. A summary of the position of 2018/19 savings at 30 June 2018 is below. It is anticipated that all savings either via the original proposal or via other means will be realised by the end of the year

**Table 3: Savings Implementation 2018/19 (£000's)**

| Portfolio              | Number of Options | Approved Budget Reduction | Amount Delivered at Q1 | Mitigation | Unachivable awaiting mitigation | To be Delivered |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Adult Care and Health  | 1                 | 2,000                     | 0                      | 0          | 0                               | 2,000           |
| Children and Families  | 10                | 5,200                     | 0                      | 0          | 0                               | 5,200           |
| Environment            | 4                 | 480                       | 100                    | 25         | 0                               | 355             |
| Finance and Resources  | 10                | 4,996                     | 3,803                  | 0          | 0                               | 1,193           |
| Highways and Transport | 5                 | 457                       | 37                     | 0          | 100                             | 320             |
| Housing and Planning   | 4                 | 206                       | 51                     | 0          | 0                               | 155             |
| Law and Order          | 1                 | 30                        | 0                      | 0          | 0                               | 30              |
| Leader of the Council  | 2                 | 85                        | 50                     | 0          | 0                               | 35              |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>37</b>         | <b>13,454</b>             | <b>4,041</b>           | <b>25</b>  | <b>100</b>                      | <b>9,288</b>    |

## 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This is the Quarter 1 budget monitoring report that provides information on the forecast outturn for the Council for 2018/19. The Council has robust methods for reporting and forecasting budgets in place and alongside formal Quarterly reporting to Cabinet, the financial position is reported monthly at each Directorate Management Team and corporately at the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT). In the event of any early warning highlighting pressures and potential overspends, the SLT take collective responsibility to identify solutions to resolve these to ensure a balanced budget can be reported at the end of the year.

## 5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The entire report concerns the duty of the Council to avoid a budget shortfall. The Chief Finance Officer has a personal duty under the Local Government Finance Act 1988 Section 114A to make a report to the executive if it appears to them that the expenditure of the authority incurred (including expenditure it proposes to incur) in a financial year is likely to exceed the resources available to it to meet that expenditure.

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

6.1 There are no implications arising directly from this report.

## **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 The possible failure to deliver the Revenue Budget is being mitigated by:

- Senior Leadership / Directorate Teams reviewing the financial position.
- Availability of General Fund Balances.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

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

## **9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 This report is essentially a monitoring report on financial performance.

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## **SUBJECT HISTORY**

| <b>Council Meeting</b> | <b>Date</b>  |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Budget Council         | 5 March 2018 |

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**CLLR JANETTE WILLIAMSON**

**CABINET**

**16 JULY 2018**

**CAPITAL MONITORING 2018/19**

**QUARTER 1 (TO JUNE 2018)**

**Councillor Janette Williamson, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, said:**

“We are making major investments in Wirral this year – improving infrastructure, the public realm and the local environment which residents are rightly proud of.

This report demonstrates this investment, it provides a helpful summary of our progress, and makes it clear that we are using the resources available to us to their best effect to improve services for local people.”

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the progress in delivering the Capital Programme 2018/19 at the end of June 2018. It recommends that Cabinet agree the 2018/19 Capital Programme of £86.4 million which takes into account re-profiling identified during the 2017/18 final accounts process together with any additional grant funding notified to the Council. Expenditure to date is £5.0 million.

This matter is a key decision which affects all Wards within the Borough.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 To note the spend at Quarter 1 of £5.0 million, with 25% of the financial year having elapsed.
- 2 To approve additional funding for the 7 schemes referred to in paragraph 3.10.

- 3 To agree and refer to Council the revised Capital Programme of £86.4 million (Table 1).
4. To agree the additional grants detailed in section 3.1.2.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Regular monitoring and reporting of the Capital Programme enables decisions to be taken faster which may produce revenue benefits and will improve financial control of the Programme.

### 2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 No other options have been considered.

### 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### ORIGINAL AND PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2018/19

3.1 The Programme for 2018/19 is subject to change. It presently reflects the following changes which are then detailed in Tables 1 and 2.

|   | £000          |
|---|---------------|
| Programme agreed by Cabinet on 19 February 2018 | 74,561        |
| Year end re-profiling for 2017/18               | 10,482        |
| Additional grants and contributions             | 7,740         |
| Additional requirements                         | 1,142         |
| Reduced requirements                            | (2,700)       |
| Net re-profiling to 2019/20                     | (4,834)       |
| <b>Revised 2018/19 Programme</b>                | <b>86,391</b> |

**Table 1: Capital Programme 2018/19 at 30 June 2018**

|                          | Capital Strategy | Revised Programme | Actual Spend June 2018 |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
|                          | £000             | £000              | £000                   |
| Adult Care & Health      | 7,912            | 8,543             | 143                    |
| Children & Families      | 19,099           | 20,852            | 2,200                  |
| Environment              | 225              | 50                | 0                      |
| Finance and Resources    | 5,213            | 4,287             | 130                    |
| Highways & Transport     | 13,787           | 20,409            | 1,954                  |
| Housing & Planning       | 7,542            | 7,791             | 375                    |
| Jobs & Growth            | 16,785           | 18,697            | 0                      |
| Law & Order              | 0                | 83                | 38                     |
| Leisure & Recreation     | 3,998            | 5,679             | 117                    |
| <b>Total expenditure</b> | <b>74,561</b>    | <b>86,391</b>     | <b>4,957</b>           |

3.2 Followings reviews reported and agreed by the Investment and Change Board and the Technical Design Authority a number of schemes that were previously classed as deferred are now included in the Capital Strategy figure above.

These total £3.7 million. The other significant variances which have arisen since the Budget was set are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Significant Variations (> £0.2m) to the 2018/19 Programme**

| <b>Scheme</b>   | <b>£000</b> |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Adult Care &amp; Health</b>  |             |
| Pensby Wood - re-profiling from 2017/18 £0.310m; additional requirement £0.172m.                              | 482         |
| <b>Children &amp; Families</b>  |             |
| Primary Places - re-profiling from 2017/18  | 742         |
| Healthy Pupils Fund - additional grant allocation   | 245         |
| Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - additional grant allocation.                              | 206         |
| Improvement Plan funded by the flexible use of capital receipts - re-profiling                                | 1,100       |
| <b>Environment</b>  |             |
| Cemetery extensions and improvements - re-profiling from 2017/18  | 226         |
| <b>Finance and Resources</b>  |             |
| Windows 10 rollout - re-profiling - £0.1m carried forward from 2017-18 and £1.0m brought forward from 2019/20 | 1,100       |
| Data Centre - re-profiling from 2017/18   | 339         |
| Improvement Plan - originally to be funded from capital receipts but now from revenue                         | (2,700)     |
| Fund to assist land assembly - re-profiling from 2017/18  | 246         |
| <b>Highways &amp; Transport</b>   |             |
| Bridges - re-profiling from 2017/18 £0.707m and additional grant notification £0.150m.                        | 857         |
| Dock bridges – re-profiling from 2017/18 £0.610m; additional private sector contribution £0.142m              | 752         |
| Sustainable Transport Enhancement Programme (STEP) schemes - re-profiling from 2017/18                        | 702         |
| Transport for Growth - re-profiling £2.168m and grant confirmation £1.150                                     | 3,318       |
| Street lighting and LED replacement - re-profiling from 2017/18   | 349         |
| Transport Advisory Group feasibility studies - additional grant notification                                  | 245         |
| BAMN Commercial settlement  | 305         |
| <b>Housing &amp; Planning</b>   | (1,899)     |
| Aids/adaptations/disabled Facilities Grants- re-profiling into 2019-20 £5.797m; grant confirmation £3.858m    | 2,011       |
| Housing Zones Marginal Viability Fund (Northbank Wirral Waters) - grant notification                          |             |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Jobs &amp; Growth</b>                                    |               |
| Business Investment Fund - re-profiling from 2017/18        | 551           |
| Investment in properties - re-profiling from 2017/18        | 1,156         |
| Wirral Waters Investment Fund - re-profiling from 2017/18   | 205           |
| <b>Leisure &amp; Recreation</b>                             |               |
| Soft Play Areas Leisure Centres - re-profiling from 2017/18 | 410           |
| Beechwood Recreation Centre - additional requirement        | 430           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>11,378</b> |

3.3 Schemes will be subject to an ongoing review to ensure that a deliverable Programme is in place, that they are compatible with the 2020 Vision and to try and identify any savings. Current progress on the more significant areas of spend to date is provided in the following sections.

#### 3.4 **Adult Care & Health**

3.4.1 Work is continuing to remodel Pensby Wood with a further £0.13 million spent in 2018-19. Completion is expected early July.

#### 3.5 **Children & Families**

3.5.1 Meadowside Special School (£0.172 million) - work has recently been completed on the construction of new hydrotherapy pool and changing facilities. The pool will be ready to use in July after having undergone a full commissioning process.

3.5.2 Heygarth Primary School (£0.050 million) - this project is part of the pupil place planning strategy that links to area regeneration. The project is due for completion in October 2018. It provides the school with two additional classrooms, internal re-configuration to two areas within the school, new resource spaces, and improved outdoor space.

3.5.3 Improvement Programme - £6.8 million has been committed in respect of the Children's Services allocation and £0.3 million in respect of HR and Legal. This commitment has been allocated across Children's Social care, Safeguarding, Quality, Performance and Improvement and Children with Disabilities as well as in Corporate Services. The funding will be used to improve social work practices and outcomes for children, reduce numbers of Children Looked After and establish a stable workforce and reduce reliance on agency workers.

### **3.6 Highways and Transport**

- 3.6.1 Dock Bridges - a further of £0.5 million has been incurred in the first quarter in respect of the current replacement scheme. The bridge has now re-opened.
- 3.6.2 Sustainable Transport Enhancement Programme (STEP). Expenditure is focused on 2 significant schemes; Northbank East (£0.320 million) which will provide increased accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists to the Wirral Waters West Float development and increased attractiveness of the area for businesses and investors; The Croft Retail Corridor (£0.114 million) which will also improve accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, including improved safety for cyclists through the provision of an off road route.
- 3.6.3 Transport for Growth - expenditure has been incurred on 4 schemes to date, by far the most significant being the improvements to the junction of the M53 and A554 (£0.112 million).
- 3.6.4 Grant funding of £0.563 million is available to fund pothole repairs. There is a risk-based approach to decisions on maintenance interventions, having regard for both public safety and budget availability. Dangerous potholes are treated as a priority for action. A number of different techniques are applied in an effort not to just to repair individual potholes, but also to prevent them occurring again. These works have either already started or are scheduled to begin in the coming weeks. By the end of October it is estimated that 75% of the budget will have been spent on repairs, with the remainder being spent by March 2019.

### **3.7 Housing & Planning**

- 3.7.1 The largest areas of spend so far this year relate to Aids, Adaptations and Disabled Facilities Grants (£0.2 million) and Home Improvements (£0.12 million). The Council has received a further grant allocation of £3.8 million for 2018/19. The most realistic estimate is that we will process applications of £2 million therefore the balance of £1.8 million together with unused grant at the beginning of the year will be available in 2019/20.

### **3.8 Jobs & Growth**

- 3.8.1 Within the Programme is an allocation of £11.1 million for investment in properties. This is closely linked to the progressing Wirral Growth Company and is intended to fund potential acquisitions which will, in turn, provide a revenue income stream to the Council.

### **3.9 Leisure & Recreation**

- 3.9.1 The various works required at the Transport Museum have been completed this year. These were the creation of a new entrance hall, reception area, shop, café and kitchen alongside improved museum display areas. The facility is also now DDA compliant.

### **3.10 APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

3.10.1 There are seven new schemes to be considered for inclusion in the 2018/19 programme

#### **3.10.2 Pensby Wood fit out costs (£172,000)**

Discussions have previously taken place at the Wirral Evolutions Project Board regarding the need for additional capital investment in the form of specialist equipment to complete the fit out at Pensby Wood. This will enable those individuals with physical and learning disabilities to fully utilise the potential offered by this redesigned facility.

#### **3.10.3 Beechwood Recreation Centre (£430,000)**

In order to ensure that the centre would be fit for purpose a condition survey had previously been undertaken which identified a number of additional works that would be required. These included re-roofing, upgrading the electrical infrastructure, alterations to and renewal of boilers and renewal of the showers.

#### **3.10.4 Frankby Cemetery Extension (£90,000)**

Additional work has been required to renew the access track to the depot and out of the cemetery. Ground conditions and drainage issues have proved to be worse than anticipated. Environmental issues resulted in the need to install over 200 metres of fencing which was not part of the original scheme. This extension is necessary as the current cemetery is running out of capacity.

#### **3.10.5 Floral Pavilion Audio Mixing Desk Replacement (£35,000)**

The current mixing desk is a valued resource for users in order to deliver high quality performances. It enhances the overall offer to potential customers and results in attracting a large market with an income of £2.2 million. The console is 11 years old and displaying potentially critical faults which could result in complete failure resulting in a possible loss of income. The manufacturer will no longer provide a support and repair package after September 2018 and therefore its replacement is the only feasible option.

#### **3.10.6 BAMN Commercial Settlement (£305,000)**

As part of the BAMN commercial settlement, which is currently being negotiated, there are a number of capital costs which will need to be funded. In the main these relate to depot premises, including value of upgrades that BAMN have undertaken, all equipment at the engineering workshop at Cleveland St, street lighting HIAB vehicle and a gully cleansing vehicle.

#### **3.10.7 Floral Pavilion Chiller Unit (£55,000)**

The main chiller unit had failed to the point that unless immediate action was taken with regards to undertaking large scale replacement of major components, the theatre would have to close due to the building becoming too hot, with no air control. Closing the building would cause severe financial loss with potential claims for cancellations, notwithstanding the reputational damage.

### **3.10.8 The Oval Grandstand Structural Works (£55,000)**

Essential health and safety works are required.

## **3.11 NEW GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

3.11.1 Since the budget was agreed a number of additional grants have been made available to the Council. Details are below and Members are asked to note these for inclusion in the capital programme

### **3.11.2 Housing Zones Marginal Viability Fund (£6,004,000)**

The Council has successfully secured £6 million in government funding which will be used for a package of infrastructure works including land remediation, public realm works and utilities provision at Northbank, Wirral Waters. The funding will bring forward 5 housing development parcels within Wirral Waters including the 3 sites at Northbank East and 2 sites at Northbank West. The funding will support the delivery of 1,106 units, for which planning permission has already been secured in 2012. There are delays in the Government finalising the funding offer so it is not possible to give an accurate profile of when the funding will be released. The latest estimate is 2018/19 £2 million, 2019/20 £2.6 million, 2020/21 £1.4 million.

### **3.11.3 Healthy Pupils Capital Fund (£245,000)**

This fund is intended to improve children's and young people's physical and mental health by improving and increasing availability to facilities for physical activity, healthy eating, mental health and wellbeing and medical conditions.

### **3.11.4 Transport Advisory Group Feasibility Fund (£245,000)**

Funding to undertake transport studies to support the delivery of the Connecting Wirral Transport Strategy and the Wirral Growth Plan. Specifically the grant relates to the A41 corridor, Saughall Massie infrastructure improvements and Wirral Waters Gateways infrastructure.

### **3.11.5 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (£206,000)**

To enable local authorities to invest in new places and improvements to facilities for pupils with education, health and care (EHC) plans in mainstream and special schools, nurseries, colleges and other provision.

## **FINANCING OF THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

3.12 Table 3 summarises the financing sources for the original and latest Programme.

**Table 3: Revised Capital Programme Financing**

| <b>Capital Programme Financing</b>           | <b>Capital Strategy</b> | <b>Revised Programme</b> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | <b>£000</b>             | <b>£000</b>              |
| Borrowing                                    | 33,584                  | 45,306                   |
| Capital Receipts                             | 14,162                  | 11,806                   |
| Grants                                       | 20,815                  | 23,074                   |
| Business Rates (Wirral Waters - ring-fenced) | 6,000                   | 6,205                    |
| <b>Total Financing</b>                       | <b>74,561</b>           | <b>86,391</b>            |

- 3.13 Any re-profiling that reduces borrowing will produce one-off revenue savings. A permanent saving only occurs if schemes cease, otherwise the full budget will be required in 2019/20 when the re-profiled expenditure is incurred.

### **PROJECTED LONGER TERM CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

- 3.14 Funding for the 2018/19 to 2020/21 Programme is in Table 4. This reflects the 2018/19 Capital Programme agreed by Cabinet on 19 February 2018 with subsequent amendments for re-profiling, revised grant notifications, approval for previously deferred schemes and additional requirements.

**Table 4: Capital Programme Financing 2018/19 to 2020/21**

| <b>Capital Programme Financing</b>           | <b>2018/19 Revised Programme</b> | <b>2019/20 Programme</b> | <b>2020/21 Programme</b> | <b>Total Programme</b> |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|  | <b>£000</b>                      | <b>£000</b>              | <b>£000</b>              | <b>£000</b>            |
| Borrowing                                    | 45,306                           | 16,515                   | 4,226                    | 66,047                 |
| Capital Receipts                             | 11,806                           | -                        | -                        | 11,806                 |
| Grants                                       | 23,074                           | 18,806                   | 5,295                    | 47,175                 |
| Business Rates (Wirral Waters - ring-fenced) | 6,205                            | 5,000                    | 4,450                    | 15,655                 |
| <b>Total Financing</b>                       | <b>86,391</b>                    | <b>40,321</b>            | <b>13,971</b>            | <b>140,683</b>         |

### **SUPPORTED AND UNSUPPORTED BORROWING AND THE REVENUE CONSEQUENCES OF UNSUPPORTED BORROWING**

- 3.15 Based on current cost, £1 million of Prudential Borrowing would result in additional revenue financing costs of approximately £62,000 per annum in the following year. As part of the Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21 the Council has included an element of Prudential Borrowing and presently there is £66 million included over the three years, which will result in approximately £4.0 million of additional revenue costs as detailed at Table 5.

**Table 5: Unsupported Borrowing Forecasts & Revenue Costs**

|                                | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                | £000    | £000    | £000    | £000    |
| New Unsupported Borrowing      | 45,306  | 16,515  | 4,226   | 0       |
| Cumulative                     | 45,306  | 61,821  | 66,047  | 66,047  |
| Annual Revenue repayment costs |         |         |         |         |
| Cumulative                     | 500     | 2,990   | 3,880   | 4,095   |

**CAPITAL RECEIPTS POSITION**

- 3.16 In accord with the Capital Receipts flexibilities introduced by the Government capital receipts generated between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2022 can be used to support Transformation. This has been reflected in the Capital Programme for 2018/19 and in the associated receipts assumptions for 2018/19.
- 3.17 The Capital Programme is partly reliant on the generation of receipts to finance future schemes. Available receipts at 1 April 2018 were £1.67 million with £0.97 million available to fund the Transformation Programme and £0.7 million to fund the ongoing Capital Programme. The table assumes that the proposed spend, set out at Table 1 is agreed. Receipts and funding assumptions are based upon the latest estimates.

**Table 6: Projected Capital Receipts position**

|                          | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
|                          | £000    | £000    |
| Capital Receipts Reserve | 1,672   | 2,266   |
| In - Receipts Assumption | 12,400  | N/A     |
| Out - Funding assumption | -11,806 | N/A     |
| Closing Balance          | 2,266   | 2,266   |

- 3.18 The assumption for receipts in 2017/18 is predicated on the fact that the Transformation Programme of £11.1 million (Children's Services) is to be funded from allowable receipts generated between 2017/18 and 2021/22. Critical to this assumption is the disposal of Council assets such as Acre Lane. If the anticipated receipts do not come to fruition, this will cause a subsequent revenue pressure of £9.6 million.

**4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The revised 2018/19 Capital Programme is £86.391 million and anticipated capital receipts remaining at the year-end £2.26 million.

**5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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

6.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

## **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 The possibility of failure to deliver the Capital Programme will be mitigated by the monthly review by a senior group of officers, charged with improving performance.

7.2 The generation of capital receipts may be influenced by factors outside the authority's control e.g. ecological issues. Lambert, Smith, Hampton are providing external support to maximise the Council's income and advise on strategy.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 There has been no specific consultation with regards to this report.

## **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Capital Programme and Funding 2018/19

Appendix 2 – Capital Receipts 2018/19

## **SUBJECT HISTORY**

| <b>Council Meeting</b>                          | <b>Date</b>  |
|---|--------------|
| Capital monitoring reports presented to Cabinet | Various      |
| Capital Programme – Council                     | 6 March 2017 |
| Capital Programme – Council                     | 5 March 2018 |

**Capital Programme and Funding 2018/19**

**APPENDIX 1**

| <b>Adult Care &amp; Health</b>                     | <b>Revised<br/>Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend to<br/>Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council<br/>Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business<br/>Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Heswall Day Centre                                 | 350                                   | -                                 | 350                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>350</b>                        |
| Extra Care Housing                                 | 3,000                                 | -                                 | 2,000                                 | -                                  | 1,000                  | <b>3,000</b>                      |
| LD Extra Care Housing                              | 3,000                                 | -                                 | 2,000                                 | -                                  | 1,000                  | <b>3,000</b>                      |
| Community Intermediate Care                        | 500                                   | -                                 | 500                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>500</b>                        |
| Citizen & Provider Portal/I.T.                     | 352                                   | 6                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 352                    | <b>352</b>                        |
| Assistive Technology                               | 462                                   | 3                                 | 230                                   | -                                  | 232                    | <b>462</b>                        |
| Pensby Wood re-modelling                           | 707                                   | 134                               | 707                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>707</b>                        |
| Pensby Wood fit out costs                          | 172                                   | -                                 | 172                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>172</b>                        |
|  | <b>8,543</b>                          | <b>143</b>                        | <b>5,959</b>                          | -                                  | <b>2,584</b>           | <b>8,543</b>                      |
| <b>Children &amp; Families</b>                     |                                       |                                   |                                       |                                    |                        |                                   |
| PFI  | 85                                    | -                                 | 85                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>85</b>                         |
| Condition/modernisation                            | 4,543                                 | 306                               | -                                     | -                                  | 4,543                  | <b>4,543</b>                      |
| Primary Places                                     | 2,542                                 | 23                                | 2,542                                 | -                                  | -                      | <b>2,542</b>                      |
| Basic Needs  | 1,577                                 | 96                                | -                                     | -                                  | 1,577                  | <b>1,577</b>                      |
| SEN and Disabilities (SEND)                        | 206                                   | -                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 206                    | <b>206</b>                        |
| Healthy Pupils Capital Fund                        | 245                                   | -                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 245                    | <b>245</b>                        |
| SEND Assisted Travel - replace adult vehicle fleet | 250                                   | -                                 | 250                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>250</b>                        |
| Systems Improvements (Liquidlogic)                 | 147                                   | -                                 | 147                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>147</b>                        |
| Family Support                                     | 157                                   | -                                 | 157                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>157</b>                        |
| Improvement Programme                              | 11,100                                | 1,775                             | 11,100                                | -                                  | -                      | <b>11,100</b>                     |
|  | <b>20,852</b>                         | <b>2,200</b>                      | <b>14,281</b>                         | -                                  | <b>6,571</b>           | <b>20,852</b>                     |

| <b>Environment</b>                           | <b>Revised Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Public Toilets Upgrade                       | 50                                | -                             | 50                                | -                              | -                      | <b>50</b>                     |
|  | <b>50</b>                         | <b>-</b>                      | <b>50</b>                         | <b>-</b>                       | <b>-</b>               | <b>50</b>                     |
| <b>Finance &amp; Resources</b>               | <b>Revised Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total Funding<br/>£000</b> |
| Building refurbishment to increase occupancy | 162                               | 47                            | 162                               | -                              | -                      | <b>162</b>                    |
| Fund to assist land assembly and re-sale     | 246                               | 47                            | 246                               | -                              | -                      | <b>246</b>                    |
| Demolish former Rock Ferry High              | -                                 | 20                            | -                                 | -                              | -                      | <b>-</b>                      |
| Treasury building                            | 150                               | 16                            | 150                               | -                              | -                      | <b>150</b>                    |
| Windows 10 rollout                           | 1,842                             | -                             | 1,842                             | -                              | -                      | <b>1,842</b>                  |
| Digital corporate storage                    | 1,500                             | -                             | 1,500                             | -                              | -                      | <b>1,500</b>                  |
| Data centre                                  | 339                               | -                             | 339                               | -                              | -                      | <b>339</b>                    |
| Creative and digital team software/hardware  | 48                                | -                             | 48                                | -                              | -                      | <b>48</b>                     |
|  | <b>4,287</b>                      | <b>130</b>                    | <b>4,287</b>                      | <b>-</b>                       | <b>-</b>               | <b>4,287</b>                  |
| <b>Highways &amp; Transport</b>              |                                   |                               |                                   |                                |                        |                               |
| Highway maintenance                          | 2,637                             | 158                           | -                                 | -                              | 2,637                  | <b>2,637</b>                  |
| BAMN Commercial Settlement                   | 305                               | -                             | 305                               | -                              | -                      | <b>305</b>                    |
| Pot hole action fund                         | 563                               | 33                            | -                                 | -                              | 563                    | <b>563</b>                    |
| Bridges                                      | 857                               | 55                            | 707                               | -                              | 150                    | <b>857</b>                    |
| Dock bridges replacement                     | 1,452                             | 658                           | 1,310                             | -                              | 142                    | <b>1,452</b>                  |
| Coast protection                             | 255                               | 2                             | 255                               | -                              | -                      | <b>255</b>                    |
| Transport for growth                         | 3,318                             | 323                           | 2,168                             | -                              | 1,150                  | <b>3,318</b>                  |

| <b>Highways &amp; Transport (continued)</b>          | <b>Revised<br/>Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend<br/>to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council<br/>Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business<br/>Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Coastal parking pay and display machines             | 350                                   | -                                 | 350                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>350</b>                        |
| Sustainable transport (STEP)                         | 1,465                                 | 564                               | 887                                   | -                                  | 578                    | <b>1,465</b>                      |
| Street lighting and LED replacement                  | 1,839                                 | 56                                | 1,839                                 | -                                  | -                      | <b>1,839</b>                      |
| Street lighting column upgrade/replacement           | 2,000                                 | -                                 | 2,000                                 | -                                  | -                      | <b>2,000</b>                      |
| Car parking  | 10                                    | 3                                 | 10                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>10</b>                         |
| Illuminated lighting and street signage              | 250                                   | -                                 | 250                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>250</b>                        |
| New Brighton infrastructure                          | 250                                   | -                                 | 250                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>250</b>                        |
| Thermal mapping                                      | 10                                    | 47                                | 10                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>10</b>                         |
| Key Route Network                                    | 329                                   | -                                 | 33                                    | -                                  | 296                    | <b>329</b>                        |
| TAG feasibility studies                              | 245                                   | 55                                | -                                     | -                                  | 245                    | <b>245</b>                        |
| Major infrastructure development/forward<br>planning | 200                                   | -                                 | 200                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>200</b>                        |
| Tower Rd National Productivity Investment<br>Fund    | 200                                   | -                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 200                    | <b>200</b>                        |
| Highways asset management system                     | 350                                   | -                                 | 350                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>350</b>                        |
| Cleveland St transport depot                         | 330                                   | -                                 | 330                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>330</b>                        |
| Surface water management                             | 160                                   | -                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 160                    | <b>160</b>                        |
| West Kirby flood alleviation                         | 3,034                                 | -                                 | 84                                    | -                                  | 2,950                  | <b>3,034</b>                      |
|  | <b>20,409</b>                         | <b>1,954</b>                      | <b>11,338</b>                         | -                                  | <b>9,071</b>           | <b>20,409</b>                     |

| <b>Housing &amp; Planning</b>                                      | <b>Revised<br/>Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend<br/>to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council<br/>Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business<br/>Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Industrial estates   | 44                                    | 35                                | 44                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>44</b>                         |
| Aids, adaptations and DFGs   | 2,000                                 | 204                               | -                                     | -                                  | 2,000                  | <b>2,000</b>                      |
| Restore empty homes  | 302                                   | 15                                | -                                     | -                                  | 302                    | <b>302</b>                        |
| Clearance  | 1,167                                 | -                                 | 632                                   | -                                  | 535                    | <b>1,167</b>                      |
| Home improvement   | 947                                   | 121                               | 947                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>947</b>                        |
| New house building programme                                       | 320                                   | -                                 | 320                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>320</b>                        |
| Housing infrastructure fund  | 1,000                                 | -                                 | 1,000                                 | -                                  | -                      | <b>1,000</b>                      |
| Housing Zones Marginal Viability Fund -<br>Northbank Wirral Waters | 2,011                                 | -                                 | -                                     | -                                  | 2,011                  | <b>2,011</b>                      |
|  | <b>7,791</b>                          | <b>375</b>                        | <b>2,943</b>                          | -                                  | <b>4,848</b>           | <b>7,791</b>                      |
| <b>Jobs &amp; Growth</b>   |                                       |                                   |                                       |                                    |                        |                                   |
| Business Investment Fund   | 1,336                                 | -                                 | 1,336                                 | -                                  | -                      | <b>1,336</b>                      |
| Investment in properties   | 11,156                                | -                                 | 11,156                                | -                                  | -                      | <b>11,156</b>                     |
| Wirral Waters Investment Fund                                      | 6,205                                 | -                                 | -                                     | 6,205                              | -                      | <b>6,205</b>                      |
|  | <b>18,697</b>                         | -                                 | <b>12,492</b>                         | <b>6,205</b>                       | -                      | <b>18,697</b>                     |
| <b>Law &amp; Order</b>   |                                       |                                   |                                       |                                    |                        |                                   |
| CCTV cameras and other equipment                                   | 83                                    | 38                                | 83                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>83</b>                         |
|  | <b>83</b>                             | <b>38</b>                         | <b>83</b>                             | -                                  | -                      | <b>83</b>                         |

| <b>Leisure &amp; Recreation</b>                      | <b>Revised<br/>Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend<br/>to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council<br/>Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business<br/>Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Eureka   | 268                                   | 20                                | 268                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>268</b>                        |
| Hand arm vibration equipment                         | 75                                    | -                                 | 75                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>75</b>                         |
| Park depots rationalisation                          | 3                                     | 7                                 | 3                                     | -                                  | -                      | <b>3</b>                          |
| Transport museum                                     | 66                                    | 80                                | 66                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>66</b>                         |
| Soft play areas at leisure centres                   | 410                                   | -                                 | 410                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>410</b>                        |
| West Kirby sailing centre accommodation              | 564                                   | 6                                 | 564                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>564</b>                        |
| Leasowe leisure outdoor 3G                           | 795                                   | -                                 | 795                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>795</b>                        |
| The Oval redevelopment                               | 23                                    | -                                 | 23                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>23</b>                         |
| Beechwood recreation centre                          | 430                                   | 4                                 | 430                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>430</b>                        |
| Pool covers  | 150                                   | -                                 | 150                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>150</b>                        |
| Williamson Art Gallery refresh                       | 250                                   | -                                 | 250                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>250</b>                        |
| Arrowe park machine shed/wash bay                    | 200                                   | -                                 | 200                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>200</b>                        |
| Arrowe park depot resurfacing, bays etc              | 200                                   | -                                 | 200                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>200</b>                        |
| Birkenhead park depot resurfacing                    | 164                                   | -                                 | 164                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>164</b>                        |
| Play area improvements                               | 240                                   | -                                 | 240                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>240</b>                        |
| West Kirby concourse/Guinea Gap reception<br>upgrade | 360                                   | -                                 | 360                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>360</b>                        |
| Wirral Tennis Centre facility upgrade                | 780                                   | -                                 | 780                                   | -                                  | -                      | <b>780</b>                        |
| Floral Pavilion audio desk                           | 35                                    | -                                 | 35                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>35</b>                         |
| Landican Chapel improvements                         | 50                                    | -                                 | 50                                    | -                                  | -                      | <b>50</b>                         |

| <b>Leisure &amp; Recreation (continued)</b> | <b>Revised Programme<br/>£000</b> | <b>Spend to Date<br/>£000</b> | <b>Council Resources<br/>£000</b> | <b>Business Rates<br/>£000</b> | <b>Grants<br/>£000</b> | <b>Total Funding<br/>£000</b> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Beach Cleaning - replacement of equipment   | 175                               | -                             | 175                               | -                              | -                      | <b>175</b>                    |
| Cemetery Extensions and Improvements        | 316                               | -                             | 316                               | -                              | -                      | <b>316</b>                    |
| Wirral sailing centre boats/equipment       | 15                                | -                             | 15                                | -                              | -                      | <b>15</b>                     |
| Floral Pavilion chiller units               | 55                                | -                             | 55                                | -                              | -                      | <b>55</b>                     |
| The Oval grandstand structural works        | 55                                | -                             | 55                                | -                              | -                      | <b>55</b>                     |
|   | <b>5,679</b>                      | -                             | <b>5,679</b>                      | -                              | -                      | <b>5,679</b>                  |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>86,391</b>                     | <b>4,957</b>                  | <b>57,112</b>                     | <b>6,205</b>                   | <b>23,074</b>          | <b>86,391</b>                 |

## Capital Receipts 2018/19

## APPENDIX 2

| <b>Cash Received</b>                 | <b>£000</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Tarran Industrial Estate             | 30          |
| Glenavon Rd covenant                 | 275         |
| Plot 4 Harrison Estate               | 81          |
| 3 Oaktree Place                      | 13          |
| Saughall Massie fire station deposit | 4           |
| Municipal building deposit           | 50          |
| Renovation loans                     | 61          |
|                                      | <b>514</b>  |



**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Thursday, 20 September 2018**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>REPORT TITLE:</b> | <b>WIRRAL FLOOD &amp; WATER<br/>MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP - TERMS<br/>OF REFERENCE</b> |
| <b>REPORT OF:</b>    | <b>INTERIM DIRECTOR – HIGHWAYS AND<br/>STREETSCENE</b>                              |

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The Wirral Flood and Water Management Partnership (WF&WMP) was set up in 2009 in response to the Pitt Review in 2008. The main purpose of the partnership is to achieve, through joint working, an effective management of flooding and coastal erosion incidents on Wirral; to take such collective measures in order to minimise the potential impact of such incidents; and to seek the implementation of more permanent and sustainable solutions to the mitigation or alleviation of flooding and coastal erosion.

Revised draft Terms of Reference for the WF&WMP seek to establish a formal link with Wirral Council’s Overview & Scrutiny function and to provide appropriate governance and elected member oversight of local flood and coastal erosion risk management activities.

This report seeks approval of these revised draft Terms of Reference of the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership. If approved, these revised draft Terms of Reference will replace the current outdated Terms of Reference and require the consequential appointment of three cross-party working group representatives from the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

This is not a ‘Key Decision’.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

This report seeks approval of the revised draft Terms of Reference of the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership.

As a consequence of approval of the revised draft Terms of Reference this report also seeks appointment of three cross party working group representatives from the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee onto the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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

- 1.1 The revised draft Terms of Reference provide a formal link with Wirral Council's Overview & Scrutiny function and also provide appropriate governance and elected member oversight of local flood and coastal erosion risk management activities.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 **Continuation with existing Terms of Reference:** The current Terms of Reference date back to 2009 and do not adequately reflect the role of Wirral Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) after the introduction of the Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA) in 2010, nor do they provide a mechanism for appropriate scrutiny of Wirral's flood and coastal erosion risk management functions.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The FWMA aims to improve both flood and coastal erosion risk management and the way in which water resources are managed. It creates clear roles and responsibilities through defining flood Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) and instils a risk-based approach to flood and water management. There is a lead role for local authorities in managing local flood risks and a strategic overview role of all flood and coastal erosion risks for the Environment Agency.
- 3.2 The FWMA places a 'duty to cooperate' on the flood risk management authorities in the exercise of their functions and this is delivered by working in partnership. In Wirral, the RMAs are; the Environment Agency, Wirral Council as LLFA and the local Highway Authority, and Water & Sewerage Undertakers (United Utilities and Welsh Water).
- 3.3 The FWMA does not stipulate the form any partnership working should take, nor the governance and scrutiny arrangements necessary to oversee compliance with the FWMA. However Wirral's Flood and Water Management Partnership, through its revised draft Terms of Reference, seeks to set out and formalise governance and scrutiny arrangements.

### **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 This report seeks approval for the revised draft Terms of Reference which sets out the partners of the WF&WMP including the appointment of three cross party representatives from the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

## **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 The existing Terms of Reference for the WF&WMP are outdated. Failure to approve the revised draft Terms of Reference will miss an opportunity to establish formal governance and scrutiny arrangements for Wirral's flood and coastal erosion risk management functions.

## **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 None required.

## **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no equalities implications associated with this report.

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## **APPENDICES**

Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership Draft Terms of Reference August 2018

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

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

| <b>Council Meeting</b>  | <b>Date</b>         |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee –<br/>Agenda Item 8<br/>Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management:<br/>Governance and Reporting Arrangements</b> | <b>18 July 2016</b> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

**REPORT SUMMARY**

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

[Starting on a separate page]

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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

**2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

**3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

**7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

**8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

**9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

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**APPENDICES**

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

| <b>Council Meeting</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|------------------------|-------------|
|                        |             |

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# WIRRAL FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

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### 1. Introduction

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010, hereafter 'the Act', aims to improve both flood and coastal erosion risk management and the way in which water resources are managed. It creates clearer roles and responsibilities through defining flood 'risk management authorities' (RMAs) and instils a risk-based approach to flood and water management. There is a lead role for local authorities in managing local flood risks (flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses) and a strategic overview role of all flood and coastal erosion risks for the Environment Agency.

The Act places a 'duty to cooperate' on the flood risk management authorities in the exercise of their functions. The way in which we deliver this is through working in partnership. In Wirral, the RMAs are; the Environment Agency, Highway Authority and Water & Sewerage Undertakers (United Utilities and Welsh Water).

Whilst no longer a requirement of The Act, best practice would require local authorities to ensure that adequate scrutiny arrangements are put in place. This includes arrangements to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.

The Act does not stipulate the form that these partnership arrangements should take; it is in this capacity that these Terms of Reference seek to formalise the role and responsibilities of the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership Group. They also set out how this Group operates in relation to the wider Merseyside Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Partnership and the North West Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC).

# WIRRAL FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

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### 1. Purpose of the Wirral Flood and Water Management Partnership

The main purpose of the partnership is to achieve through joint working an effective management of flooding and coastal erosion incidents on Wirral; to take such collective measures in order to minimise the potential impact of such incidents; and to seek the implementation of more permanent and sustainable solutions to the mitigation or alleviation of flooding and coastal erosion. The partnership will also establish a formal link with Wirral Council's Overview & Scrutiny function, to provide appropriate governance and elected member oversight of local flood and coastal erosion risk management activities.

### 2. Objectives

- 2.1 This partnership has been developed to enable the delivery of Wirral's roles and responsibilities set out in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.
- 2.2 The Partnership will strive to ensure that effective flood and coastal erosion risk management and resilience is built into service delivery in a manner which delivers better protection from flood risk for the businesses, communities and key infrastructure of Wirral.
- 2.3 The Partnership will provide a single voice on flood and coastal erosion risk management activities in Wirral; providing the key point of contact for local authority scrutiny; and providing strategic oversight of all flood and coastal erosion risk and drainage matters in the Borough.
- 2.4 The Partnership will provide the forum for the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee to review and scrutinise flood and water risk management arrangements on Wirral.

### 3. Wirral Flood and Water Management Partners

The principal partners of the Partnership are:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Wirral Council | Chairperson, Interim Director - Highways & Streetscene   |
| Wirral Council | Cross Party Working Group Representatives from the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee x 3, Appointments to be made by Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.<br>(Conservative Group)<br>(Labour Group)<br>(Lib Dem Group) |
| Wirral Council | Cabinet Member for Environment   |
| Wirral Council | Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)  |
| Wirral Council | Highway Authority  |
| Wirral Council | Coast Protection   |
| Wirral Council | Development Control  |
| Wirral Council | Forward Planning   |

Wirral Council      Building Control  
Wirral Council      Emergency Planning  
Wirral Council      PR, Marketing & Community Engagement  
Wirral Council      Climate Change Officer  
Wirral Council      Legal Services  
United Utilities  
Welsh Water  
Environment Agency  
Merseyside Flood Risk Coordinator  
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service  
Merseyside Police  
Merseytravel  
Wirral NHS

The Partnership will allow for representation of other agencies, organisations and community and third sector representatives on an 'as and when' basis.

#### **4. Aims of the Partnership**

- 4.1 Funding and skills – to identify new funding opportunities, more cost effective methods of joint working and ensure the core skills, competencies and resources are safeguarded.
- 4.2 Cooperation – to share data, skills and best practice throughout Wirral to ensure that flood and coastal erosion risk management delivery is feasible, proportionate and sustainable.
- 4.3 Lobbying – to provide a unified voice for flood and coastal erosion risk and drainage matters on national and regional policy and funding matters.
- 4.4 Awareness – to ensure that the general public is aware of the flood risk responsibilities and that partner organisations are familiar with their respective roles, responsibilities and duties and that work programmes are aligned accordingly.
- 4.5 Oversight – to receive reports on and provide strategic input and direction to the development of plans, policies and programmes of work developed to manage flood and coastal erosion risk across the Borough.
- 4.6 Conflict Resolution – addressing specific issues affecting delivery or collaborative working as they arise.
- 4.7 Reporting – to report flood and coastal erosion risk management activity and programmes to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Reports should be made publicly available subject to the usual exemption rules, ensuring public accountability and transparency.
- 4.8 Overview & Scrutiny – to be held to account by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Cross party membership of the partnership provides elected members the opportunity to ask questions about decisions concerning the management of local flood risk.

- 4.9 Delivery – to establish suitable working groups to deliver flood and coastal erosion risk management measures and provide advice to Local Planning Authorities, developers and other bodies as needed.
- 4.10 Communication – to promote activities and engage with the communities of Wirral on flood and coastal erosion risk issues, including the responsibilities of landowners and tenants in flood and coastal erosion risk management.

## **5. Organisation of Meetings**

- 5.1 The meeting will be chaired and administered by Wirral Council as the LLFA.
- 5.2 Meetings will be held twice a year to best fit with reporting and budget cycles
- 5.3 The Operational Flood Group will continue to meet to discuss operational issues and to deliver actions or recommendations from previous flooding events. The LLFA chair of the Operational Flood Group will provide a status report to each meeting of the Partnership.
- 

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## Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Thursday, 20 September 2018

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>REPORT TITLE:</b> | <b>2018/19 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance</b> |
| <b>REPORT OF:</b>    | <b>Strategic Commissioner for Environment</b>    |

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the 2018/19 Quarter 1 (April - June 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 1 and available data in relation to a range of outcome indicators and supporting measures.

### Quarter One Wirral Plan Performance Summary

- 128 events were held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces in quarter 1 (April to June 2018) which is an improvement on the 103 events held for the same period last year.
- Wirral has now received 30 national quality awards for Wirral's parks, coastal sites and open spaces, 1 more than the previous year and 8 more than the start of the Wirral Plan.
- There has been a reduction in admission episodes for alcohol related conditions in the latest data release (2016-17) at 889 compared 901 in the previous year. Work is underway delivering Wirral's Alcohol Strategy to continue to reduce alcohol consumption to improve public health outcomes.
- After a period with a substantial reduction of people smoking across Wirral, smoking prevalence has increased slightly from 15.7% 2015 to 15.9% in the latest (2017) Annual Population Survey. Although smoking prevalence across Wirral has improved significantly since the start of the plan we still have areas of the borough with smoking rates above 30%, it is these areas that activity is focused on. The Smoke Free Wirral Strategy sets out an action plan for the borough to tackle smoking prevalence including the local stop smoking service provider direct working with GPs and practice nurses to improve referral pathways for their services.
- National results show that excess weight in Adults has worsened from 59.6% in 2015-16 to 63.3% in 2016-17. Wirral is in line with the rest of the North West and slightly above the National average. Work continues to address this

and the number of people helped to lose weight increased by 79 in Quarter 1 this year compared to the same period last year (604 compared to 525).

- In Quarter 1 955 empty properties have been brought back into use which is performing on target and we envisaged that the pledge target of 1,250 empty properties brought back into use by 2020 will be met.
- The new Homeless Reduction Act has led to additional duties and actions required of the local authority. Due to new demands, staff levels are being increased to work on further service options to increase prevention and 246 preventions have been delivered in Quarter 1.
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported to the police in the first quarter of 2018-19 are 22% less than the same quarter of 2017-18 (2,466). During this quarter there have been a number of successful targeted initiatives and campaigns working with residents and finding informal and formal resolution with all powers available.
- The total number of crimes within Wirral during the first quarter of 2018-19 is 21% more than the same quarter last year (5,550). However when benchmarked against similar areas, Wirral is ranked favourably at 3rd as other areas have also seen an increase in crimes. Nationally Police recorded crime data has changed over time, with improvements in recording practices increasing the number of recorded crimes.
- The rate of re-offending shows a reduction of 9.9% when compared to July 2014 -June 2015 rate of 49.6%. Wirral's Youth Offending Service (YOS) is the only Merseyside YOS to reduce the re-offending rate in this period.
- Local Environmental Quality in key gateway and shopping areas continues to exceed the target score of 93.3% albeit with a slight decrease in performance on the previous quarter.
- There has been a decrease in the number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued for both litter and dog fouling offences. There is indicative evidence to suggest that a degree of behavioural change has been engendered amongst the public and that the enforcement programme, coupled with the publicity and intensive communications is having the desired effect.
- For recycling, there has been an increase in both the number of garden waste subscriptions and the kerbside (green and grey bin) recycling rate for the ten lowest performing rounds

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

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/S**

- 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 2018/19 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. 2017/18 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: <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 2018-19 Quarter 1 Pledge Reports

### **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>     |
| <b>Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b> | <b>5 July 2018</b>       |

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# Appendix 1

## Wirral Plan Environment Theme 2018-19 Quarter 1 Reports

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## Leisure and cultural opportunities for all

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

#### Leisure Strategy

The number of events held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces continues to increase with 128 events already held in quarter 1 this year. This is an increase of 25 from the 103 events held during the same period last year. Wirral's parks, coastal sites and open spaces now have 30 national quality awards, 1 more than the start of the year and 8 more than the start of the plan. We were awarded two new Green Flag awards this year in Meols Parade Gardens and Walker Park in Prenton however Meols Park was not renewed.

This quarter Wirral gained the ICCM Charter Assessment's Gold Award (for Wirral's Cemetery & Crematorium Service) for Cremations along with the ICCM Charter Assessment's Silver Award (for Wirral's Cemetery & Crematorium Service) for Burials. We also retained the Country Park Accreditation for Wirral Country Park (A three year accreditation) and Birkenhead Park retained its Green Heritage Site Award for the 11th year running. The application for World Heritage Site status for Birkenhead Park continues to progress with World Heritage Status Project Manager and Project Officer interviews taking place in July.

8 of 12 interactive measured mile walking routes have been created to promote parks, coast and countryside sites and encourage active recreation from local residents. The walks can be found on our website: <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/leisure-parks-and-events/parks-and-open-spaces/walking-miles-wirral>.

A Communications Plan has been agreed with Cabinet lead for Leisure. The plan includes parks & Open Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, promoting Wirral's leisure offer and volunteering programmes.

5 practices have committed to co-design a pilot that will increase participation in physical activity. The first stage will focus on activity mapping and invite the practices to test the Best You app (a health and wellbeing app that tracks a person's journey to achieving their goals) <https://best-you.org/>.

Funding was obtained for the Fit 'n Fed award in Q1. The award will provide 120 young people per day in Birkenhead and Seacombe with two nutritious meals per day. The programme will run for 20 days, 4 hours per day and delivery will take place in Q2. Also there are great hopes of continuing a pilot programme using sport as an intervention for young offenders or young people at risk of offending through the Streetgames partnership, however the it's currently at risk due to uncertainty surrounding funding.

Works to improve accessibility and increase participation at West Kirby Marine Lake started on 11th June 2018. The works are likely to be completed in the New Year. The refurbishment of the Fitness Suite at the Tennis Centre and the refurbishment of the reception areas at West Kirby Concourse and Guinea Gap have been approved and design work with our development partners has now started. The Invigor8 product and associated membership scheme is also being reviewed, with a view to attracting more customers and more income.

#### Culture Strategy

I am pleased to report significant progress in the first quarter of the 2018-19 Performance Report. Our Imagine Wirral programme got off to a fantastic start in May with a host of free family-friendly events in New Brighton and Hamilton Square to celebrate the Tall Ships' return to the Mersey. Events in New Brighton attracted 100,000 visitors over the late May Bank Holiday weekend and Hamilton Square hosted a huge crowd for the spectacular projection onto Birkenhead Town Hall which showcased Wirral's history and heritage and looked to a future of regeneration for Birkenhead. The events, which were made possible through Arts Council England funding, received such positive feedback and this really demonstrated what can be achieved as a Council working in partnership with local people, businesses and partners. These events also enabled us to pilot a volunteer scheme, the learnings of which will be used to inform a wider programme which will look to involve more residents to support events across Wirral. A full evaluation of the Tall Ships events is currently underway to assess the feedback we received and also the economic impact to the area.

In June, we were thrilled to announce that the Giants will be visiting Wirral for the first time when they return to Liverpool in October for their third and final outing. This event will open up a variety of opportunities to engage local schools and communities as well as attracting thousands of visitors to New Brighton. We look forward to sharing more information in the coming weeks and months.

We have been looking at new approaches to securing external funding for arts and culture in Wirral and recently hosted a visit from Arts Council England's Chief Executive, Darren Henley and Director North, Jane Beardsworth. Following his visit, Darren commented that it was "very exciting to hear the plans for placing art and culture at the heart of regeneration in Wirral". We are continuing to develop our relationship with the Arts Council, other funders and potential sponsors.

Most recently, we have secured Arts Council funding to run a creative project across our four central libraries, and as part of a Liverpool City Region joint bid, have also been awarded funding to host 'Lost Castles' in August. Lost Castles is a large-scale project taking place across the six local authority areas with community participation at its heart, so keep an eye on [www.imaginewirral.com](http://www.imaginewirral.com) for more information on how you can get involved.

At a Liverpool City Region level, the Culture Team continues to work with a range of key stakeholders to support the delivery of the LCR Culture and Creativity Strategy, along with the development of LCR Cultural Awards and the Borough of Culture programme.

| Wirral Plan Indicator  | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start | Benchmark Data  | Year End 2017-18   | 2018-19 Q1          | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Increase the number of people who regularly use the boroughs parks and open spaces | Annual<br>Higher is better    | 67%<br>(Oct 2015) |   | 66%<br>(Dec 2017)  |                     |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 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<br>Higher is better | 300<br>(2014-15)  |   | 363<br>(2017-18)   | 128<br>(Q1 2018-19) |            |            |            |                  | Better          | 128 events were held in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces in quarter 1 (April to June 2018) which is an improvement on the 103 events held for the same period last year.   |
| Percentage of physically active adults   | Annual<br>Higher is better    | (2014-15)         | England: 66.0%<br>(2016-17)<br>North West: 65.1%<br>(2016-17) | 67.5%<br>(2016-17) |                     |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 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 2017-18         | 2018-19 Q1 | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Increase the number of national quality awards for Wirral's parks, coastal sites and open spaces: Green Flags | Annual<br>Higher is better | 22<br>(2015-16)    |   | 29<br>(2017-18)          |            |            |            |            | 30<br>(2018-19)  | Better          | Wirral has now received 30 national quality awards, 1 more than the previous year and 8 more than the start of the plan.  |
| Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise / health reasons  | Annual<br>Higher is better | 20.7%<br>(2013-14) | England: 17.9%<br>(Mar 15-Feb 16)<br>North West: 17.5%<br>(Mar 15-Feb 16) | 23.4%<br>(Mar 15-Feb 16) |            |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 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.<br><br>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<br>Higher is better | 26%<br>(Oct 2015)  |   | 24%<br>(Dec 2017)        |            |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 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

After a very encouraging period where the smoking prevalence in adults in Wirral reduced from 17.2% to 15.7% the trajectory seems to have levelled off with the latest public health figures showing a slight increase from 15.7% to 15.9%. We continue to outperform the North West (16.1%) and are working hard to close the gap on the national average of 14.9%.

Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has signed up the NHS Smokefree pledge and Wirral Council will host a Cheshire & Merseyside Smoking in Pregnancy workshop in October. CCGs; Local Authority Tobacco Leads; Maternity services and Stop Smoking Services will be invited to attend.

Admission episodes for alcohol related conditions has decreased to 889 (2016-17) from 901(2015-16). The Reducing the Strength scheme has now engaged over 90 businesses and is well on track to achieve its target of 30% of Wirral Alcohol Off sales businesses signed up by 2020. Analysis by the Frequent Attenders Group of the Alcohol cohort that they have been focused on also indicates a substantial reduction (more than 50%) in their re-presentations to A&E. This group is continuing to meet and refine its practice.

Excess weight in Adults has worsened from 59.6% in 2015-16 to 63.3% in 2016-17. Wirral is in line with the rest of the North West and slightly above the National average.

Work continues to address this and the number of people helped to lose weight through commissioned services increased by 79 in quarter 1 this year to 604 in total compared with 525 in the same period last year. We're also visiting Halton Council has been planned to learn about their whole system's approach to obesity and the Council is working with Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group to jointly review the current Tier 2 and Tier 3 weight management services.

53 people were trained on 'new substances, new trends, new issues' during two training sessions delivered for professionals working with young. The sessions aimed to increase knowledge locally, not just around new substances that young people are taking, but also the ease with which substances are now available via the internet and snapchat etc. Training has also been delivered in 3 secondary schools for staff on current substance misuse trends and a presentation was delivered to the Wirral Association Secondary Headteachers group to highlight what training is available locally, including an offer to deliver sessions directly with parents.

| Wirral Plan Indicator                                    | Indicator                 | Wirral Plan Start  | Benchmark Data  | Year End 2017-18   | 2018-19 Q1 | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2016-19   | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| Admission episodes for alcohol related conditions        | Annual<br>Lower is better | 853.0<br>(2013-14) | England: 636.0<br>(2016-17)<br>North West: 719.0<br>(2016-17) | 901.0<br>(2015-16) |            |            |            |            | 889.0<br>(2016-17) | Better          | There is a 12 month time lag on validated data being released. This data from the Public Health Outcomes Framework relates to 2016-17.<br><br>Performance has improved from the previous reporting period (2015-16). Wirral's Alcohol Strategy sets out an action plan for continuing to reduce alcohol consumption to improve public health outcomes.  |
| Smoking prevalence in adults (age 18 and over) in Wirral | Annual<br>Lower is better | 17.2%<br>(2014)    | England: 14.9% (2017)<br>North West: 16.1%<br>(2017)          | 15.7%<br>(2016)    |            |            |            |            | 15.9%<br>(2017)    | Worse           | After a period with a substantial reduction of people smoking across Wirral, smoking prevalence has increased slightly from 15.7% 2015 to 15.9% in the latest (2017) Public Health Outcomes Framework Annual Population Survey.<br><br>Smoking prevalence across Wirral has improved significantly since the start of the plan however 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.<br><br>There is a time lag on this data and the latest data available is for 2017. 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<br>Lower is better | 66.2%<br>(2012-14) | England: 61.3%<br>(2016-17)<br>North West: 63.3%<br>(2016-17) | 59.6%<br>(2015-16) |            |            |            |            | 63.3%<br>(2016-17) | Worse           | Excess weight in Adults has worsened from 59.6% in 2015-16 to 63.3% in 2016-17. Wirral is in line with the rest of the North West and slightly above the National average.  |

| Supporting Measure   | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start  | Benchmark Data  | Year End 2017-18   | 2018-19 Q1          | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment  |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Smoking status at time of delivery                         | Annual<br>Lower is better     | 13.9%<br>(2014-15) | England: 10.7% (2016-17)<br>North of England: 13.4% (2016-17) | 12.0%<br>(2016-17) |                     |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 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.<br><br>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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 3,063<br>(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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 1,502<br>(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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 50<br>(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 people helped to lose weight                     | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 1,971<br>(2017-18) | 604<br>(Q1 2018-19) |            |            |            |                  | Better          | The number of people helped to lose weight increased by 79 in quarter 1 this year compared to the same period last year (604 compared to 525).<br><br>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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 7.5%<br>(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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 54.4%<br>(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<br>Higher is better | (n/a)              |   | 43.2%<br>(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

We have made good progress to deliver the actions set out in this pledge; making it easier to volunteer and in ways which work for a range of people. To build on this progress I was proud to launch Wirral Together to an audience of community organisers, support agencies and small businesses at New Brighton's Floral Pavilion on Wednesday 11 July. The launch signifies the beginning of developing new ways to work with local people. Every day, all across the borough, people living in communities work tirelessly to improve their local areas; through residents associations, tenants groups, neighbourhood forums and more informal groups of volunteers. Wirral Together is about celebrating, championing and mobilising these people to improve Wirral for us all. In response local services will need to make sure that they are more responsive to local issues and that they're open to new solutions and that's why I'm proud that organisations across Wirral are working collectively to develop Wirral Together around four priorities; our environment, our economy, our children and families and our health and wellbeing. Starting this summer there will be a series of events and activities to talk with local communities about Wirral Together; what it is and how residents can get involved and I would encourage communities to come and let us know how we can work together to make Wirral a better place to live.

The first quarter of this year has seen the work continuing with volunteers with a number of environmental projects undertaken. I am delighted to see Volunteering scheme across Wirral begin to flourish. Following the development of the group volunteering booklet, 2 groups of staff from Crown Commercial Service and the Crown Prosecution Service are scheduled to support Port Sunlight River Park. 32 students from St John Plessington school joined The New Brighteners for a beach clean-up, where they also engaged in a workshop from RNLI. Between April and June 2018 sixty organisations have had access to opportunities to meet Funders, or improve their fundraising skills. 294 organisations subscribed to Community Action Wirral's bulletin, and social media streams, this has allowed them access to new information regarding funding opportunities. In Quarter 1 there were 4 successful funding applications which secured over £14,000 of external funding. Wirral Together will support delivery of the commitments in this pledge and further develop opportunities for people to get involved in their local community.

| Wirral Plan Indicator  | Indicator                  | Wirral Plan Start | Benchmark Data | Year End 2017-18  | 2018-19 Q1 | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Increase the number of residents who say they regularly volunteer / support community groups in Wirral | Annual<br>Higher is better | 26%<br>(Nov 2015) |                | 24%<br>(Dec 2017) |            |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Latest data is from the 2017 Wirral Residents Survey. |

## Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

Progress has been made regarding key priorities during quarter one of 2018/19 and the detailed actions which support them. An overview of these key priorities is provided below.

#### Building more homes in Wirral to meet our economic growth ambitions

The majority of the outstanding actions supporting this priority remain green. These include:

- The Local Development Scheme which sits under the Core Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2018 and a report is going to Cabinet on 23rd July 2018 which sets out the results of the review of development options.
- 25 affordable homes were completed during the first quarter and a further scheme started on site. A further 163 units of affordable housing are forecast to be completed during this financial year. There will also be an additional number of Help to Buy units which are also classed as affordable housing units that can be added to the year-end figure.

One key action (Deliver the Housing Infrastructure Fund 'Wirral Water' Programme) under this priority is reported as red. Whilst Wirral Council has provided all information required by Homes England and MHCLG, there has been a delay in receiving and agreeing final funding agreements.

#### Improving the quality of Wirral's housing offer for our residents

The majority of the outstanding actions under this priority are identified as green and are making good progress. Examples of those in progress include:

- To assist with the reduction of fuel poverty and increase disposal income for vulnerable households, the 12th Merseyside Collective Energy switch was launched during quarter one, and the results will be reported in the quarter two report.
- A Public Relations campaign and action plan has been developed to raise awareness of the new Housing of Multiple Occupation mandatory licensing in the borough under the new Government regulations which is ongoing.
- The Selective Licensing consultation report is currently being finalised and scheduled for Cabinet meeting on 1st October 2018. This will then be reported to full Council on 15th October 2018 for the scheme to be designated.

One action (Identifying opportunities to design and plan the introduction of 'assisted' technology to improve wellbeing and safety and promote independence) has been identified as amber. Action is however being taken to drive forward this work and this includes the recruitment of a project manager with specific responsibility for assistive technology.

#### Meeting the needs of our most vulnerable people to enable them to live independently

The majority of the outstanding actions under this priority are identified as green and are making good progress. Examples of those in progress include:

- The draft specification for the Homelessness Review is on circulation for comments, and a procurement timetable is in the process of being agreed.
- Phase four of the commissioning for new service for homelessness and socially excluded groups is currently out to tender, and phase five is anticipated to be concluded by the end of December 2018.

One action (work with Registered Providers and private companies to deliver 300 additional Extra Care homes) has been identified as amber because of a range of issues, most significantly the delay to progressing schemes whilst the outcome of the government consultation has taken place on the future of funding for supported housing. Action is being taken to bring schemes forward as much as possible.

| Wirral Plan Indicator                      | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start | Benchmark Data | Year End 2017-18           | 2018-19 Q1   | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| 3,500 homes will be built by 2020          | Annual<br>Higher is better    | (n/a)             |                | 1,752 (P)<br>(2015-18)     |  |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | 25 units of affordable housing were completed in Quarter 1 by housing associations, with a further 163 units due to complete Quarters 2-4. The number of Help to Buy units for Quarter1 has yet to be finalised and reported. |
| Improve 250 private sector properties      | Annual<br>Higher is better    | (n/a)             |                | 1,535<br>(2016-18)         |  |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | This is an annual indicator which will report at year-end.  |
| Bring 1,250 empty properties back into use | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)             |                | 887<br>(Dec 2015-Mar 2018) | Green<br>Actual: 955 (P)<br>Target: 932<br>(Dec 2015-Jun 2018) |            |            |            |                  | Same            | Overall performing on target and we envisaged that the pledge target of 1,250 empty properties brought back into use by 2020 will be met.   |

| Supporting Measure  | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start   | Benchmark Data | Year End 2017-18           | 2018-19 Q1            | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Complete compliance inspections for all homes requiring a license                                     | Annual<br>Higher is better    | (n/a)               |                | 678<br>(2017-18)           |                       |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | This is an annual indicator which will report at year-end.  |
| An increase in the percentage of people over 50 living in appropriate housing, that meets their needs | Annual<br>Higher is better    | 52.3%<br>(Oct 2015) |                | 52.3%<br>(Dec 2017)        |                       |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | This is an annual indicator which will report at year-end.  |
| Number of home adaptations completed  | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | 2,257<br>(2014-15)  |                | 2,597<br>(2017-18)         | 642<br>(Apr-Jun 2018) |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Performance for this quarter has been increased for major adaptations and decreased for minor adaptations.  |
| Reduce homelessness through prevention  | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | 707<br>(2014-15)    |                | 998<br>(Apr 2017-Mar 2018) | 246<br>(Apr-Jun 2018) |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | A new IT system and policy and procedure have been implemented for new Homeless Reduction Act. There have been less preventions in quarter one due to the changes in service delivery and due to extension in the length of time to work with clients doubling. Due to new demands, staff levels are being increased to work on further service options to increase prevention during the initial implementation which is being funded by Government New Burdens Grant Funding in recognition of additional duties and actions required of the local authority. Due to the new Act, trend comparison against previous years data has been removed |

## Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

As the new cabinet portfolio holder for Law and Order I welcome the opportunity to work with partners and our community to support residents to feel safe in their neighbourhoods.

In this quarter it is encouraging to see reports of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) down by 22% from the same period last year and the work being undertaken by multi agency engagement with residents to tackle problem areas. I would encourage all residents to report incidents of ASB when they occur to inform our work priorities and areas to be tackled with ongoing community action days. In April, Merseyside Fire Service held a community action day in Bidston St James Ward with over 164 households involved and was supported by Police, Wirral Council, Involve North Est and magenta Living. We are seeing a 12% reduction in ASB fires on Wirral together with 16% reduction in deliberate vehicle fires.

Youth offending is showing an improvement with both the rate for first time entrants into the youth justice system and youth re-offending lower than last year. It is pleasing to announce that work in this area will be further supported following a successful bid by the Youth Offending Service for a part time Child an Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) worker to be based within the team and additional funding to undertake 'train the trainers' in Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's).

Reports of crime have increased by 21% from last year with more than a third of all crimes in Wirral (38%) now being reported online. Crime reporting standards are updated annually and this must be considered when comparing data.

Merseyside Police Counter Terrorism Prevent 'Train the Trainer' courses have been delivered to a wide range of agencies. The Prevent training course has been developed to prioritise both the initial identification and subsequent safeguarding of vulnerable individuals. It has been identified both in Wirral and across Merseyside that the vast majority of individuals who are referred to Prevent due to being vulnerable to radicalisation, have ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) related issues. Wirral's lead advocates for ASD have provided 30 key staff for Prevent training and a single point of contact for all referrals.

In the next quarter we are looking to continue to build on the success of the Safer Wirral Hub and benefits of multi-agency working. A specialist Child Exploitation team dealing with young people identified through screening at being at risk of Child Exploitation and Criminal Exploitation will be established at the Solar Campus from September as a co-located team. Plans include Childrens Social Care, Catch 22, Early Help, Youth Justice Staff and Merseyside Police to be part of this team potentially growing to other partner agencies.

| Wirral Plan Indicator  | Indicator                    | Wirral Plan Start   | Benchmark Data  | Year End 2017-18              | 2018-19 Q1                | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment  |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Page 80<br>Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) to Merseyside Police                         | Quarterly<br>Lower is better | 11,837<br>(2014-15) |   | 8,617<br>(Apr 2017-Mar 2018)  | 1,920<br>(Apr - Jun 2018) |            |            |            |                  | Better          | Anti social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported to the police in the first quarter of 2018-19 are 22% less than the same quarter of 2017-18 (2,466). During this quarter there have been a number of successful campaigns and we have been engaging with residents through community door knocks to identify the problem properties and finding informal and formal resolution with all powers available. In April, a multi-agency Arson/ASB reduction day was held in/around Norman Street, Birkenhead; We have liaised with highways to erect additional bollards to land off Lansdowne Road/Sumner Road, Birkenhead to prevent cars flying across this piece of land which was causing distress to residents/extremely dangerous. In May an Arson Awareness multi-agency campaign took place in the Birkenhead Park area. The ASB team has been working with Police on an operation providing evidence around drug dealing in Cook Street, Birkenhead. There have been door knocks in highlighted roads suffering ASB such as Serpentine Road and Edith Road, (Seacombe), Belford Road and Millhouse Lane (Moreton). The ASB team also responded to an incident of internal violence and aggression at Beechwood Library with problems with young people. All young people were identified and visited at their homes and parents spoken to with their behaviour now being monitored. Responding to ASB reports and residents' concerns, 120 residents in West Kirby attended a meeting in June. This has resulted in a number of young people receiving various interventions including; home visits, letters home to parents, referral to prevention services. Two are moving forward with legal action for a Criminal Behaviour Order. A joint high visibility operation was held between partner organisations in the Heswall area due to ASB and criminal damage. This resulted in a number of young people being identified with 23 letters home to parents and a couple of young people arrested for offences. A multi-agency action day in Oriel Road, Birkenhead in June responding to on-going drug related ASB and disorder in the road. On the day, 4 warrants were executed on the street. Drugs were located at two of the premises and the occupiers arrested. A quantity of drug related items were located at another property and seized; a large knife, possibly used in the commission of further offences, seized from another. Wirral Anti Social Behaviour Team are now working towards a Closure Order on one of the properties. |
| Proportion of residents who state they feel safe when outside in their local area (daytime)    | Annual<br>Higher is better   | 88%<br>(Oct 2015)   |   | 90%<br>(Dec 2017)             |                           |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Latest data is from the 2017 Wirral Residents Survey.  |
| Proportion of residents who state they feel safe when outside in their local area (After Dark) | Annual<br>Higher is better   | 55%<br>(Oct 2015)   |   | 51%<br>(Dec 2017)             |                           |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Latest data is from the 2017 Wirral Residents Survey.  |
| Number of crimes recorded by the police  | Quarterly<br>Lower is better | 19,061<br>(2014-15) | Ranking within 15 Most Similar Community Safety Partnership Groups:<br>3<br>(May 2017-Apr 2018) | 23,096<br>(Apr 2017-Mar 2018) | 6,709<br>(Apr-Jun 2018)   |            |            |            |                  | Worse           | The total number of crimes within Wirral during the first quarter of 2018-19 is 21% more than the same quarter last year (5,550). However when comparing this with the Home Office family of 15 demographically similar Community Safety Partnership, the most recently published (April 18) ranking for Crime Rate is 3rd, comparing favourably with last year's average ranking. It should be noted that Police recorded crime data has changed over time, with improvements in recording practices, this has had an impact on the number of recorded crimes. Where there is an increase in the number of recorded offences, it is due largely to recording improvements or more victims reporting, rather than a genuine rise in crime. Primarily the case for offences of violence, public order offences, domestic abuse and sexual offences.   |

| Supporting Measure   | Indicator                    | Wirral Plan Start            | Benchmark Data   | Year End 2017-18             | 2018-19 Q1                   | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | 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<br>Lower is better | 380<br>(Apr 2014 - Mar 2015) | Merseyside Youth Offending Teams (Police Crime Commissioner area): 311<br>(Oct 2016-Sep 2017)                          | 157<br>(Oct 2016-Sep 2017)   | 150<br>(Jan-Dec 2017)        |            |            |            |                  | Better          | Latest data is for Jan – Dec 2017. This shows a reduction of 15% when compared to the Jan – Dec 2016 rate of 177. Wirral YOS has the second highest First Time Entrants rate reduction in Merseyside during the above period.  |
| Violence that causes an injury to an individual victim (not including homicide) recorded by the Police                   | Quarterly<br>Lower is better | 1,982<br>(2014-15)           | Ranking within 15 Most Similar Community Safety Partnership Groups: 4<br>(May 2017-Apr 2018)                           | 2,569<br>(Apr 2017-Mar 2018) | 746<br>(Apr-Jun 2018)        |            |            |            |                  | Worse           | The number of violent crimes with injury during the first quarter of 2018-19 is 22% more than the same quarter last year (659). However, when comparing this with the Home Office family of 15 demographically similar Community Safety Partnerships, the most recently published (April 18) ranking is 4th, comparing favourably with last year's average ranking.<br>Violent crime over the first quarter of 2018 (Apr-Jun) is primarily driven by the increase in non-violence crime which has risen by 70%. Approximately half of this is due to an increase in domestic related crime. The analytical assessment is that it is primarily due to a change in recording practices following recommendations in an HMIC inspection in February 2017. This has led to an increase in recording of offences. The rise in Wirral recorded crime is reflected across the force area. |
| Percentage of Youth Re-Offending (age 10-17 years)   | Quarterly<br>Lower is better | 51.4%<br>(Jul 2012-Jun 2013) | England: 41.9%<br>(Jul 2015-Jun 2016)<br>Merseyside YOT (Police Crime Commissioner area): 50.4%<br>(Jul 2015-Jun 2016) | 42.3%<br>(Apr 2015-Mar 2016) | 39.7%<br>(Jul 2015-Jun 2016) |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | The rate of re-offending shows a reduction of 9.9% when compared to July 2014–June 2015 rate of 49.6%. Wirral's Youth Offending Service (YOS) is the only Merseyside YOS to reduce the re-offending rate when comparing the above periods.   |

## Attractive local environment for Wirral residents

### Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

During this first quarter we have set out plans for delivering the actions within our delivery plan for 2018/19. We are now 'mid-term' in the delivery of the Wirral Plan and Attractive Local Environment Pledge, therefore it's important that we start to see signs of behaviour change in terms of the way residents act within their local environment and people taking more responsibility.

We also want to push further on our initiatives to get people involved and active in their neighbourhood and build on the successful launch of the 'Love Where You Live' support to volunteers campaign. We have received very positive feedback from those getting involved (often for the first time) in their neighbourhood and want to provide this opportunity to as many people as possible across Wirral.

During the next quarter we will focus on the following:

- Ratifying and implementing the Single use Plastics Free Wirral Policy
- Commencing the new Environmental Enforcement Contract
- Making a decision on future dog control measures following the public consultation exercise carried out in June and July
- Driving forward with the Waste Management Improvement Plan that focuses on improving recycling performance
- Establish Grot Spot Action Plan

| Wirral Plan Indicator   | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start   | Benchmark Data | Year End 2017-18    | 2018-19 Q1   | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment   |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Maintain local environmental quality (LEQ) via the street cleansing of litter, detritus, graffiti. (Main Gateways and Retail Areas) | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | 97.5%<br>(2014-15)  |                | 98.1%<br>(2017-18)  | Blue<br>Actual: 96.7%<br>Target: 93.3%<br>(Q1 2018-19) |            |            |            |                  | Worse           | The 2018 Q1 Figures continue to show that Local Environmental Quality in key gateway and shopping areas continues to exceed the target score of 93.3% albeit with a slight decrease in performance on the previous quarter. The increase in litter in shopping areas corresponds with a reduction in the number of fixed penalty notices issued for littering offences by the environmental enforcement contractor Kingdom.   |
| Achieve 50% kerbside recycling of domestic waste by 2020.   | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | 36.30%<br>(2014-15) |                | 33.20%<br>(2017-18) |  |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Data is submitted to DEFRA Quarterly, one quarter behind, so Qtr4 data is only confirmed at the end of the 1st quarter in 2018/19. The recycling rate has dropped dramatically this year (from 35.9% in 2017/18). The majority of this decrease is as a result of improvements to the sorting equipment at Bidston, which has resulted in more contamination being removed during the process. Garden Waste composting fell slightly this year due to the decrease in the number of subscribers following the removal of the online discount for subscriptions. |

| Supporting Measure  | Indicator                     | Wirral Plan Start   | Benchmark Data | Year End 2017-18    | 2018-19 Q1              | 2018-19 Q2 | 2018-19 Q3 | 2018-19 Q4 | Year End 2018-19 | Trend (See Key) | Comment  |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (Littering)   | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)               |                | 7,797<br>(2017-18)  | 1,672<br>(Apr-Jun 2018) |            |            |            |                  | Worse           | The number of FPNs issued for littering offences this quarter is 721 less (30%) than the same period last year. The longer term trend of numbers reducing has been contributed to by a number of factors; a significant number of landowners no longer granting permission for officers to enforce on their land, there is also indicative evidence to suggest that a degree of behavioural change has been engendered amongst the public and many of those who would previously have dropped litter are no longer doing so. This is especially the case in relation to cigarette litter. It would therefore appear that the enforcement programme, coupled with the publicity and intensive communications is beginning to have the desired effect. |
| Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (dog fouling)   | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)               |                | 192<br>(2017-18)    | 35<br>(Apr-Jun 2018)    |            |            |            |                  | Worse           | The number of FPNs issued for dog fouling offences this quarter is 12 less (25.5%) than the same period last year. The FPNs that were issued related to hotspot areas targeted specifically from intelligence received from members of the public to try and catch the perpetrators of this crime.   |
| Reduce the overall collected general waste (non-recycling) per household  | Quarterly<br>Lower is better  | 502.15<br>(2014-15) |                | 545.98<br>(2017-18) |                         |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Data is submitted to DEFRA Quarterly, one quarter behind, so Qtr4 data is only confirmed at the end of the 1st quarter in 2018/19. The amount of general (non-recycling) waste has increased quite considerably since last year. This is likely as a result of the improvement in sorting equipment at the facility in Bidston, which has meant that more contamination is removed from the recycling outputs.   |
| Increase level of school recycling  | Annual<br>Higher is better    | 35.00%<br>(2014-15) |                | 48.00%<br>(2017-18) |                         |            |            |            |                  | n/a             | Data available Month after year-end  |
| Increase the number of garden waste subscribers   | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)               |                | 39,565<br>(2017-18) | 36,772<br>(Q1 2018-19)  |            |            |            |                  | Better          | Concentrated communications campaign has been implemented, resulting in an increase of 814 subscribers compared with the same quarter last year.   |
| Using targeted communications, increase kerbside (green and grey bin) recycling rate for the ten lowest performing rounds to at least 25% | Quarterly<br>Higher is better | (n/a)               |                | 21.20%<br>(2017-18) | 20.23%<br>(Q1 2018-19)  |            |            |            |                  | Better          | Data for April and May 2018 – June available soon. Data has been compiled and we are working with colleagues at Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority to analyse the areas using ACORN classification. This information will be used to develop appropriate communication methods and materials to deliver to these areas.  |

Report Key

Trend - Performance is shown as Better, Same or Worse compared with the last reporting period. The exceptions to this are: Increase the number of events in Wirral's parks, beaches and open spaces, 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 back into use, Reduce homelessness through prevention, Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) to Merseyside Police, Number of crimes recorded by the police, First-time entrants to the youth justice system (10-17 year olds, as a rate per 100,000 of the local general population), Achieve 50% kerbside recycling of domestic waste by 2020, Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (Littering), Number of FPN's issued for environmental offences (dog fouling), Reduce the overall collected general waste (non-recycling) per household, Increase the number of garden waste subscribers, and Using targeted communications, increase kerbside (green and grey bin) recycling rate for the ten lowest performing rounds to at least 25%, which all compare to the same period in 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.

Action - These are shown as either:

- Green (on track to deliver on time)
- Amber (off track but action being taken to deliver on time)
- Red (off track and won't deliver on time)

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**Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Thursday, 20 September 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.

## 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:

| Pledge   | Strategies   |
|--|--|
| Leisure and cultural opportunities for all             | Wirral's Leisure Strategy<br>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<br>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.

## **4.0 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS**

### **4.1 Scrutiny Work Programme Planning Session**

At a scrutiny work programme planning meeting for this committee in July, the Chair and Party Spokespersons considered the work programme for the municipal year. It was agreed that the work programme required capacity to be retained to ensure additional work programmes can be added as appropriate throughout the remainder of the municipal year.

The key outcomes from the work programme session are:

- To undertake a Task and Finish scrutiny review on recycling in Wirral; and
- A presentation to be given by Kingdom Environmental Services who is responsible for delivering the Council's environmental enforcement contract at a future committee meeting.

A recommendation was also made by Public Health as part of its annual report to Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 for scrutiny to consider the impact of gambling in Wirral's communities. A further recommendation was made for officers to establish a working group with the Gambling Commission to see how the Council can make best use of its existing powers to minimise harm from gambling. It was agreed that the outcomes of that working group would be considered before any scrutiny activity is undertaken.

### **4.2 Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services**

At the agenda setting meeting it was proposed that Committee would receive an update on the work being carried out on the Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services review as part of the agenda for this committee. However, it was reported that there has been no significant progress for committee to note at this time. Scrutiny of the Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services review will remain on the committee's work programme and further information will be provided to Members when progress has been made.

### **4.3 Risk Awareness Workshop**

A Risk Awareness workshop session for Members has been arranged for Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Although this session is open to all non-executive Members, the main objectives are to raise the profile of risk and to develop Members' understanding of risk and risk management to help strengthen the scrutiny function.

**5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

**6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

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

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

**8.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

**9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

**10.0 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)**

| <b>Council Meeting</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|------------------------|-------------|
|                        |             |

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**AGENDA ITEMS – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

| Item  | Format                | Officer  |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Financial Monitoring Report – 2018/19 Quarter 1   | Report / Presentation | Finance to present report                              |
| Core Strategy Local Plan Progress Update<br><br><i>Standing Item agreed at Special Meeting of the Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017</i> | Verbal update         | David Ball - Assistant Director Environmental Services |
| Kingdom – Performance Update<br><br><i>Standing item agreed at Call-in on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018</i>   | Verbal update         | Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner (Environment)      |
| Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership – Scrutiny Arrangements   | Report                | Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner (Environment)      |
| Recycling in Wirral   | Report / Presentation | Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner (Environment)      |
| 2018/19 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance Report  | Report                | Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner (Environment)      |
| Scrutiny Work Programme Update  | Report                | Report of the Chair of the Committee, Cllr Tony Jones  |

**STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

| Item  | Format                 | Officer / Councillor                                   |
|---|------------------------|--|
| 2018/19 Quarterly Finance Performance Report  | Report / Presentation  | Finance to present report                              |
| 2018/19 Quarterly Wirral Plan Performance Report  | Report                 | Carl Gurnell, Team Leader – Performance & Scrutiny     |
| Core Strategy Local Plan Progress Update<br><br><i>Standing Item agreed at Special Meeting of the Committee on 7<sup>th</sup></i> | Report / Verbal update | David Ball - Assistant Director Environmental Services |

|   |                        |   |
|---|------------------------|---|
| <i>December 2017</i>  |                        |   |
| Kingdom Environmental Services<br><br><i>Standing item agreed at Call-in on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018</i> | Report / Verbal update | Mark Smith – Strategic Commissioner (Environment) |

#### **ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED**

| Item  | Format                          | Approximate timescale | Lead Officer |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 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          |
| Safer Wirral Hub update (progress on phase 2 implementation)              | Committee Report / Presentation | 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   |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Modern Slavery  | Task & Finish Scrutiny Review | To be reported in November 2018 | Mark Camborne | To be reported at November Committee  |
| Recycling in Wirral   | Task & Finish Scrutiny Review | TBC                             | Mark Smith    | Subject to formal agreement by Committee  |
| Libraries (deferred pending outcome of transformation scrutiny) | Task & Finish Scrutiny Review | TBC                             | TBC           |   |
| Impact of Gambling  |                               |                                 |               | Recommendation from Public Health Report (Cabinet 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2018). Further Scrutiny to be considered on |

|  |                         |                              |                  |   |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
|  |                         |                              |                  | completion of Officer/Gambling Commission Working Group work. |
| Transforming Wirral – Libraries, Leisure and Cultural Services, Future Provision of Services | Workshop / Presentation | TBC                          | Andrew Elkington | To be confirmed.  |
| Transforming Wirral – Further business cases   | Workshops               | TBC                          | TBC              |   |
| Budget Scrutiny  | Workshop                | TBC                          | TBC              |   |
| Reality Check Visits   | Site visit              | TBC                          | TBC              |   |
| Risk Awareness Session   | Presentation / Workshop | October 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2018 | Mike Lane        |   |

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