



Council

Town Hall
Wallasey

5 July 2019

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at **6.00 p.m. (or on the rising of the extraordinary meeting, whichever is the later) on Monday, 15 July 2019** in the Council Chamber, within the Town Hall, Wallasey, to take into consideration and determine upon the following subjects:

This meeting will be webcast at
<https://wirral.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Contact Officer: Patrick Sebastian
Tel: 0151 691 8424
e-mail: patricksebastian@wirral.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.wirral.gov.uk>

AGENDA

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Council are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest, in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

2. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive the Civic Mayor's announcements and any apologies for absence.

3. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 38)

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 13 and 14 May, 2019 (Annual Council), and 24 June, 2019 (extraordinary meeting).

4. PETITIONS

To receive petitions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 21.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To deal with questions from members of the public, in accordance with Appendix 1 to Standing Orders – up to 30 minutes.

6. LEADER'S, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' AND CHAIRS REPORTS

To receive questions and answers on the attached reports in accordance with Standing Orders 10(2)(a) and 11.

**A. Cabinet Portfolio Summary Annual Report
(Pages 39 - 62)**

Attached is the Cabinet Portfolio Summary Report with the Annual Report of the 2020 Plan and a report on the Council's priorities for 2019/20.

**B. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19
(Pages 63 - 98)**

The attached report provides a summary of the programmes of work delivered by the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees in 2018/19 with a focus on the impact of scrutiny and the progress made.

7. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

To consider Members' general questions to the Civic Mayor, Executive or Committee Chairs in accordance with Standing Orders 10 (2)(b) and 11.

8. MATTERS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES OR OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEES

To consider and determine any references from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and any other Council Committees.

A. Minutes of Constituency Committees (Pages 99 - 128)

Following the disbanding of the Constituency Committees, Council is requested to receive the minutes of the final meetings as follows:

- Birkenhead Constituency – 28 February 2019
- Wirral South Constituency – 6 March 2019
- Wallasey Constituency – 12 March 2019

- Wirral West Constituency – 14 March 2019

9. VACANCIES

To receive nominations, in accordance with Standing Order 25(6), in respect of any proposed changes in the membership of committees, and to approve nominations for appointments to outside organisations.

OUTSIDE BODIES

Cheshire and Wirral NHS Partnership Trust: Appointed Governor
Councillor Phil Gilchrist's term of office expires on 17 October 2019.

10. MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL OR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

To consider and determine recommendations of the Executive, Overview and Scrutiny Committees or Council Committees which require the approval or consideration of the Council.

A. Recommendation of the Independent Panel on Members Allowances (Pages 129 - 132)

Members Remuneration. With reference to the Independent Panel on Members Allowances (the Panel), 4 June 2019 (Minute 3 refers). The Council be recommended to agree to the following.

That:

- (1) a Special Responsibility Allowance of £1,146 (5% of the SRA paid to the Leader of the Council) be paid to the Leaders of Minority Groups, i.e. Groups having fewer Members than the second largest Opposition Group, comprising of at least three Members;
- (2) no Special Responsibility Allowances be paid to the Deputy Leaders of Minority Groups; and
- (3) the Panel be requested to give further consideration to Special Responsibility Allowances for the Leaders and Deputy Leaders, as part of its periodic review of Members' Allowances, when it meets again on 25 September 2019.

(Report attached)

B. Recommendation of the Employment and Appointments Committee (Pages 133 - 138)

Appointment of Head of Paid Service. With reference to the Employment and Appointments Committee, 12 June 2019 (Minute 3(2) refers). The Council be recommended to agree to the following.

That:

Mr Paul Satoor be appointed to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), to include the appointment as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for a period of twelve months or until such time as a permanent appointment is made.

(Minute attached)

C. Recommendation of Cabinet - Executive Decision Making Process (Pages 139 - 166)

Executive Decision Making Process. With reference to the meeting of Cabinet, 24 June 2019 (Minute 7(2) refers). That Council be recommended to note the amended Leader's Scheme of Delegation and Procedure.

(Report and Minute attached)

11. NOTICES OF MOTION (Pages 167 - 178)

Notices of motion submitted in accordance with Standing Order 7(1), are attached. They are listed in accordance with Standing Order 7(2), and the full text of each motion is attached. The Mayor, having considered each motion, in accordance with Standing Order 7(4) has decided that they will be dealt with as follows:

1. A BETTER OFFER FOR CARE LEAVERS.
2. RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION, RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION.
3. INVESTING TO CHANGE OUR URBAN SCENE.
4. GLYPHOSATE-FREE WIRRAL.
5. VERGES AND POLLINATORS.
6. KEEP FREE TV LICENCES FOR OVER 75S.
7. TV LICENCES.
8. INCONSIDERATE PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS.

9. THE TORIES' NATIONAL HOUSING SHORTAGE, POVERTY INCOMES, UNEMPLOYMENT AND PRIVATE-SECTOR OVERCROWDING.
10. TYRED.
11. CUTTING POLLUTION IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL.
12. BOROUGH OF CULTURE.
13. WIRRAL VIEW.
14. PROTECTING WIRRAL'S HERITAGE SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE.
15. MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES (MFRS).



Director: Governance and Assurance

Audio/Visual Recording of Meetings

Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using non-disruptive methods. For particular meetings we may identify a 'designated area' for you to record from. If you have any questions about this please contact Committee and Civic Services (members of the press please contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chair of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted.

Persons making recordings are requested not to put undue restrictions on the material produced so that it can be reused and edited by all local people and organisations on a non-commercial basis.

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COUNCIL

Monday, 13 May 2019

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Geoffrey Watt) in the Chair
Deputy Civic Mayor (Councillor Tony Smith)

Councillors	T Anderson	K Greaney	C Muspratt
	B Berry	JE Green	Y Nolan
	J Bird	EA Grey	T Norbury
	C Blakeley	P Hackett	C Povall
	A Brame	P Hayes	L Rennie
	H Cameron	S Hayes	J Robinson
	K Cannon	A Hodson	L Rowlands
	C Carubia	K Hodson	C Spriggs
	P Cleary	J Johnson	S Spoor
	W Clements	AER Jones	P Stuart
	M Collins	C Jones	M Sullivan
	C Cooke	S Jones	T Usher
	A Corkhill	T Jones	J Walsh
	T Cottier	M Jordan	S Whittingham
	T Cox	S Kelly	I Williams
	G Davies	B Kenny	KJ Williams
	WJ Davies	A Leech	S Williams
	S Foulkes	I Lewis	J Williamson
	S Frost	M McLaughlin	G Wood
	A Gardner	J McManus	A Wright
	P Gilchrist	D Mitchell	

Apologies Councillor J Stapleton

1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Members of the Council were invited to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any matters to be determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

No such declarations were made.

2 **CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Civic Mayor noted that apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jean Stapleton.

The Civic Mayor thanked all those who had supported him and the Mayoress throughout his year and in particular, those members of staff in the Civic Services office, Sue Carroll, Sonia Norman and Paul Stead and the other officers who acted as driver and attendant, Patrick, Tony, Sam and Bryn. The Civic Mayor also thanked his Cadet, James Scott Myers and made a presentation to him.

The Civic Mayor also referred to some of the highlights of the many and varied engagements he and the Mayoress had undertaken and the charities which money had been raised for.

3 **ELECTION OF CIVIC MAYOR 2019/20**

The Civic Mayor invited nominations for election of the Civic Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

On a motion moved by Councillor Pat Hackett, seconded by Councillor Phil Gilchrist and, in the absence of any other nominations, it was:

Resolved (unanimously) – That Councillor Tony Smith be elected Civic Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral for the 2019/20 municipal year.

Councillor Smith proceeded to make his declaration of acceptance of office and the retiring Civic Mayor, Councillor Watt vacated the Chair. Councillor Smith occupied the Chair.

The new Civic Mayor welcomed his guests and spoke to his election.

4 **DEPUTY CIVIC MAYOR 2019/20**

The Civic Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of a Deputy Civic Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

On a motion moved by Councillor Pat Hackett, seconded by Councillor Ian Lewis, and in the absence of any other nominations, it was:

Resolved (unanimously) – That Councillor George Davies be appointed Deputy Civic Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral for the 2019/20 municipal year.

Councillor Davies proceeded to make his declaration of acceptance of office.

Public Document Pack

COUNCIL

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Tony Smith) in the Chair
Deputy Civic Mayor (Councillor George Davies)

Councillors	T Anderson	JE Green	T Norbury
	B Berry	EA Grey	C Povall
	J Bird	P Hackett	L Rennie
	C Blakeley	P Hayes	J Robinson
	A Brame	S Hayes	L Rowlands
	D Burgess-Joyce	A Hodson	C Spriggs
	H Cameron	K Hodson	S Spoor
	K Cannon	J Johnson	J Stapleton
	C Carubia	AER Jones	P Stuart
	P Cleary	C Jones	M Sullivan
	W Clements	S Jones	T Usher
	M Collins	T Jones	J Walsh
	C Cooke	M Jordan	G Watt
	A Corkhill	S Kelly	S Whittingham
	T Cottier	B Kenny	I Williams
	T Cox	A Leech	KJ Williams
	WJ Davies	I Lewis	S Williams
	S Foulkes	M McLaughlin	J Williamson
	S Frost	J McManus	G Wood
	A Gardner	D Mitchell	A Wright
	P Gilchrist	C Muspratt	
	K Greaney	Y Nolan	

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Members of the Council were invited to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or any other relevant interest in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

Councillor Tony Norbury declared an interest in agenda item 8A 'Appointment, Constitution and Chairs of Committees 2019/20' by virtue of him being a Branch Secretary of a Trades Union connected to licensing.

Councillor Jo Bird, declared an interest in agenda item 8A 'Appointment, Constitution and Chairs of Committees 2019/20' by virtue of her being a member of a Trades Union connected to licensing.

6 **CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Civic Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies from his chaplain Father Lucas Ngwa, who had a prior engagement.

The Civic Mayor thanked the young people from Woodchurch High School drama and music department who had provided entertainment at the part 1 Annual Council meeting the previous evening and also the young people from the Wirral Metropolitan College for the catering.

The Civic Mayor welcomed all ten newly elected Members and the twelve Members re-elected.

Councillor Chris Blakeley then moved the suspension of Standing Order 18(3) and that all voting at this meeting be by show of hands. Having been seconded by Councillor Lesley Rennie, this was put to the vote and it was –

Resolved (unanimously) – That Standing Order 18(3) be suspended and voting at this meeting of the Council be by show of hands.

7 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 18 March 2019 (one extraordinary and one ordinary) had been circulated to Members. On a motion by the Civic Mayor, seconded by Councillor Ian Lewis, it was –

Resolved (unanimously) – That the minutes of the meetings be approved and adopted as a correct record.

8 **PETITIONS**

In accordance with Standing Order 21, the Mayor received a petition submitted by Councillor Tony Norbury on behalf of 277 signatories objecting to a proposed planning application at Prenton Golf Club.

Resolved – That the petition be noted and referred to the appropriate Chief Officer in accordance with Standing Order 34.

9 **ELECTION RESULTS - 2 MAY 2019**

The Chief Executive / Returning Officer presented a summary of the results of the Local Government Elections held on 2 May, 2019.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

10 LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

In accordance with section 9C(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council was invited to elect a Leader of the Executive.

The Civic Mayor referred to a note circulated by the Monitoring Officer explaining the default process for electing a Leader by direct election.

Councillor Phil Gilchrist then moved that the election take place using the method set out in Standing Order 18(6) 'Voting on Appointments'. Having been seconded by Councillor Pat Cleary, it was –

Resolved (65:0) (One abstention) – That the method of election be undertaken as set out in Standing Order 18(6).

It was moved by Councillor Anita Leech and seconded by Councillor Janette Williamson that –

“Councillor Pat Hackett be appointed as Leader of the Council”.

It was then moved by Councillor Jeff Green and seconded by Councillor David Burgess-Joyce that –

“Councillor Ian Lewis be appointed as Leader of the Council”.

At the invitation of the Civic Mayor, Councillor Pat Hackett addressed the Council.

Councillor Ian Lewis was then invited to address the Council.

Prior to the election a number of Members rose to request a 'recorded vote' in accordance with Standing Order 18(4).

A recorded vote was then taken and the Council divided as follows:

Councillor Pat Hackett

(31) Councillors Jo Bird, Kate Cannon, Tony Cottier, George Davies, Steve Foulkes, Samantha Frost, Karl Greaney, Elizabeth Grey, Pat Hackett, Adrian Jones, Chris Jones, Sharon Jones, Tony Jones, Brian Kenny, Anita Leech, Julie McManus, Christina Muspratt, Yvonne Nolan, Tony Norbury, Jean Robinson, Sarah Spoor, Christine Spriggs, Jean Stapleton, Paul Stuart, Tom Usher, Joe Walsh, Stuart Whittingham, Irene Williams, Jerry Williams, Janette Williamson and Gillian Wood.

Councillor Ian Lewis

(25) Councillors Tom Anderson, Bruce Berry, Chris Blakeley, David Burgess-Joyce, Helen Cameron, Wendy Clements, Mike Collins, Tony Cox, Bill Davies, Andrew Gardner, Jeff Green, Paul Hayes, Andrew Hodson, Kathy Hodson, Jenny Johnson, Mary Jordan, Ian Lewis, Moira McLaughlin, Cherry Povall, Lesley Rennie, Les Rowlands, Mike Sullivan, Geoffrey Watt, Steve Williams and Alison Wright.

Not Voting

(10) Allan Brame, Chris Carubia, Pat Cleary, Chris Cooke, Andy Corkhill, Phil Gilchrist, Steve Hayes, Stuart Kelly, Dave Mitchell and Tony Smith.

The Civic Mayor declared that –

Councillor Pat Hackett had been duly elected Leader of the Council.

11 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS - APPOINTMENT OF CABINET AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER

Councillor Pat Hackett, having been elected Leader of the Council, gave an acceptance speech and announced his Cabinet as follows:

Councillor Anita Leech – Deputy Leader of the Council and The Local Plan
Councillor Janette Williamson – Finance and Resources
Councillor Elizabeth Grey – Environment and Climate Change
Councillor Chris Jones – Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Tony Jones – Regeneration and Growth
Councillor Julie McManus – Community Services
Councillor Christine Spriggs – Culture and Tourism
Councillor Tom Usher – Children, Families and Education
Councillor Stuart Whittingham – Housing and Planning

12 MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL OR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

Prior to consideration of the next items of business the Civic Mayor agreed to an adjournment for 10 minutes at 6.45pm. The Council resumed at 6.55pm to consider the following three matters (see minutes 13 to 15 post).

13 APPOINTMENT, CONSTITUTION AND CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES 2019 / 20

The Council was requested to consider the report of the Director of Governance and Assurance on the appointment and constitution of the

Council's committees, including the appointment of Chairs to such committees.

It was then moved by Councillor Pat Hackett and seconded by Councillor Phil Gilchrist, that –

“ (i) That the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee:

(a) be treated as not needing to comply with the Political Balance Regulations; and

(b) be appointed as a ratio of Labour: 3, Conservative: 2, Liberal Democrat: 1, Green: 1 and Independent: 1

(c) Chaired by Cllr Tony Cox

(ii) That Council determines the number of Members and Membership to form the Committees, in accordance with the political proportionality rules and shared with Members, as:

Audit and Risk Management (5:4:1:1(Ind.)) – chaired by Cllr Jeff Green;

Employment and Appointments (5:4:1:1(Ind.)) - chair to be appointed by the Committee;

Licensing, Health & Safety and General Purposes (7:4:2:1:1) – chair to be appointed by the Committee;

Pensions (4:3:1:1(G)) - chaired by Cllr Pat Cleary;

Planning (7:4:2:1(G)) – chaired by Cllr Stuart Kelly;

Overview & Scrutiny: Business (7:5:1:1(Ind)) – chaired by Cllr Dave Mitchell;

Overview & Scrutiny: Environment (7:5:1:1(G)) – chaired by Cllr Chris Blakeley;

Overview & Scrutiny: Adult Social Care (7:5:1:1(Ind)) – chaired by Cllr Moira McLaughlin;

Overview & Scrutiny: Children and Families (7:5:1:1(G)) – chaired by Cllr Wendy Clements;

(iii) That this is subject to the Council charging the:

(a) Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee to conduct a review of the governance arrangements of the Council, with the objective to produce, in September 2019, an interim report on options and preferred outline for further consideration; and

(b) Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee conducting a review of the Council's overview and scrutiny committee arrangements, in consultation with the Committee Chairs and group representatives, to consider the number of committees and their respective terms of reference to report back on suggested steps to improve the arrangement in sufficient time for them to be received and considered

by the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee at its meeting in September.'

The Director of Governance and Assurance, in response to a Member's question clarified that, in accordance with the Constitution, the appointment of Chairs to Committees could be undertaken by a committee at its first meeting, if it had not been done by the Council.

It was agreed that two separate votes would be taken on parts (i) and then on parts (ii) and (iii) of the motion.

A. Resolved (unanimously) –

(1) That the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee:

- (a) be treated as not needing to comply with the Political Balance Regulations; and**
- (b) be appointed as a ratio of Labour: 3, Conservative: 2, Liberal Democrat: 1, Green: 1 and Independent: 1**
- (c) Chaired by Cllr Tony Cox**

B. Resolved (60:2) (Four abstentions) –

(2) That Council determines the number of Members and Membership to form the Committees, in accordance with the political proportionality rules and shared with Members, as:

- Audit and Risk Management (5:4:1:1(Ind.)) –
chaired by Cllr Jeff Green;**
- Employment and Appointments (5:4:1:1(Ind.)) –
chair to be appointed by the Committee;**
- Licensing, Health & Safety and General Purposes (7:4:2:1:1) –
chair to be appointed by the Committee;**
- Pensions (4:3:1:1(G)) - chaired by Cllr Pat Cleary;**
- Planning (7:4:2:1(G)) – chaired by Cllr Stuart Kelly;**
- Overview & Scrutiny: Business (7:5:1:1(Ind)) –
chaired by Cllr Dave Mitchell;**
- Overview & Scrutiny: Environment (7:5:1:1(G)) –
chaired by Cllr Chris Blakeley;**
- Overview & Scrutiny: Adult Social Care (7:5:1:1(Ind)) –
chaired by Cllr Moira McLaughlin;**
- Overview & Scrutiny: Children and Families (7:5:1:1(G)) –
chaired by Cllr Wendy Clements;**

(3) That this is subject to the Council charging the:

- (a) **Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee to conduct a review of the governance arrangements of the Council, with the objective to produce, in September 2019, an interim report on options and preferred outline for further consideration; and**
- (b) **Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee conducting a review of the Council's overview and scrutiny committee arrangements, in consultation with the Committee Chairs and group representatives, to consider the number of committees and their respective terms of reference to report back on suggested steps to improve the arrangement in sufficient time for them to be received and considered by the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee at its meeting in September.**

14 **APPOINTMENT OF PANELS, STATUTORY / ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES; AND MISCELLANEOUS APPOINTMENTS 2019 / 2020**

The Council was requested to consider the report of the Director of Governance and Assurance on appointments to Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels.

It was moved by Councillor Pat Hackett, seconded by Councillor Ian Lewis, and –

Resolved (65:0) (One abstention) – That the numbers be agreed for each appointment to Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels for the 2019/2020 municipal year, including the proportional split where appropriate, and the nominations be submitted by the respective Political Group Leaders to the Director of Governance and Assurance and be as set out in Appendix B to the minutes of this meeting.

15 **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS 2019 / 2020**

The Council was requested to consider the report of the Director of Governance and Assurance on the appointment of Members (and/or other individuals) to Outside Bodies and Organisations.

It was moved by Councillor Pat Cleary, seconded by Councillor Chris Carubia and –

Resolved (64:0) (Two abstentions) - That the numbers be agreed for each appointment of Members (and/or other individuals) to all Outside Bodies for the 2019/2020 municipal year, including the proportional split, where appropriate, and the nominations be submitted by the respective

Political Group Leaders (and Chief Executive in respect of Council Officer nominations) to the Director of Governance and Assurance and be as set out in Appendix C to the minutes of this meeting.

MEMBERSHIP of COMMITTEES 2019/2020

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

**ADULT CARE AND HEALTH
(14 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Kate Cannon Tony Cottier Samantha Frost Sharon Jones Christina Muspratt Yvonne Nolan (S) Tony Norbury</p>	<p>Jo Bird Brian Kenny Jean Robinson Sarah Spoor Joe Walsh Jerry Williams Gillian Wood</p>
<p>5 Conservative:</p> <p>Bruce Berry Paul Hayes Mary Jordan (S) Les Rowlands Alison Wright</p>	<p>Jenny Johnson Andrew Gardner Cherry Povall Wendy Clements Tom Anderson Chris Blakeley Ian Lewis Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Phil Gilchrist (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Moira McLaughlin (Chair)</p>	<p>Bill Davies Mike Sullivan</p>

BUSINESS
(14 Council Members)

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Jo Bird (S) George Davies Steve Foulkes Karl Greaney Jean Stapleton Joe Walsh Jerry Williams</p>	<p>Tony Cottier Samantha Frost Sharon Jones Christina Muspratt Tony Norbury Paul Stuart Irene Williams</p>
<p>5 Conservative:</p> <p>Tony Cox Mike Collins Andrew Gardner Geoffrey Watt Steve Williams (S)</p>	<p>Helen Cameron Alison Wright Tom Anderson Jeff Green Kathy Hodson Chris Blakeley Ian Lewis Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Dave Mitchell (Chair)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Phil Gilchrist Stuart Kelly</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Mike Sullivan (S)</p>	<p>Bill Davies Moira McLaughlin</p>

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
(14 Council Members; 4 co-opted members)

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Kate Cannon (S) Yvonne Nolan Jean Robinson Sarah Spoor Paul Stuart Jerry Williams Gillian Wood</p>	<p>Tony Cottier Samantha Frost Adrian Jones Sharon Jones Tony Norbury Jean Stapleton Irene Williams</p>
<p>5 Conservative:</p> <p>Wendy Clements (Chair) Jenny Johnson Ian Lewis Cherry Povall Alison Wright</p>	<p>Helen Cameron Mike Collins David Burgess-Joyce Paul Hayes Bruce Berry Mary Jordan Chris Blakeley Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Chris Carubia (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Andy Corkhill Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Chris Cooke (S)</p>	<p>Pat Cleary Steve Hayes</p>
<p>Co-opted members:</p> <p>2 Diocesan representatives (with voting rights): Roman Catholic – Ms Julie Johnson Church of England – Mr Chris Penn 2 Parent Governor representatives (with voting rights): Vacancy (until 28 October 2019) Vacancy (until 8 February 2021)</p>	

**ENVIRONMENT
(14 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Tony Cottier George Davies Karl Greaney Brian Kenny Christina Muspratt (S) Sarah Spoor Irene Williams</p>	<p>Jo Bird Steve Foulkes Adrian Jones Sharon Jones Tony Norbury Jean Stapleton Gillian Wood</p>
<p>5 Conservative:</p> <p>Chris Blakeley (Chair) Tom Anderson David Burgess-Joyce Helen Cameron Andrew Hodson</p>	<p>Mike Collins Jenny Johnson Bruce Berry Tony Cox Steve Williams Geoffrey Watt Ian Lewis Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Allan Brame (S)</p>	<p>Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Phil Gilchrist Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Steve Hayes (S)</p>	<p>Pat Cleary Chris Cooke</p>

REGULATORY COMMITTEES**AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(11 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>5 Labour:</p> <p>Kate Cannon Karl Greaney Adrian Jones (S) Stuart Whittingham Gillian Wood</p>	<p>Tony Cottier Elizabeth Grey Sharon Jones Jean Robinson Sarah Spoor</p>
<p>4 Conservative:</p> <p>Jeff Green (Chair) Tom Anderson Andrew Gardner Kathy Hodson</p>	<p>Mike Collins Les Rowlands Geoffrey Watt Cherry Povall Tony Cox Andrew Hodson Mary Jordan Ian Lewis</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Phil Gilchrist (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Mike Sullivan (S)</p>	<p>Bill Davies Moira McLaughlin</p>

**EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
(11 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>5 Labour:</p> <p>Pat Hackett Adrian Jones Chris Jones Anita Leech Janette Williamson</p>	<p>Elizabeth Grey Julie McManus Paul Stuart Tom Usher Stuart Whittingham Gillian Wood</p>
<p>4 Conservative:</p> <p>Mike Collins Jeff Green Jenny Johnson Lesley Rennie (S)</p>	<p>Wendy Clements Andrew Hodson David Burgess-Joyce Paul Hayes Steve Williams Kathy Hodson Chris Blakeley Ian Lewis</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Phil Gilchrist (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Moira McLaughlin (S)</p>	<p>Bill Davies Mike Sullivan</p>

LICENSING ACT 2003 COMMITTEE
(15 Council Members)

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES No provision for deputies
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Tony Cottier George Davies Tony Norbury Jean Stapleton Paul Stuart Jerry Williams Gillian Wood</p>	
<p>4 Conservative:</p> <p>David Burgess-Joyce Mike Collins Andrew Hodson (S) Les Rowlands</p>	
<p>2 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Dave Mitchell (S) Andy Corkhill</p>	
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Chris Cooke (S)</p>	
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Bill Davies (S)</p>	

**LICENSING, HEALTH & SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
(15 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>Tony Cottier George Davies Tony Norbury Jean Stapleton Paul Stuart Jerry Williams Gillian Wood</p>	<p>Jo Bird Karl Greaney Adrian Jones Tony Jones Christina Muspratt Jean Robinson Irene Williams</p>
<p>4 Conservative:</p> <p>David Burgess-Joyce Mike Collins Andrew Hodson (S) Les Rowlands</p>	<p>Ian Lewis Mary Jordan Steve Williams Alison Wright Tom Anderson Kathy Hodson Chris Blakeley Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>2 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Dave Mitchell (S) Andy Corkhill</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Phil Gilchrist Stuart Kelly</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Chris Cooke (S)</p>	<p>Pat Cleary Steve Hayes</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Bill Davies (S)</p>	<p>Moira McLaughlin Mike Sullivan</p>

PENSIONS COMMITTEE
(9 Council Members; 5 co-opted members)

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>4 Labour:</p> <p>George Davies (S) Tony Jones Brian Kenny Stuart Whittingham</p>	<p>Adrian Jones Julie McManus Jean Stapleton Jerry Williams</p>
<p>3 Conservative:</p> <p>Andrew Gardner Cherry Povall Geoffrey Watt (S)</p>	<p>Helen Cameron Tom Anderson Tony Cox Les Rowlands Mike Collins Bruce Berry Alison Wright Jeff Green</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Chris Carubia (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Andy Corkhill Phil Gilchrist Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Pat Cleary (Chair)</p>	<p>Chris Cooke Steve Hayes</p>
<p>5 Co-opted members:</p> <p>The nominees of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liverpool City Council • Knowsley MBC • St Helens MBC • Sefton MBC <p><i>plus</i> Representative of other Pension Fund employers</p>	

**PLANNING COMMITTEE
(14 Council Members)**

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>7 Labour:</p> <p>George Davies Steve Foulkes (S) Samantha Frost Brian Kenny Paul Stuart Stuart Whittingham Irene Williams</p>	<p>Tony Cottier Adrian Jones Sharon Jones Sarah Spoor Jean Stapleton Joe Walsh Gillian Wood</p>
<p>4 Conservative:</p> <p>Bruce Berry Kathy Hodson (S) Ian Lewis Mary Jordan</p>	<p>Andrew Gardner Tony Cox Wendy Clements Geoffrey Watt Paul Hayes Andrew Hodson Chris Blakeley Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>2 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Stuart Kelly (Chair) Andy Corkhill</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Phil Gilchrist Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Steve Hayes (S)</p>	<p>Pat Cleary Chris Cooke</p>

STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
(8 Council Members; 6 Independent Persons)

MEMBERS	DEPUTIES
<p>3 Labour:</p> <p>Paul Stuart Janette Williamson Gillian Wood (S)</p>	<p>Jo Bird George Davies Samantha Frost Chris Jones Sharon Jones Jean Stapleton</p>
<p>2 Conservative:</p> <p>Tony Cox (Chair) Chris Blakeley</p>	<p>Jenny Johnson Paul Hayes David Burgess-Joyce Cherry Povall Mary Jordan Jeff Green Ian Lewis Lesley Rennie</p>
<p>1 Liberal Democrat:</p> <p>Phil Gilchrist (S)</p>	<p>Allan Brame Chris Carubia Andy Corkhill Stuart Kelly Dave Mitchell</p>
<p>1 Green:</p> <p>Chris Cooke (S)</p>	<p>Pat Cleary Steve Hayes</p>
<p>1 Independent:</p> <p>Moira McLaughlin (S)</p>	<p>Bill Davies Mike Sullivan</p>
<p>6 Independent Persons:</p> <p>Professor R S Jones (appointed until 15 July, 2020) Mr C Jones (appointed until 15 July, 2020) Mr G Kerr (appointed until 10 Dec 2021) Mr JR McCosh (appointed until 10 Dec 2021) Mrs A Lloyd-Prince (appointed until 10 Dec 2021) Mr A Wilson (appointed until 10 Dec 2021)</p>	

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STATUTORY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND PANELS – MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019/20

(1) STATUTORY COMMITTEES AND PANELS

(listed under relevant portfolio)

(a) ADULT CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

(i). Discharge from Guardianship by Wirral Council under the Mental Health Act 1983 Panel (1:1:1:1(I))

(Members appointed from membership of the Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Councillor Sharon Jones
Councillor Les Rowlands
Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Councillor Moira McLaughlin

(ii). Health and Wellbeing Board

5 Political Group Leaders – Councillors Pat Hackett, Ian Lewis, Phil Gilchrist, Pat Cleary and Moira McLaughlin plus, as co-optees, the Cabinet Members for Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing and Children, Families and Education, Councillors Chris Jones and Tom Usher.

Group Leaders' nominees as deputies – Councillors Anita Leech, Lesley Rennie, Chris Carubia, Chris Cooke and Mike Sullivan

(b) CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

(i). Education Staff Panel (NO LONGER MEETS)

(ii). School Appeals Panel

Lay Chairs: Mr P Alcock, Mrs A Barker, Mr J Butler, Mr Bob Hodgson, Mrs J Hunter, Mr S Kell, Mr N Orme, Mrs S Reynolds, Mr D Spencer, Mrs J Turner, Mrs H A Wells and Mrs H Welsh

(iii). Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education (SACRE) (3:2:1)

Councillors	George Davies Elizabeth Grey Julie McManus	Deputy – Councillor Tony Jones
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Councillors	Wendy Clements Alison Wright	Deputy – Councillor Paul Hayes
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Councillor	Allan Brame	Deputy – Councillor Dave Mitchell
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(iv). **Wirral Schools Forum (Funding Consultative Group)**

Observers (2:1)

Councillors Kate Cannon, Tom Usher
Councillor Ian Lewis

(c) **FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

(i). **Independent Remuneration Panel** (4 persons who are not members of the Council and who are not disqualified from being a member)

Ray Allan, Nunzia Bertali, Peter Bounds, Pauline Brown

(2) **ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES**

(listed under relevant portfolio)

(a) **CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION**

(i). **Young People's Advisory Group**

(8 Council Members - 3:2:1:1:1)

Councillors	Kate Cannon Jean Stapleton Tom Usher	Deputy – Councillor Jean Robinson
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Councillors	Cherry Povall Tom Anderson	Deputy – Wendy Clements
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Councillor	Chris Carubia	Deputy – Andy Corkhill
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Councillor	Chris Cooke	Deputy – Pat Cleary
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Councillor	Moira McLaughlin	Deputy – Mike Sullivan
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(ii). **Corporate Parenting Board** (2:2:1:1:1)

Councillors Kate Cannon, Tom Usher
Councillors Wendy Clements, Jenny Johnson
Councillor Chris Carubia
Councillor Chris Cooke
Councillor Moira McLaughlin

(iii). **Schools' Joint Consultative Committee**

(7 Council Members - 3:2:2)

Councillors	George Davies Brian Kenny Tom Usher	Deputies – Julie McManus Gillian Wood
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Councillors Les Rowlands Deputy - Councillor Wendy Clements
Cherry Povall

Councillors Dave Mitchell Deputies – Councillors Allan Brame
Chris Carubia Phil Gilchrist

(b) COMMUNITY SERVICES

(i). Birkenhead Park Advisory Committee (2:1:1:1(G))

Councillors George Davies, Jean Stapleton
Councillor Helen Cameron
Councillor Andy Corkhill
Councillor Pat Cleary

(ii). Hilbre Island Nature Reserve Management Committee (2:4:2)

Councillors Christina Muspratt, Jerry Williams
Councillors Tony Cox, Jeff Green, Geoffrey Watt, Alison Wright
Councillors Allan Brame, Andy Corkhill

(c) ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(i). Wirral Climate Change Group (1:1:1:1:1)

Councillor Elizabeth Grey
Councillor Chris Blakeley
Councillor Andy Corkhill
Councillor Steve Hayes
Councillor Mike Sullivan

(d) FINANCE AND RESOURCES

(i). Members' Development Steering Group (1:1:1:1:1)

Councillor Stuart Whittingham
Councillor Chris Blakeley
Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Councillor Chris Cooke
Councillor Moira McLaughlin

(ii). Members' Equipment Steering Group (1:1:1:1:1)

Councillor Stuart Whittingham
Councillor Steve Williams
Councillor Chris Carubia
Councillor Steve Hayes
Councillor Mike Sullivan

(e) LEADER

- (i). Freedom Panel** (To consider nominations in respect of the awarding of the Freedom of the Borough)

5 Political Group Leaders – Councillors Pat Hackett, Ian Lewis, Phil Gilchrist, Pat Cleary and Moira McLaughlin.

Deputy Group Leaders as deputies.

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2019/20
(grouped under portfolio or Committee)

Note: Where ratios are quoted, the first figure refers to the entitlement of the Labour Group, then Conservative, then Liberal Democrat, then Green and/or Independent.

(A) LEADER

(i). Birkenhead Business Improvement District Board

Councillor Jean Stapleton
Alan Evans – Assistant Director for Growth, Regeneration and Place

(ii). Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

Leader of the Council, Councillor Pat Hackett
Councillor Anita Leech (substitute member)

(iii). Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel (2:1:0)

Councillors Jean Stapleton* and Adrian Jones
Councillor Helen Cameron
*Appointed as Authority Scrutiny Link

(iv). Liverpool City Region Boards

Employment and Skills Board Councillor Tony Jones
Housing and Spatial Planning Board Councillor Anita Leech

(v). Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership - Director

Leader of the Council – Councillor Pat Hackett

(vi). Local Government Association: General Assembly (2:1:1)

Councillors Pat Hackett
 Anita Leech
Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Councillor Ian Lewis

(vii). Mersey / Dee Alliance (1:1:1)

Councillor Stuart Whittingham (or nominee)
Councillor Steve Williams (or nominee)
Councillor Andy Corkhill (or nominee)

(viii). North Western Local Authorities Employers' Organisation

Councillor Adrian Jones
(Deputy – Councillor Pat Hackett)

(ix). SIGOMA (LGA Special Interest Group of Metropolitan Authorities)

Leader of the Council, Councillor Pat Hackett, or nominee

Councillor Janette Williamson is the Leader's current nominee, and the other Group Leaders or their nominees have been authorised to attend as observers.
(Councillor Chris Blakeley is an observer.)

(x). Wirral Chamber of Commerce

Alan Evans - Strategic Commissioner: Growth

(xi). Wirral Partnership

Leader of the Council – Councillor Pat Hackett (Chair)

(B) ADULT CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

(i). Cheshire and Wirral NHS Partnership Trust: Appointed Governor

Councillor P N Gilchrist (Appointed for 3 years until 17 October 2019)

(ii). Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust

Councillor Julie McManus (Appointed for 3 years until 27 September 2020)

(iii). Merseyside Society for the Deaf (1:1:0)

Councillor Irene Williams
Councillor Andrew Hodson

(iv). Wirral University Teaching Hospital Foundation Trust - Governors (1:1)

Councillor Irene Williams)
Councillor Mike Collins) Appointed for 3 years until 17 October 2019

(Members appointed to the trust cannot also be members of the Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

(C) CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EDUCATION

(i). Birkenhead Sixth Form College Governing Body

Gillian Wood (4 year appointment until 31 Oct 2019)

(ii). C E Gourley VC Endowment Fund

Councillors Geoffrey Watt
Jenny Johnson

(iii). Lower Bebington School Lands Foundation (1:1:1)

Councillor Christina Muspratt
Councillor Cherry Povall
Councillor Phil Gilchrist

(iv). Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (Not an Approved Duty) (2:2)

Councillors Brian Kenny*
Jean Stapleton
Councillors Bruce Berry
Lesley Rennie

**Nominated for the purposes of Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985*

(v). Merseyside Police and Crime Panel (1:1)

Councillors Gillian Wood
David Burgess-Joyce

(vi). St Bridget's Educational Trust

Mr Gerry Ellis

(vii). West Kirby Residential School

Councillor Andrew Gardner

(viii). Wirral Community Safety Partnership (1:1:1)

Councillors Tom Usher
Cherry Povall
Allan Brame

(ix). Wirral Play Council Executive Committee (1:1:0)

Councillor Cherry Povall
Councillor Karl Greaney

(x). Wirral Play Partnership (Appointments no longer required)

(D) COMMUNITY SERVICES

(i). Charing Cross Play, Youth and Community Centre Joint Management Committee

Councillors Gillian Wood
Jean Stapleton
Yvonne Nolan
Steve Hayes

(ii). Gautby Road Play & Community Centre Joint Management Committee

Councillors Elizabeth Grey
Brian Kenny
Julie McManus

(iii). Leasowe Play, Youth & Community Association Joint Management Committee

Councillors Karl Greaney
Sharon Jones
Anita Leech

(iv). National Parking Adjudication Service Joint Committee

Councillor Julie McManus
(Deputies – Councillors Lesley Rennie and Dave Mitchell)

(v). Tam O'Shanter Cottage Trust (Appointments no longer required – Trust has changed its constitution and now appoints its own trustees)

(vi). West Kirby Charities (the Council is able to nominate up to 8 trustees)

VACANCY	(appointed until 7 September 2021)
Mr Eddie Boulton	(appointed until 16 October 2021)
Mr David Stevenson	(appointed until 30 October 2022)
Ms Nadine Smith	(appointed until 18 October 2020)
VACANCY	(appointed until 26 April 2020)
VACANCY	(appointed until 30 October 2019)
Mrs Victoria Gawith	(appointed until 18 April 2023)
Ms Johanna Wynne	(appointed until 30 January, 2021)

(vii). Wirral Multicultural Organisation (1:1:1 plus a Ward Councillor)

Councillor Brian Kenny
Councillor Mike Collins
Councillor Stuart Kelly
Councillor Pat Cleary (Ward Councillor)

(E) ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(i). Active Travel Forum (1:1:1:1)

Councillor Christina Muspratt
Councillor Mary Jordan
Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Councillor Pat Cleary

(ii). Liverpool Airport Consultative Committee

Councillor Julie McManus

(iii). Local Government Association Coastal Issues Special Interest Group

Councillor Julie McManus
(Cabinet Member for Community Services)

(iv). Manchester Port Health Authority

Councillor Jerry Williams
(Deputy – Stuart Whittingham)

(v). Mersey Port Health Committee (3:2:1)

Councillors	Tony Jones Christina Muspratt Stuart Whittingham	Deputies – Councillors	Jerry Williams Paul Stuart
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Councillors	Steve William Paul Hayes	Deputies – Councillors	Mary Jordan Tom Anderson
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Councillor	Allan Brame	Deputy –	Councillor Chris Carubia
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(vi). Merseyside Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategic Partnership

Councillor Elizabeth Grey (Cabinet Member – Environment and Climate Change)

(vii). Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (1:1:0)

Councillor	Tony Norbury*
Councillor	Steve Williams.

**Nominated for the purposes of Section 41, Local Government Act 1985*

**(viii). Transport Committee of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority
(Not an Approved Duty) (2:1:0:1)**

Councillors	Steve Foulkes*
	Jerry Williams
Councillor	Paul Hayes
Councillor	Pat Cleary

**Nominated for the purposes of Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985*

(F) HOUSING AND PLANNING

(i). Conservation Area Advisory Committees

<u>Conservation Area</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>
Barnston	Mike Collins
Bidston	Julie McManus
Bromborough Pool	Jo Bird
Bromborough Society	Irene Williams
Caldy	Jeff Green
Clifton Park	Jean Stapleton
Eastham	Chris Carubia
Frankby	Wendy Clements
Friends of Birkenhead Park	Jerry Williams
Gayton and Heswall	Kathy Hodson
Hoylake Meols Drive/King's Gap	Andrew Gardner
Lower Bebington	Jerry Williams
Mount Wood	Tony Norbury, Sam Frost
Oxton	Allan Brame
Port Sunlight	Jo Bird
Rock Park	Yvonne Nolan
Saughall Massie	Chris Blakeley
Thornton Hough	Cherry Povall
Thurstaston	Jenny Johnson
Wellington Road, New Brighton	Pat Hackett, Tony Jones, Christine Spriggs
West Kirby Society	Geoffrey Watt

(ii). Leasowe Community Homes (Prima LCH) (Nominee)

Councillor Anita Leech

(iii). Magenta Living: Community Fund Working Group

Councillor Stuart Whittingham (Cabinet Member)
 Lisa Newman (Head of Operational Housing Services)
 Shaer Halewood (Director of Finance and Investment)

(iv). Magenta Living: Governance and Membership Committee

Councillor Stuart Whittingham

(v). North West Housing Consortium / NW Housing Forum

Councillor Stuart Whittingham

**(G) LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE**

(i). North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Councillor Elizabeth Grey

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APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE EXECUTIVE (FOR INFORMATION)

(i). Chrysalis (General Partner) Limited - Director

Councillor Anita Leech

(ii). Maritime and Engineering College North West

Councillor Lesley Rennie
Councillor Jean Stapleton

(iii). Mersey Maritime Ltd

Councillor Tony Jones

(iv). North Birkenhead Development Trust (Director)

Councillor Brian Kenny

(v). Wirral Growth Company LLP

Councillor Tony Jones (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth)
Councillor Anita Leech (Deputy Leader)
Daniel Kirwan (Assistant Director: Finance and Investment)
Paul Boyce (Corporate Director for Children's Services)

(vi). Wirral Holdings Ltd

Councillor Tony Jones (Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth)
Councillor Stuart Whittingham (Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning)

(vii). Edsential Community Interest Company

Simone White, Deputy Director for Children

(viii). Wirral Evolutions Ltd

Ms C Bamber
Mr M Naden (Chair)
Ms L Knight

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COUNCIL

Monday, 24 June 2019

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Tony Smith) in the Chair
Deputy Civic Mayor (Councillor George Davies)

Councillors	G Watt	JE Green	M McLaughlin
	B Berry	EA Grey	J McManus
	C Blakeley	P Hackett	D Mitchell
	D Burgess-Joyce	P Hayes	C Povall
	P Cleary	S Hayes	L Rennie
	W Clements	A Hodson	L Rowlands
	M Collins	K Hodson	C Spriggs
	C Cooke	J Johnson	J Stapleton
	A Corkhill	AER Jones	P Stuart
	T Cottier	C Jones	M Sullivan
	T Cox	S Jones	S Whittingham
	WJ Davies	T Jones	I Williams
	S Foulkes	M Jordan	KJ Williams
	S Frost	S Kelly	S Williams
	A Gardner	B Kenny	J Williamson
	P Gilchrist	A Leech	G Wood
	K Greaney	I Lewis	A Wright

16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Members of the Council were invited to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any matters to be determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

No such declarations were made.

17 CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor noted that apologies had been received from Councillors T Anderson, J Bird, A Brame, K Cannon, H Cameron, C Carubia, C Muspratt, Y Nolan, T Norbury, L Rennie, J Robinson, S Spoor, T Usher and J Walsh.

18 CONFERMENT OF THE TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN / ALDERWOMAN

The Council considered the recommendations from the Licensing and General Purposes Committee held on 22 May 2019 (minute 6 refers) in relation to the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, David Elderton, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Christine Meaden, in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Civic Mayor informed that the purpose of the meeting was purely to progress the business of conferment, and that a Civic Reception was being organised for the new Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman and their families and friends on the 24 July 2019 where the Political Group Leaders would pay tribute to the former Councillors.

The Civic Mayor reported that as set out in the agenda papers, Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 29(4) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009) stated that a principal council, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon, at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose, may confer the title of Honorary Aldermen or Honorary Alderwoman on persons who had, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past Members of that Council.

It was moved by Councillor Pat Hackett and seconded by Councillor Ian Lewis that the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, David Elderton, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Christine Meaden in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. It was,

Resolved (unanimously) - (52:0) (no abstentions) that the title of Honorary Alderman / Alderwoman be conferred on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, David Elderton, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Christine Meaden in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

COUNCIL
15 JULY 2019

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Pat Hackett
CABINET PORTFOLIO	Leader of the Council
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Leader of the Council and all Cabinet Members to Members of the Council on matters relevant to all portfolio areas.

Councillor Pat Hackett, Leader of Wirral Council, said:

“The Wirral Plan was the borough’s first ever shared set of priorities and goals which the Council, the private, public and voluntary sectors committed to own and deliver together.

“It committed us to working together, towards a shared ambition for Wirral. It created the launchpad to joining up services, pooling resources and focussing completely on what is best for the resident, not what is best for our organisation.

“The progress we have made has been outstanding. We are not finished, we still have challenges to overcome but, in almost every area of our work, we have delivered.

“A few results to highlight include:

- More than 4,000 jobs have been protected or created
- Wirral now boasts its highest ever employment rate
- We have helped more than 20,000 people with adult care, just last year
- A quarter of a million people joined us at events in 2018/19
- We have brought more than 1200 empty properties back into use

“I am proud of our performance this year but, more importantly, I am excited for what lies ahead.”

REPORT SUMMARY

This report supports the commitment made in the Wirral 2020 Plan to report back on progress to our residents on the pledges which were made. The Wirral Partnership consists of every major public agency in Wirral, alongside large employers and many community and voluntary organisations who have signed up to jointly deliver the Wirral Plan. The Partnership is now four years into delivering the Wirral 2020 Plan.

The Annual Report for 2018/19 is attached to this report. For future meetings of the Council, the nature and style of the Portfolio Holders’ reports will be reviewed, accounting for feedback received from Members.

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WIRRAL PLAN 2020

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

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FOREWORD

“The progress we have made is outstanding. In almost every area of our work, we have delivered”

The Wirral Plan was the borough’s first ever shared set of priorities and goals which the Council, the private, public and voluntary sectors committed to own and deliver together.

It committed us to working together, towards a shared ambition for Wirral. It created the launchpad to joining up services, pooling resources and focussing completely on what is best for the resident, not what is best for our organisation.

The progress we have made has been outstanding. We are not finished, we still have challenges to overcome but, in almost every area of our work, we have delivered.

A few results which jumped out at me include:

- More than 4,000 jobs have been protected or created
- Wirral now boasts its highest ever employment rate
- We have helped more than 20,000 people with adult care, just last year
- A quarter of a million people joined us at events in 2018/19
- We have brought more than 1200 empty properties back into use

We made a commitment when we first agreed this Plan to report back to Wirral residents – to keep residents informed, and give open, honest appraisals of our progress so we can be held to

account on the promises we made.

This Annual Review does just that.

Through reading this document you will see how every member of the Wirral Partnership has made an impact in improving the lives of residents. The report highlights and celebrates the many achievements of which we are rightly proud, but it does not shy away from those areas where challenges persist and where we still need to improve and focus more attention.

I am proud of our performance this year but, more importantly, I am excited for what lies ahead.

I encourage you to read this document and see for yourself how the Wirral Plan is improving our borough for every resident.



Cllr Pat Hackett

Leader of Wirral Council and
Chair of the Wirral Partnership

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



20,000
PEOPLE SUPPORTED
WITH ADULT SOCIAL CARE



70%
CHILDREN REACHING **GOOD**
LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT



350
PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED
TO FOSTER



74%
HIGHEST EVER
EMPLOYMENT RATE

4045
JOBS CREATED



250,000 VISITORS TO IMAGINE
WIRRAL EVENTS



1252
EMPTY PROPERTIES
BACK IN USE



32
NATIONAL
AWARDS
FOR PARKS



98%
LOCAL
ENVIRONMENT
QUALITY



“Wirral is a place where the vulnerable are safe and protected, every child gets a good start in life and older residents are respected and valued. Ensuring the most vulnerable among us are safe, and feel safe, is perhaps our most important responsibility. We will work across Council and agency boundaries to promptly identify and tackle problems before they develop.”



PEOPLE PLEDGES



20,000

PEOPLE SUPPORTED
WITH ADULT SOCIAL CARE



70%

CHILDREN REACHING GOOD
LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT



350

PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED
TO FOSTER

People want services tailored to meet their individual needs. They expect services which help them in their individual circumstances, and which have an impact in improving their lives.

This is exactly what we are delivering. Every organisation in the Wirral Partnership is working together to improve the lives of children, families and older people in the borough. We are seeing an impact in many areas already.

Older People live well

Older people in Wirral now receive joined up, seamless support from multi-disciplinary social care and health teams. The services are easier for people to access and understand, and more public resource is spent where it matters most – the front line.

Another new development to highlight is the Good Neighbour Scheme, which is designed to reignite community spirit, so people feel valued and safe in their neighbourhoods encouraging them to look out for each other and feel part of a friendly, thriving and vibrant neighbourhood. Our extremely successful 'door knock' scheme has also continued apace. More than 2,000 residents have been spoken to and supported, to help them avoid social isolation and loneliness, and signpost them to the services they need.

Children are ready for school

70% of young children are now reaching a 'good' level of development by age 5: this is the highest ever level in Wirral, higher than the regional average and significantly higher than the start of the Wirral Plan (62%). It is testament to the work of every public agency in the borough, but there is still more to do.

Our focus is on continuing to improve what support parents and young children can receive. We will particularly focus on making sure children from disadvantaged backgrounds access the services available to them, and on making sure as many women as possible access professional maternity services at the right times.

Young People are ready for work and adulthood

We are focussing work now on making sure vulnerable young people, particularly those in care, are given intensive, tailored support to ensure they get the most out of their education. Every looked after child now receives a Personal Education Plan (PEP), and we are working with each child individually to make sure their attendance and school performance is as good as it can be.

Significant work has been undertaken to improve the quality of the PEPs. There has been a relentless focus on ensuring looked after children's education targets are aspirational but realistic. Most recent school Ofsted inspections have commented very favourably on the PEPs. The Virtual Headteacher is consulting with headteachers regarding the most effective use of Pupil Premium Plus funding in improving outcomes for looked after children.

Vulnerable children reach their full potential

This pledge is about making sure vulnerable children and young people are safe, which needs to be assured before children can make best use of services to reach their potential. Numbers of looked after children are now stable and beginning to reduce, after more than two years of intensive improvement work.

Three indicators demonstrating the level of demand for children's social care services number of children looked after, numbers of children in need and numbers of children subject to a child protection plan are all showing that numbers are stable and beginning to reduce. Significant work has been undertaken in the last 12 months to establish a new range of services which are focused on preventing the need for children to require a social care intervention. Ofsted are extremely supportive of the work which is being delivered and at our next full inspection we expect an improved judgement.

Reduce child and Family Poverty

Representatives from every agency in the Wirral Partnership are working together to develop new solutions to support families in need throughout the borough.

There is clear evidence that reducing worklessness and improving the skills and

opportunities for parents and young people is critical in linking economic growth and poverty reduction, and it is in this area where our work will continue to focus.

People with disabilities live independently

More people with disabilities in Wirral are now employed than ever before, which is testament to the work delivered by all agencies involved and particular organisations such as Wirral Metropolitan College, whose supported intern scheme goes from strength to strength.

Over the course of this year, the number of people in receipt of personal budgets – and therefore able to direct and commission their own personal care and support – has more than doubled. Wirral residents also now benefit from an integrated, all age disability service – meaning that disabled people in Wirral can access seamless, joined up care from Wirral Council and NHS bodies.

Zero tolerance to domestic violence

All public services are working together to target this area, with new services in place to rehabilitate offenders, support victims, and help children to understand and come to terms with the effects of domestic abuse. The charity 'Tomorrows Women Wirral' provides a safe environment for women to address their issues to help lead happier, healthier more fulfilled lives.

A newly developed initiative called #GotTheTeeShirt is based on victims gaining support from domestic abuse survivors who have 'been there and come out the other side'. The focus is about the client rediscovering who they were prior to the relationship and helping them move safely back into the community.



CASE STUDY 1 Community Matters Partnership

Wirral Council's Early Help and Prevention Service is working with community organisations to deliver early help to families across Wirral who need it most - forming the 'Community Matters Partnership'.

Community Matters will see a new and innovative way of working, with the main goal of helping families and children get the services they need, when they need them. Seven providers will now work together alongside existing council teams, using a joined-up approach to give families the help they need to improve their daily lives.

Partners on this project include HomeStart, Wired, North Birkenhead Development Trust, WEB Merseyside, Caritas, Fender Community School and Capacity: The Public Services Lab.

This new way of working will make it easier for families to access the services if needed and get straight forward and effective support from one place. The partnership will create a stronger link between council teams and voluntary community groups to deliver effective support.



CASE STUDY 2 Supporting DA Victims

Wirral Council is believed to be the first in the UK to provide up to 10 days' paid special leave, specifically for employees who are victims of domestic abuse. The leave is available to survivors who may need to relocate or access various legal or support services relating to their experience of domestic abuse.

The announcement came as women's groups the world over celebrated International Women's Day and call for gender equality with this year's theme, #BalanceforBetter. It is hoped the new policy will go some way to redressing the imbalance for survivors of abuse.

In the run up to the one year anniversary of the alliance's #ItsNeverOk campaign to end domestic abuse, the policy is another example of Wirral's real-world efforts to support survivors.

The existing domestic abuse policy, which has supported survivors since 2006, now offers up to 10 days paid time off to employees (survivors) to attend court, solicitors, counselling, support agencies, refuges, arrange rehousing or change childcare arrangements. The support will be available to all council employees who are experiencing domestic abuse, regardless of gender.



CASE STUDY 3

Foster Care Awards

Foster carers who between them have devoted 370 years to helping young people were honoured at Wallasey town hall. The Big Heart awards were held to recognise the contributions of those who have played such an important part in fostering young people – and to welcome new foster carers.

The event, compered by director of children's services, Paul Boyce, saw Brenda and George Killip, Wirral's longest serving carers among those honoured after almost 30 years of helping children in the borough. The couple have looked after children on a long- and short-term basis and have cared for more than 60 children, including those with disabilities – and although they moved to Wales, they have continued to foster for Wirral.

Other winners included Julie Preston who won the Foster Carers' Choice which was voted for by other foster carers, and Sue Johnston who scooped the Professionals' Choice Award which was voted for by members of staff from the children's and young people's department (CYPD).



“Wirral is a place where employers want to invest and businesses thrive. We must seize the opportunities before us, and work hard to create new ones to transform Wirral’s economy for this generation and the next. We will focus on Wirral’s priority growth sectors to promote and grow jobs in the visitor economy, advanced manufacturing, maritime and renewable energy sectors. We will work with our partners to deliver these ambitions for Wirral and ensure our plans are both economically and environmentally sustainable.”



BUSINESS



4045
JOBS CREATED



250,000
VISITORS TO IMAGINE
WIRRAL EVENTS



74%
HIGHEST EVER
EMPLOYMENT RATE

Wirral is thriving. We are a key element of a vibrant, energetic City Region which is driving huge economic growth, prosperity and opportunity for all residents.

We are seeing huge momentum at Wirral Waters, with commercial, residential and care complexes coming forward and, through Wirral Growth Company, this Council has launched the biggest public sector led regeneration programme in the UK. It is a truly exciting time for our borough, and we have seen huge successes this past year.

Greater job opportunities in Wirral

Wirral's employment rate is at an all time high, more than 74% at the end of 2018/19, an increase of almost 8% since the start of the Wirral Plan.

Through working with partners such as Wirral Chamber of Commerce, we have seen unprecedented success in safeguarding and creating jobs. More than 4,000 have been created since the start of the Wirral Plan and, with initiatives like Wirral Growth Company moving on at pace, we are set to see even better results in future years.

Increase inward investment

Investment in Wirral is thriving. More than £140 million has been invested into projects and businesses in Wirral since the start of the Wirral Plan, not including the investments taking place

right now through new proposals at Wirral Waters and the huge developments forthcoming from Wirral Growth Company.

Wirral Waters is set to deliver more than 1000 new residential units over the next twelve months, alongside a new dementia care village – finally bringing long-awaited regeneration and prosperity to the Birkenhead docks area.

Thriving small business

Our target at the start of the Wirral Plan was to support 250 new businesses to open their doors in the borough. Since 2015, this target has been 'smashed', with 1,100 new businesses starting trading since the 20 Pledges were launched.

Wirral Council has also taken an active hand in supporting these businesses, through re-acquiring the leasehold of Birkenhead market ahead of planned regeneration of the town centre. Small businesses in the borough are also helped by the multi award-winning Wirral Chamber of Commerce, who are providing a tailored business support service.

Workforce skills match business need

The Skills for Growth programme in the LCR is up and running, providing employers with advice and support to help upskill their current and potential workforce. We are focusing on working with our partners to realise new major skills infrastructure projects, including the Maritime Knowledge Hub and the Manufacturing Technology Catapult Centre.

We continue to work with local partners such as ReachOut and the Spider Project to help Wirral residents get the skills they need to get back to work and achieve their aspirations.

Vibrant tourism economy

More than 250,000 people attended our incredible 'Imagine Wirral' events last year. The Giant Spectacular, River of Light, Cardboard Castles and New Brighton Revisited captured the imagination of people across the world.

The success of these events led to Wirral being named 'Borough of Culture' in the Liverpool City region, and this year we are continuing in the same style – the Witching Hour, River Festival and Animated Square have already provided families with memories which will last forever, and given local businesses a major financial boost.

Technology and infrastructure

More than £6 million is being invested in improving our highways – resurfacing roads, fixing potholes and making sure Wirral residents can travel safely and efficiently. We are in the process of replacing every streetlight with energy-efficient LED bulbs, which are set to provide better light, for less money and less cost to the environment.

This year, we will redouble our efforts to tackle climate change, through investing in green energies and introducing measures designed to reduce our energy consumption, such as sustainable transport policies and electric car charging points.

Assets and buildings are fit for purpose

Our ambition remains to create 'one public estate', where public services from all agencies are available, as much as possible, from the same buildings, co-locating to make sure residents receive the best, most joined up service.

Good progress is being made. There are now fewer buildings, running costs have been reduced, and many more public services are now co-locating and providing integrated services. 25 council buildings now have solar panels installed, helping to power our services in an environmentally efficient way. In the coming year, much more will be done with services throughout the public sector working closer together, sharing office space and ensuring a more efficient use of land, buildings and public assets.



CASE STUDY 1 **LCR Tourism Awards**

The Liverpool City Region's best tourism events, attractions and venues were celebrated at Liverpool Cathedral when it played host to the Liverpool City Region Tourism Awards 2019.

Television presenter, 'Great British Menu' judge and cook, Andi Oliver, presented the event which recognises the region's top eateries, exhibitions, hotels, event spaces and tourism attractions. Wirral enjoyed a fantastic night, with awards going to Mere Brook House, Cafe Cream and Port Sunlight Village Trust, with Wirral Chamber of Commerce sponsoring the Large Visitor Attraction of the Year Award.

The awards ceremony was organised by the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

CASE STUDY 2 **Wirral Growth Company**

Plans to regenerate Birkenhead and other areas of Wirral are taking shape through community consultation, as Wirral Growth Company has been formally incorporated.

The council selected Muse as its preferred development partner for the 50:50 joint venture scheme, after a major competition, in March 2018 last year for a 10-year partnership.

Alongside Birkenhead, the company also plans to bring forward schemes in areas of Moreton and Bromborough.

Consultation will take place throughout the year to make sure every resident has the chance to shape proposals which will create jobs, homes and opportunities for thousands of local people. For more information visit wirralgrowthcompany.co.uk



CASE STUDY 3 **Borough of Culture**

An extraordinary line-up of cultural events is being delivered in Wirral in 2019 as part of our celebrations after being named Borough of Culture for the Liverpool City Region. Throughout the year, major cultural events in unexpected locations are being held, with a programme based around the themes of discovery, exploration and great outdoors – designed to showcase Wirral to the world.

Wirral's programme in 2019 will provide opportunities throughout the year for artists and creatives to shape the events calendar and offer a platform to shine a light on the existing assets including the borough's galleries and museums, performance spaces and its regular line-up of festivals and community events including Wirral Festival of Firsts, the Spider Project, Wirral Change, Wirral Arts Festival, the Wirral Society of Arts, and the Hillbark Players.

The unprecedented line-up of events and activities builds on the success of last year's Imagine Wirral initiative, which has seen over 250,000 people attend and be part of incredible cultural events. Highlights from 2018 have included

the Tall Ships Three Festivals Regatta celebrations, New Brighton Revisited, Lost Castles, the Giant Spectacular and River of Light.



“We know how important our local environment is to local people. Living in a safe, clean, well looked after community leads to a better quality of life. We will never compromise on our determination to protect Wirral and continue to make our borough a fantastic place to live and visit. This past year has seen many successes, with incredibly successful events, thousands of houses being built or improved, areas cleaned, and new, innovative services launched to keep residents safer.”



ENVIRONMENT



1252

**EMPTY PROPERTIES
BACK IN USE**



32

**NATIONAL
AWARDS
FOR PARKS**



98%

**LOCAL
ENVIRONMENT
QUALITY**

We know how important our local environment is to local people. Living in a safe, clean, well looked after community leads to a better quality of life. We will never compromise on our determination to protect Wirral and continue to make our borough a fantastic place to live and visit.

This past year has seen many successes, with incredibly successful events, thousands of houses being built or improved, areas cleaned, and new, innovative services launched to keep residents safer.

Leisure and culture opportunities for all

The hard work of our staff and the army of volunteers, community organisations and friends' groups who support our parks has once again recognised, with Wirral consistently receiving more Green Flag awards than anywhere else in our region.

This year, after winning the Best Performer award at the national APSE Awards, Wirral proudly displays 32 quality awards in our parks and beaches. More people than ever are enjoying them, too – with 378 events taking place in our parks last year, more than one a day.

Wirral residents live healthier lives

This year we have commissioned many new and improved services to help people live healthier

lives, through innovative community funding to working with businesses and linking better with partners.

We know where we must focus our activity in the coming year: continuing our drive to encourage people to give up smoking, to get more active and reduce drug and alcohol use in areas of the borough where this remains a problem.

Community services are joined up and accessible

We have launched Wirral Together, which is a new way of public agencies and local people working in partnership to make things better in communities. It's about engagement, and co-production, and making the Council more responsive, more customer-focussed and more able to respond to customer need.

This year we will take steps to increase the opportunities for local people to get involved in decision-making. We will encourage, enable and empower Wirral residents to take an active role in the decisions made in the Town Hall.

Good quality housing

Our focus on securing affordable homes has resulted in 370 units completed at the end of last year. We have also seen more than 1200 empty homes brought back into use, and improved more than 2000 privately rented homes. We will continue to work every day to ensure Wirral residents have a good choice of excellent quality housing. We are determined to support residents who are living in the private rented sector and have expanded our Selective Licensing scheme to require landlords to provide good quality homes.

Many services and intensive support are also in place to support residents who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless. Redesigned, more targeted support is now in place to help people and a range of organisations across the borough are providing support.

Attractive local environment

We have continued to maintain high standards of street cleansing across the borough, with a record high 98.1% 'Local Environment Quality' rating. We successfully delivered another grot spot action plan, cleaning up more than 20 locations in private or unknown ownership.

The Love Where You Live campaign has become well supported by a range of volunteer groups and individuals who are giving up their time to improve their local environment. Later this year we will be talking to residents about a new approach to tackling environmental crime. Recycling levels continue to be a challenge, and this year we will do more to educate and engage people on the importance of recycling. 'Cool Wirral', the council's climate change strategy, is already helping to reduce the carbon footprint of local services. We have plans in place to do more to combat the growing climate emergency.

Wirral's neighbourhoods are safe

Since the launch of the Safer Wirral service, there has been a 30% reduction in Wirral residents reporting anti-social behaviour (ASB). Wirral has maintained the 4th lowest crime rate throughout the year, when compared to the 15 similar areas defined by the Home Office.

Wirral shares the lowest crime rate in Merseyside with Sefton at 79 crimes per thousand population over the last year. A large degree of credit should go to Wirral communities, who have rolled up their sleeves and volunteered help on various initiatives, such as the Good Neighbour scheme, which now has 6,228 members.



CASE STUDY 1
LCR Year of the Environment

Wirral is proud to be part of the Year of the Environment, which will showcase the city region's natural assets and celebrate the valuable work done by so many in the city region to maintain the local environment and show appreciation of the Liverpool City Region's natural environment.

The initiative is the city region's response to the government's national Year of Green Action and brings together the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, its six constituent local authorities – which includes Wirral, Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens - the Environment Agency and Nature Connected.

Year of the Environment will also help raise awareness of issues and areas that demand action and attention, including air quality, waste levels, and the need to shift towards more sustainable use of energy. Many of these areas are influenced by the Combined Authority's policy and funding responsibilities.

For more information on Year of the Environment visit: yoe2019lcr.org.uk/



CASE STUDY 2
Environment Awards

Wirral's very own environmental heroes have been recognised at the Liverpool Echo Environment Awards with many going on to be crowned winners on the night. The awards ceremony held at the Isla Gladstone Pavilion, in Stanley Park is held to recognise, thank and celebrate those playing a part in making a difference to our environment. Winners from Wirral picked up an impressive 6 out of the 9 awards on the night, as well as having 3 more projects shortlisted, showcasing the hard work and dedication of the groups and individuals.

Winners this year included: Elizabeth Gadson (The Little Collector Wirral) – Young Environmental Champion, Heswall Primary School – Green School of the Year, New Ferry Butterfly Park – Community Impact Award, Green Air Schools Project – Healthy Living Award, Wirral Metropolitan College – Carbon Champion Award, Emily Gleaves (Waste Not Want Not) - Environmental Champion.



CASE STUDY 3

£6m boost for Wirral's roads

More than £6 million is being invested in improving Wirral's roads, bridges and streetlights this year. Extra funding for the work has been secured from the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Department for Transport – as well as its own contributions from the Council's capital fund.

The funding will be allocated for both highway maintenance works and integrated transport as the Council seeks to deliver its pledge to provide a transport infrastructure that is fit for the future.

An allocation of £2.625 million from the combined authority from the Highway Maintenance budget, will be supplemented in 2019-20 by a further £315,000 from its Key Route Networks fund, plus extra funding from the Department of

Transport of £1.465 million and a contribution from the Council's own Capital fund of £500,000.

CONCLUSION

We are all proud of Wirral. It is a great place to live, to work and to grow up. It brings together beautiful rural countryside with cutting edge technology and it has a cultural and economic history which is second to none.

The Wirral Plan, and the 20 Pledges we have committed to, are about its future. They are about delivering on the promises which have been made to Wirral residents.

We have achieved a lot already, but we know there is still much to do:

- We will put Wirral residents first – always
- We will improve and modernise our services, finding ways to continually deliver more with less, and meet our residents' changing needs
- We will work together, regardless of organisational boundaries, to make sure every penny of public money is invested well, and on securing better lives for local people
- We will do everything possible to encourage local people to take an active role in decision-making
- We will focus on increasing community wealth, social value and affordable homes

I commit to ensuring these points are delivered in the coming year.

I am proud of what we have achieved so far, and remain excited about the future of Wirral.



Cllr Pat Hackett

Leader of Wirral Council and
Chair of the Wirral Partnership

To find out more:



search: Wirral Council



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Council

Monday 15th July 2019

REPORT TITLE:	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19
REPORT OF:	Corporate Director for Business Management

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) function during the 2018/19 municipal year. The report provides a summary of the programmes of work delivered by the four O&S Committees in 2018/19 with a focus on the impact of scrutiny and the progress made.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are requested to consider the content of this report and whether there are any questions or actions arising.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To provide Members with a summary of the work undertaken by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function during the municipal year 2018/19.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Not Applicable.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Overview and Scrutiny is a legal requirement for local authorities under the Local Government Act 2000. Scrutiny has a key role in promoting good governance providing assurance and public sector transparency. Effective scrutiny also provides significant opportunities to improve the Council and key partner decision-making, service provision for residents and cost-effectiveness.
- 3.2 Wirral discharges its scrutiny function through four Overview and Scrutiny Committees aligned to the themes of the Wirral Plan, People, Business and Environment with two committees Children and Families and Adult Health and Care under the People Theme. Wirral also contributes to the work carried out by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report (Appendix 1) provides information on the significant amount of scrutiny work undertaken in 2018/19, the progress made and the impact of the work. The report also outlines scrutiny work in 2019/20.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are none arising from this report.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are none arising from this report.

7 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Not Applicable.

9 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been completed as this report is for information and there is no equality impact arising from this report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018/19

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Council	11 July 2016
Council	10 July 2017
Council	09 July 2018

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Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

2018/19



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INTRODUCTION

This is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2018/19 which summarises the work of Scrutiny and its impact over the municipal year. Scrutiny holds the executive to account but importantly it also works to improve outcomes for Wirral residents. In order to achieve this in 2018/19 the Scrutiny function has developed work in the following key areas:

- Continued and ongoing scrutiny of the Children's Services improvement journey, joint working with the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and enhanced Member participation via workshops and spotlight sessions.
- Ongoing programme of Reality Check Visits for Members to undertake site visits on specific service areas, speaking to frontline staff and service users with a specific focus on targeted areas in Children's Services as well as Adult Care and Health.
- Strengthening of partner engagement in scrutiny activity including the establishment of the Health and Care Performance Panel. This is an opportunity for health partners to regularly participate in open discussions with Members on performance themes and issues.
- Setting clear objectives for scrutiny work to have the maximum impact.
- Making use of pre-decision scrutiny to influence and improve decision-making. This was exemplified through scrutiny of the Council's Commercial Strategy and a proposal to introduce a 'Dogs Public Spaces' Protection Order.
- Joint working across the Liverpool City Region to scrutinise Combined Authority initiatives and ensuring inclusion of a Wirral perspective.
- Risk training delivered to Committee Members to improve their understanding of risk and support a 'risk aware' approach to scrutiny.

The four committees have undertaken 5 scrutiny reviews, 3 of which has been completed in 2018/19, with the remaining 2 scheduled for completion as part of the 2019/20 municipal year work programme.

There were 10 additional sessions held outside of Committee for the consideration of matters such as Universal Credit and the 2019/20 budget proposals, along with a series of Reality Check Visits and meetings of the Health and Care Performance Panel. Committees also received a total of 136 presentations, reports and updates. Scrutiny had no Notices of Motion and convened 6 additional meetings to review decisions that had either been called-in or where a special meeting had been requested.

Further details of the breadth and scope of the work carried out by the scrutiny function can be found in the appendices to this report.

This report highlights the key successes of 2018/19, setting out the task and finish work completed in-year including the outcomes and impact of this work. The report also outlines key elements for scrutiny in Wirral for the coming municipal year.

CHAIRS REFLECTIONS

Councillor Tom Usher – Chair of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee

This year the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee continued to monitor and expand its overview of the improvement journey. The committee continued to gain regular updates on progress in the form of a standing item from The Corporate Director of Children's Services, Paul Boyce. The past year saw the inclusion of a 'data tracker' in this standing item in order to provide further information to Committee which allows a more detailed examination of monthly figures and effective monitoring of the effects of recent changes on the service.

The Committee continued to carry out its programme of Reality Check Visits. The work programme of the Children and Families Committee endeavoured to mirror the priorities outlined by Ofsted since the 2016 inspection. The Committee expanded the scope of these visits to partner organisations in recognition of the importance of strong partnership working in order to achieve best practice in Children's Social Services. Reality Check Visits have included a session at Cheshire Lines Building to assess the impact of co-location and agile working arrangements on practice in social care. We have also extended visits to the Police regarding their responsibilities around domestic violence and child exploitation, and to health partners focusing on their responsibilities regarding Looked After Children. In March 2019 this programme of Reality Check Visits was featured in the Centre for Public Scrutiny 'Scrutiny Frontiers 2019' report as an example of scrutiny innovation and best practice (Appendix 4).

In expanding scrutiny to the partnership organisations who have responsibility for vulnerable children and families, Scrutiny also asked for a report on Community Matters, the new initiative between the Council's Early Help Services and the voluntary sector to establish an improved community-based early help offer.

The Children and Families Committee looked at several upcoming items relating to safeguarding and held a workshop to explore the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements that would replace the Wirral Safeguarding Children's Boards (WSCB). This gave the committee an opportunity to ensure that future arrangements were robust and that any risks were explored. A commitment was made to draw up a working protocol similar to that which existed between Committee and the WSCB, that would be relevant for the new safeguarding body.

This year, several members expressed an interest in examining more closely the issue of rising obesity in the borough and of child obesity specifically. As well as bringing several items to Committee to examine statistics on, and the potential responses to, rising obesity rates, the Committee also endorsed the Local Government Declaration on Healthy Weight.

Both the education and prospects of young people were a focus for the Committee this year, as well as items exploring the rise in permanent exclusions; an item on the destination of school leavers regarding education, employment and unemployment was also looked at in detail.

There is one Task and Finish Group that is due to be completed in the coming months. The Statutory Care Plan Scrutiny Review has concluded all of its information gathering sessions and in examining the timeliness and effectiveness of care plans, has drawn on housing, legal services,

foster carers and frontline social care professionals to provide an extensive Task and Finish that identifies the strengths and challenges within statutory care planning. I would like to thank all the Members and Officers involved in the Children and Families Scrutiny Committee for their dedication in the busy year that has been 2018/19.

Councillor Julie MacManus – Chair of the Adult Health and Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee

This year has been another busy one for the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and I would like to thank the Members and Officers that have contributed to the delivery of the work programme. In particular, I wish to extend my gratitude to the Vice Chair of the Committee and the Party Spokespersons; their commitment to cross-party working, alongside close affiliation with the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee, has meant a real collaborative approach to ensuring the best health and care outcomes for Wirral residents.

Consideration of the Urgent Care Review proposals and public consultation exercise have formed a substantial part of the Committee work programme for this year. A special meeting of the Committee took place in November 2018, along with a joint Health Scrutiny Committee with Cheshire West and Chester Council, and Members welcomed the opportunity to interact with Commissioners on a major issue that has potential to affect residents across Wirral. These meetings enabled lively debate, alongside a number of witness opinions and a considerable turnout from members of the public. Members sought to ensure that the views and needs of residents were properly considered, with the requirement for a further joint Committee to scrutinise the final plans proposed for the 2019/20 municipal year.

The Committee has made further progress in developing its partnership approach to health scrutiny – particularly through the work of the Health and Care Performance Panel. Positive scrutiny relies on the development of good working relationships and the Panel have welcomed a number of health partners to address it over the course of the year; with a particular focus on the CQC Improvement Plans of Wirral Community Trust and Wirral University Teaching Hospital, along with compliance and quality within the care sector, infection control and domiciliary care.

There has also been a valuable body of scrutiny work undertaken outside of formal Committee meetings; notably, Members took part in the pre-decision scrutiny of the Wirral Health and Care Commissioning pooled fund arrangements for 2019/20. Following the called-in decision of the previous year's arrangements, Commissioners responded to the Committee's request for more open and transparent working around the integration of health and social care and the resulting financial implications. Several suggestions were made following this workshop, with all recommendations accepted by the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board in February 2019.

The Committee was pleased to 'close the loop' on a recent scrutiny review into the provision of Continuing Healthcare (CHC) in the Borough. Members received an update report at the end of this year, which provided assurance that significant progress had been made following scrutiny's recommendations; with actions taken including the creation of a CHC phone line for advice and support. There has also been a focus on engaging with stakeholders, service users and frontline staff so that those affected by services play a fundamental role in ensuring legitimate scrutiny and informing change. As part of the pooled fund arrangements workshop, Members were able to

hear directly from integrated care practitioners, which was an extremely useful addition to the Officer briefing. In addition, Members of the Committee visited the Pensby Wood Day Centre, which provided a valuable opportunity to speak with people supported and to see the impact of Council investment first-hand.

Councillor Pat Hackett – Chair of the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee

It has been a challenging year for the Committee and, as always, I would like to thank the Party Spokesperson, Councillors Steve Williams and Dave Mitchell for their collaborative working on Overview & Scrutiny over the Municipal year. I would also like to extend my thanks to all other Members from all parties for their commitment to delivering the work programme.

Pre-decision scrutiny should be one of the key activities to influence Cabinet, to help improve outcomes for Wirral residents and it is important that scrutiny seizes all opportunities. The Council will continue to face severe financial challenges in the coming years and commercialisation is an aspect that can help the Council reduce the deficit. During the year, a dedicated scrutiny workshop was convened for Members to consider the Council's Commercial Strategy before approval by Cabinet. The workshop helped to develop Members understanding of the approach Wirral Council is taking to become more commercially minded, as the Council looks to capitalise on opportunities as they arise. Importantly, Members have a crucial role to play in the Councils commercialisation approach and Committee recommended further commercialisation training as part of their development. Looking forward, it is important that Members retain oversight and hold the Executive to account to ensure all avenues for income generation are identified.

The establishment of the Wirral Growth Company was a significant area of focus for Members due to the impact that its success will have on regeneration. The implementation of the various projects will need to ensure that the needs of Wirral are being met and scrutiny should ensure that this will happen moving forward. A very well received scrutiny workshop was delivered on the latest developments and it was pleasing to have the key representatives from Muse in attendance as Members also have a key role in holding partners to account. For many Members, this was the first opportunity to consider some of the site development plans and early business cases.

Additionally, Members also wanted to retain oversight on Wirral Waters and a dedicated scrutiny workshop on the latest developments was delivered with representation from Peel holdings and Council Officers. As projects start being delivered, scrutiny should ensure there is a more focused, 'deep-dive' scrutiny approach in place. As with the Wirral Growth Company, the regeneration agenda is too important for scrutiny not to be embedded within this activity.

A Task & Finish scrutiny review to consider issues relating to camper vans in Wirral is progressing following a report presented to Committee which highlighted some of the concerns from Members and residents, particularly in New Brighton and Wallasey. Members also recommended that Officers explore the possibility of introducing an 'Overnight Sleeping' ban on two cul-de-sacs in Wallasey. It is pleasing that this has been implemented through an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order and the impact of this will need to be reviewed as part of the ongoing work programme.

Councillor Tony Jones – Chair of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

I would like to thank all Members who sat on the Committee for the work carried out in the year. In particular, I would also like to thank the Party Spokespersons for ensuring that scrutiny was collaborative in setting agendas and discussing wider Council issues.

Two pieces of Task & Finish work were carried out with small panels of Members. Firstly, a review on Modern Slavery was completed which identified the need for a Modern Slavery Strategy to be implemented. Through the review, Members were also able to scrutinise a draft strategy before it was presented to Cabinet. The final scrutiny report was well received at Committee and the implementation of a Modern Slavery action plan by the Council will be closely monitored by Members. Committee also agreed to undertake a review on recycling in response to Wirral's declining recycling rate. This has concluded and a report will be presented to Committee in the new municipal year.

Importantly, scrutiny is now embedded within the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership to provide member oversight of flood risk. The terms of reference for the Partnership were appropriately updated and agreed by Committee and these now establish a formal link with scrutiny to provide governance and elected member oversight of local flood and coastal erosion risk management activities. With agreement from Committee, the Chair and Party Spokespersons will represent scrutiny on the Partnership and will provide any necessary feedback to and from future Committee meetings to ensure there is a two-way dialogue.

Committee also agreed to convene a Special Meeting to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on the Dogs Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) before Cabinet made any decisions. The meeting was highly emotive but was successful in helping Members to understand the wider implications of the PSPO, resulting in Committee agreeing that it should not be implemented.

Members of the Committee also heard a Call-in relating to the Local Plan and a recommendation for the Cabinet Member was agreed at this meeting which included the formation for a cross-party working group to ensure Members were engaged. Members also benefitted from receiving Local Plan updates at Committee as a standing item.

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS 2018/19

The key achievements for Scrutiny during the 2018/19 Municipal Year are detailed below:

Commercial Strategy

Members had an opportunity to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on the Council's Commercial Strategy resulting in a better understanding of the Council's commercial approach. An outcome from the scrutiny workshop was the need for Member development to include commercialisation training. This was delivered in December 2018 and it is proposed to deliver another session in the new municipal year.

Risk Management

In October 2018, the Scrutiny Team arranged for risk management training to be delivered as part of the wider Member Development programme. This training was designed to develop Members understanding of risk and how it might play a greater role within overview and scrutiny work. As a result, risk has been incorporated into annual work programming and review scoping documentation to ensure it is considered at all stages of scrutiny.

Wirral Flood and Water Management Partnership

The Scrutiny Team engaged with Council Officers to revise the terms of reference for the Partnership to establish a formal link with Committee for elected member oversight of local flood and coastal erosion risk management activities. A cross-party working group was appointed with representatives from the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This fulfils the Legal Requirement for O&S.

Wirral Growth Company

Overview & Scrutiny Members were able to engage with Senior Council Officers and a delegation of representatives from Muse which provided positive feedback from Members on how the Wirral Growth Company will operate, highlighting some of the key developments in the pipeline for scrutiny moving forward.

Clinical Senate

Clinical Senates are multi-disciplinary clinical teams that provide independent advice and strategic guidance to Commissioners to bring about improvement decision making within the health care sector for local populations. In July 2018, a workshop was held for Scrutiny Members in order that they may gain an increased understanding of Clinical Senates and how they can assist Scrutiny in ensuring that informed and effective decisions are made. At the request of the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the North West Clinical Senate report into Urgent Care proposals in Wirral was added to the work programme.

Joint Health Scrutiny with Cheshire West & Chester

As part of the pre-decision scrutiny process around Urgent Care Review proposals in Wirral, a joint Committee with Cheshire West and Chester Council took place this year, as per the protocol for establishment of joint health scrutiny arrangements for Cheshire and Merseyside. The joint Committee held health partners to account by carrying out in-depth scrutiny into the options considered, demanding further detail and seeking assurance that the proposals would meet the health and wellbeing needs of the people of Wirral and Cheshire. A further meeting of the joint Committee was proposed for the 2019/20 municipal year.

Modern Slavery

A Task & Finish Scrutiny Review was completed on Modern Slavery. This increased understanding of the implications of the Modern Slavery Act for Wirral Council and its partners. Members of the Review Panel were able to influence and review the draft Modern Slavery Strategy prior to referral to Cabinet.

Scrutiny Communications

The 'Scrutiny Bulletin', a bi-monthly e-bulletin providing updates on the latest scrutiny developments at Wirral and across the country, was launched this year. The bulletin is primarily an informational tool for elected Members, but also acts as a communication device to keep Senior Officers and stakeholders updated on scrutiny events, ensuring awareness of scrutiny's role and purpose across the authority. The bulletin has maintained a good engagement rate throughout the year.

Scrutiny Members have access to an intranet page including a set of tools covering all aspects of scrutiny such as a Scrutiny Toolkit, a Scrutiny Library and easy access to published Scrutiny Reviews. A Scrutiny training session on 'Delivering Effective Scrutiny' is provided to all new Members. In addition, regular updates, training opportunities and best practice guides from the Centre for Public Scrutiny and other scrutiny networks are circulated to Members.

<http://wbcnet.admin.ad.wirral.gov.uk/governance/scrutiny>

National Publication

Wirral Overview and Scrutiny was featured as part of a national publication promoting scrutiny excellence and innovation - 'Scrutiny Frontiers 2019'. The Centre for Public Scrutiny, an organisation providing expertise on governance and scrutiny, included Wirral's Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny 'Reality Check Visit' programme, as an example of successful and effective scrutiny (Appendix 4).

Health & Care Performance Panel

The Health and Care Performance Panel was re-established this year as a means of undertaking in-depth scrutiny into the activity of health partners in Wirral. The Panel has supported the Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee by examining and evaluating health and social care performance issues across the Borough. Over the course of the year, the Panel has made a significant impact; including involvement in improvements to suicide reporting processes in Wirral, effectively monitoring the delivery of Wirral NHS Trust CQC action plans and valuable engagement with service users through a Member visit to the Pensby Wood Day Centre.

Children's Services Improvement Journey

Members closely monitor work in support of the improvements within Children Services through the programme of reality check visits and the Director for Children Services improvement journey updates, (which are brought to every Committee). These presentations contain the most recent and up to date information from Ofsted monitoring visits, the improvement board, service changes and information from the 'data book' which is made available to members of the Committee.

Wirral Plan

Scrutiny has maintained a clear focus on supporting the effective delivery of the Wirral Plan. Each Committee reviews performance against the Pledges under their identified Wirral Plan theme with

an opportunity to receive detailed updates from Pledge leads on progress and challenges in specific areas. For example, Children and Families O&S Committee reviewed progress related to Childhood Obesity and the Adult Committee on smoking cessation.

Cross Party Collaboration

Committee Chairs continued with their practice of holding agenda setting meetings with party spokespersons prior to formal Committee meetings. This provided the opportunity for all groups to influence the shape of agendas and the scrutiny work programme throughout the year. Joint Chairs' and Party Spokespersons meetings have also been convened to focus on areas for improvement and development.

Budget Scrutiny

Following a review of the budget scrutiny process by the Scrutiny Team in 2017/18, an improved approach was introduced in order to review the 2019/20 budget proposals – with a series of dedicated workshops taking place in January 2019. Comprehensive pre-decision scrutiny took place around proposals within the remit of each of the four Committees, with several outcomes – such as a request to look in more detail at the cost of placements for looked after children. The Scrutiny Chairs feedback reflected their approval of the improved process for budget scrutiny in 2018/19, and their appreciation at being able to hold effective discussions with Officers around budget options.

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wirral has three Members sitting on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee and a work programme was completed in 2018/19. In addition to the Committee meetings, several workshops were undertaken relating to the Housing Strategy, the effectiveness of the Careers Service and Tourism, Culture and Marketing the City Region.

Member Development

A range of member development opportunities for O&S Members were held in 2018/19 including:

- Clinical Senate workshop – 18th July 2018
- National Health Scrutiny & Assurance Conference – 14th September 2019
- Risk workshop – 2nd October 2018
- Chairs Training by the Centre for Public Scrutiny – 31st January 2019
- Newly elected members support – all new members were offered O&S training.

THE IMPACT OF SCRUTINY IN 2018/19

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular Committee meetings	<p>To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with Children and Families within the People theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under this remit. Support/Governance of the Council’s response to the outcome of the 2016 Ofsted inspection and Children’s Services improvement journey.</p> <p>This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for Committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.</p>

Page Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
July and August 2018. Mental Health Primary Care Commissioning Workshop.	To review the service specification of the IAPT/Primary Care mental health contract prior to the tendering process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioners noted Member comments to engage more with community links, and to utilise housing associations and employers to maximise the take-up of mental health services at the point of need. A more engaged service specification that ensures Wirral residents have access to a mental health service that they need, when they need it – the new contract is a departure from the idea that there can be a ‘one size fits all’ commissioning approach for Wirral.
July 2019. Clinical Senate Workshop.	Use of Clinical Senates to provide independent, strategic advice to Members of scrutiny.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Ongoing</i>– Potential for the local Clinical Senate to be involved a review of health and care service commissioning in 2019/20.
Reality Checks – Visits to a range of services to raise Member awareness of issues and to engage with service users and frontline officers. These visits	<p>The Committee agreed 3 reality checks in priority areas in Children’s Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> July 2018 – Cheshire Lines. December 2018 – St. Catherine’s Hospital. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheshire Lines - Member visit to see new co-location of Children’s services and view a demonstration of agile working equipment. Visit to St. Catherine’s Hospital – Members visited safeguarding officers at St. Catherine’s Hospital, Birkenhead · They met with frontline practitioners and toured the facility.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
<p>allow a greater understanding of key concerns.</p> <p>The visits from 2017/18 were followed up with an update report to Committee in November 2018 providing the opportunity to check on the progress of recommendations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2019 - Merseyside Police. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merseyside Police – Visit to Birkenhead Police Station to meet with the Domestic Violence Team, followed by a visit to the Solar Campus to visit the MASH and Early Help Teams.
<p>October 2018 – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Workshop</p>	<p>Members looked at the ‘future in mind’ Mental Health Programme and CAMHS provision in Wirral.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reciprocal arrangement between scrutiny and Wirral CCG to share information that may be of interest to either. The CAMHS quarterly newsletter will be circulated when available.
<p>Budget Scrutiny Workshop</p>	<p>Members were given an overview of the proposed budget saving options for Children & Families for the 2019/20 financial year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recommended savings were approved by committee.
<p>Future Multi-Agency Safeguarding arrangements.</p>	<p>Members attended a workshop presented by the Business Manager of WSCB to gain an overview of the new statutory arrangements and the future role of scrutiny.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Memorandum of Understanding circulated to members for agreement at Committee. O&S to be included within new arrangements – details of which are to be confirmed.
<p>Joint Pooled funding Workshop with Adult Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Joint workshop to look at the pooled funding and section 75 proposals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recommendations were approved by Committee.
<p>Scrutiny Review into Statutory Care Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A member review of care planning within the Borough. Members have undertaken a session where they looked at individual care 	<p>Ongoing. The report and recommendations are due to go to Committee in July 2019</p>

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
	<p>plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members have also met with the Children in Care Council and spoke with a group of care leavers. • Members also met with various stakeholders' form Children Services & Partner organisations to discuss Care Planning. 	

ADULT HEALTH AND CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular Committee meetings	To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with Adult Health and Care within the People theme of the Wirral Plan. To fulfil the statutory duty to undertake the scrutiny of delivery of local health services. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under this remit. This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for Committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.
Call-in Meeting – Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements 2018/19	To consider the decision taken by the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board (Cabinet Committee) on 16 October 2018 relating to ‘Wirral Health and Care Commissioning Pooled Fund Arrangements’ which had been called-in in accordance with Council Procedure Rule / Standing Order 35.
Special Meeting – Urgent Care Review	To consider Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group’s proposals for Urgent Care Services in Wirral, and to gather information on the public consultation exercise that was undertaken alongside these proposals.

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Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Continuing Healthcare (CHC) Scrutiny Review	<p>The aim was to evaluate the impact of CHC on clients and their families, focussing on both the process and funding outcomes. The anticipated outcomes were for Members to be assured about the effectiveness of the local service provision.</p> <p>Wirral CCG accepted all 7 scrutiny recommendations, with the CCG Quality and Performance Team using the report as the basis of an action plan. In March 2019, a progress update was presented to Members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved communication processes between Wirral CCG and partner organisations. • Enhanced performance and cost savings, along with improved end of life care, increased equality for CHC clients with learning disabilities and consistency of application of the CHC framework.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Workshop - Integrated Mental Health Service Procurement	To review the service specification of the 'Improving Access to Psychological Therapies' (IAPT) and primary care mental health contract prior to the tendering process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative working with partners to address challenges of the existing service provision, and design of an effective future service model. • Members suggested further engagement with community links, and utilisation of housing associations and employers to maximise the take up of mental health services at the point of need. These suggestions were included in the finalised tendering document.
Workshop - Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements 2019/20	<p>To illustrate proposed pooled funding arrangements for 2019/20 and enable scrutiny of the proposed pooled fund.</p> <p>Wirral Health and Care Commissioning accepted all 6 scrutiny recommendations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved transparency and accountability of health partners, with the introduction of pooled fund budget performance reporting to overview & scrutiny. • Increased scrutiny of the local delivery of the 'NHS Long Term Plan'. • Improved future engagement with service users and external stakeholders.
Reality Check Visit	Member visit to the Pensby Wood Day Centre for people with Profound Multiple learning Disabilities, in order to review the impact of £1.2m capital investment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Member awareness and engagement with those receiving care and support. • Greater understanding of key concerns, particularly in the context of Wirral Council's first local authority company (LAC) Wirral Evolutions. • Future reports to overview & scrutiny on high level plans of Wirral Evolutions.
Quality Accounts 2018/19	To scrutinise the draft quality account reports of local health providers; Wirral Community Trust, Wirral University Teaching Hospital, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Trust and Clatterbridge Cancer Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced relationships between O&S and local health providers. • Improved accountability and review of key issues within quality of healthcare services. • Members highlighted the need for improved staff engagement at four NHS Trusts.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Budget Scrutiny Workshop	Dedicated scrutiny workshop for Members to consider a number of budget proposals within the remit of the Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members had the opportunity to consider a number of budget proposals as part of pre-decisions scrutiny. • Members had a better understanding of the business cases for the decisions to be taken. • Cabinet considered the scrutiny work undertaken as part of the decision-making process.

BUSINESS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular Committee meetings	To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with the Business theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under the Business Committee remit. This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for Committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Wirral Waters Scrutiny Workshop	A Scrutiny Workshop was convened for Members of both the Business and Environment O&S Committees. The objective was to scrutinise the latest developments around Wirral Waters. Attendance included key senior Council Officers and representatives from Peel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members provided constructive comments on the developments and were generally assured on the progress of the schemes. The workshop highlighted the need for regular reporting on the individual projects and the need for timelines to be provided to members to enable scrutiny to be more focussed.
Commercial Strategy Scrutiny Workshop	A workshop was convened to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on the Council's Commercial Strategy. Key Senior Council Officers attended to present the strategy to Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members provided constructive comments on the developments and were generally assured on the progress of the schemes. The workshop highlighted the need for regular reporting on the individual projects and the need for timelines to be provided to members to enable scrutiny to be more focussed.
Council Company Governance Workshop	Following a resolution passed by the Committee, a workshop session was provided to all Members on Council Code of Practice for the Governance of Council Interests in Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members had the opportunity to understand the principles of good governance. Members understood how scrutiny can be conducted on local authority interests as part of the future work programme.

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Universal Credit Scrutiny Workshops	Scrutiny Workshops were held for Members to understand the impact of Universal Credit with key external organisations, including Wirral Foodbank, Wirral Citizens Advice and Magenta Living and Council Officers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee agreed a recommendation to endorse a series of actions suggested by stakeholders, including lobbying to Government with a number of 'asks'. • Members highlighted the need for further workshops to gauge the fuller impact of Universal Credit moving forward.
Budget Scrutiny Workshop	Dedicated scrutiny workshop for Members to consider a number of budget proposals within the remit of the Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members had the opportunity to consider a number of budget proposals as part of pre-decision scrutiny. • Members had a better understanding of the business cases for the decisions to be taken. • Cabinet considered the scrutiny work undertaken as part of the decision-making process.
Wirral Growth Company Scrutiny Workshop	Dedicated scrutiny workshop for Members to understand and scrutinise the delivery of Wirral Growth Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were given the opportunity to meet and engage with key representatives from Muse • Members gained invaluable insight into the governance arrangements and future plans of the Wirral Growth Company.

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny Committee Meetings	Scope
5 regular Committee meetings	<p>To review and scrutinise the strategies and plans associated with the Environment theme of the Wirral Plan. To review and scrutinise the commissioning, management and performance of services under the Environment Committee remit.</p> <p>This has included a combination of standing items and items identified by the Chair and Party Spokespersons for committee agendas. See appendix 3 for the full list of reports received during the year.</p>
Special Meeting - Local Plan	<p>Members requested a Special Meeting to discuss a letter received by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government which stated that Government had started the formal process of considering intervention for Wirral Council because of Council's failure to adopt the 2004 Local Plan Act.</p>
Special Meeting - Grass Cutting and Weed Clearance Programme	<p>Members requested a Special meeting to discuss a number of issues raised in relation to Wirral's grass cutting and weed clearance programme and the impact on a number of areas within the Borough.</p>
Call-In of the Delivery of the Environmental Enforcement Contract	<p>Cabinet's decision 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 was called in by Members.</p>
Special Meeting - Dogs Public Spaces Protection Order	<p>A Special Meeting was convened in order to undertake pre-decision scrutiny of the Cabinet Member's proposal to introduce PSPO in Wirral to tackle anti-social behaviour in relation to irresponsible dog ownership.</p>

Scrutiny Work Outside Committee Meetings	Scope	Outcome
Single Use Plastics Committee Meeting Agenda Item	O&S Members to consider proposals for the Single Use Plastic Free Wirral Policy and to provide comments to the Cabinet Member for review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview & Scrutiny helped to inform the SUP Policy, recommending arrangements for consultation and engagement with local supermarkets to encourage the SUP agenda. This was acknowledged by the Cabinet member and added to the Policy.
Scrutiny of Flood Management & Flood Risk	Terms of Reference developed for embedding scrutiny into the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Terms of Reference developed, embedding scrutiny within the Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership. • Committee agreed for Chair and Party Spokespersons to represent scrutiny on the Partnership. • First Partnership meeting held in February 2019.
Modern Slavery Task & Finish Scrutiny Review	The Review Panel's objectives in doing this work were to understand the implications of the Modern Slavery and the Act for Wirral Council and its partners and to present a series of recommendations designed to shape or influence Council policy on modern slavery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Review Panel influenced the development of the Modern Slavery Strategy through the work it undertook and had the opportunity to consider the final draft strategy. • Members will ensure the delivery of the Modern Slavery Action plan will be monitored on its impact.
Recycling Task & Finish Scrutiny Review (Ongoing)	The Review Panel's objective was to consider how to improve Wirral's current recycling rate which has declined in recent years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Review has been completed and a report will be referred to Committee in July 2019 with a series of recommendations to build on the Council's approach to recycling and look to increase its recycling rate.
Budget Scrutiny Workshop	Dedicated scrutiny workshop for Members to consider a number of budget proposals within the remit of the Committee and report back to Cabinet as part of its budget decision making process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report of the scrutiny workshop was developed and considered by Cabinet as part of the budget setting process. • Future planning will look to further strengthen the quality of financial information presented to scrutiny in the new municipal year.

SCRUTINY IN 2019/20

In 2019/20 developments are underway regarding O&S in Wirral. Scrutiny chairing arrangements were reviewed following the election and scrutiny chairs are now members of opposition parties. A review of Scrutiny is also planned to be undertaken by the Business O&S Committee; due to report in September 2019.

Government Overview and Scrutiny Statutory Guidance was published in May 2019. Local Authorities must have regard to it when exercising their functions, but it does recognise that they are best placed to determine their own scrutiny arrangements. The guidance highlights best practice arrangements for carrying out effective scrutiny. Work is already in place in Wirral in key areas outlined in the guidance including work prioritisation methodology, partnership engagement, pre-decision scrutiny and planning effective reviews and evidence sessions. A review of the guidance has been undertaken by the Scrutiny Team to work with Members to ensure scrutiny practice in Wirral is aligned.

In the coming year the scrutiny function will continue to prioritise supporting the effective delivery of the Wirral Plan, improving outcomes for Wirral residents and maintain a focus on pre-decision scrutiny of major programmes of work.

The scrutiny function will continue to focus on delivering the following outcomes:

- The Council's Executive is held to account.
- Partner agencies are held to account.
- Good governance is maintained.
- Decision-making is improved.
- Policy is developed and enhanced.
- Service improvements are identified and implemented.
- Resident or service user feedback is used to influence change.
- Members are informed about the quality or effectiveness of services.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: TABLE OF COMPLETED / INITIATED SCRUTINY ACTIVITY IN 2018/19

Item	Format	Committee	Timescale
Camper Vans	Task & Finish Review	Business	Ongoing. Scheduled to be completed in September 2019
Wirral Growth Company	Workshop	Business	Completed February 2019
Wirral Waters	Workshop	Business	Completed November 2018.
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Regional Committee	Business	4 meetings during 2018/19
Commercial Strategy (Pre-decision Scrutiny)	Pre-decision scrutiny Workshop	Business	Completed August 2019
Universal Credit	Workshop	Business	Completed February 2018. Report to Committee September 2019
Modern Slavery	Task & Finish Review	Environment	Completed October 2018
Recycling	Task & Finish	Environment	Initiated September 2019. Scheduled for completion May 2019
Dogs Public Space Protection Order (Pre-Decision Scrutiny)	Special Meeting	Environment	Meeting convened on 13th January 2019
Continuing Healthcare (CHC)	Task & Finish Review	Adult Care & Health	Report to Committee June 2018
Respite Services	Task & Finish Review	Adult Care & Health	Review suspended June 2018
Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Service Review	Workshop	Adult Care & Health	Completed July 2018

Item	Format	Committee	Timescale
Clinical Senate	Workshop	Adult Care and Health	Completed July 2018
Establishment of the Health and Care Performance Panel	Sub-Committee	Adult Care and Health	Established June 2018 with four meetings in 2018/19 - Ongoing
Urgent Care Review	Special Meeting	Adult Care and Health	Completed November 2018
Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements	Workshop	Adult Care and Health	Completed January 2019
Reality Check – Pensby Wood	Reality check	Adult Care & Health	Completed February 2019
Statutory Care Plan	Task & Finish Review	Children & Families O&S	Initiated October 2017. Scheduled completion July 2019
Reality Check – Cheshire Lines	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed August 2018
‘Future in Mind’ Wirral CAMHS	Workshop	Children & Families O&S	Completed October 2018
Reality Check – St. Catherine’s Hospital	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed December 2019
Reality Check – Merseyside Police	Reality Check	Children & Families O&S	Completed March 2019
New Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements	Workshop	Children & Families O&S	Completed March 2019
Budget Scrutiny	Workshops	All Committees	Completed January 2019

APPENDIX 2: CALL-IN MEETINGS AND NOTICES OF MOTION

Call-In Meetings

Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Delivery of the Environmental Enforcement Contract	17/07/2018
The Local Plan	07/02/2019
Adult Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date
Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements	27/11/2018

Special Meetings

Adult Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Date
Urgent Care Review	12/11/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Date
Grass Cutting and Weed Clearance Programme	05/07/2018
Dogs Public Spaces Protection Order	15/01/2019

Notices of Motion

No notices of motion	
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APPENDIX 3: OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS 2018/19

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Management of Camper Vans at Coastal Locations	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Re-commissioning of Highway Services from October 2018	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Outcomes from China Visit 2016	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Early Impact of Universal Credit	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Update	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority - Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Officer Report	04/07/2018
2017/18 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Business OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	04/07/2018
Appointment of the Highways Representation Panel	Officer Report	04/07/2018
2018/19 Q1 Financial Monitoring Report	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Early Impact of Universal Credit	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Use of Consultants and Interims	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Commercial Strategy Scrutiny Report	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Verbal Update	09/18/2018
2018/19 Q1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Leader Decision Referral - Code of Practice for Governance of Council Interests in Companies	Officer Report	09/18/2018
Business OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	09/18/2018
2018/19 Q2 Financial Monitoring Report	Officer Report	28/11/2018
Wirral Waters Scrutiny Workshop Report	Scrutiny Report	28/11/2018
Use of Consultants and Interims - Further Update	Officer Report	28/11/2018
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	28/11/2018
2017/18 Quarter 2 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	28/11/2018
Business OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	28/11/2018
Highways Representation Panel Minutes	Officer Report	28/11/2018
Impact of Car Parking Charges in Country Parks	officer Report	22/01/2019
Investment and Change Board and the New Commercial Ideas Panel	Officer Presentation	22/01/2019
Budget Proposal Scrutiny Workshop Report	Scrutiny Report	22/01/2019
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	22/01/2019
Highways Representation Panel Minutes	Panel Minutes	22/01/2019
Business OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	22/01/2019
2018/19 Q3 Financial Monitoring Report	Officer Report	05/03/2019
Update on Liverpool City Region Developments	Officer Report	05/03/2019
Absence Management	Officer Report	05/03/2019
2017/18 Quarter 3 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	05/03/2019
Business OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	05/03/2019

Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
Wirral Core Strategy Local Plan Progress Update	Officer Report	05/07/2018
Wirral View	Presentation	05/07/2018
The extent and impacts of fly tipping on Wirral	Officer Report	05/07/2018
Developing the Single Use Plastic Free Wirral Policy	Officer Report	05/07/2018
2017/18 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	05/07/2018
Environment OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	05/07/2018
Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19 Quarter 1	Officer Report	20/09/2018
Wirral Flood & Water Management Partnership	Officer Report	20/09/2018
2018/19 Quarter 1 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	20/09/2018
Recycling in Wirral	Presentation	20/09/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work programme	Report	20/09/2018
Wirral Core Strategy Local Plan progress update	Verbal Update	20/09/2018
Kingdom – Performance Update	Verbal Update	20/09/2018
Environment OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	20/09/2018
Modern Slavery Scrutiny Review Report	Report of the Review Panel	29/11/2018
Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19 Quarter 2	Officer Report	29/11/2018
Kingdom – Performance Update	Verbal Update	29/11/2018
Leisure and Cultural Services Review	Officer Report	29/11/2018
Climate Change Annual Report and Action Plan	Officer Report	29/11/2018
2018/19 Quarter 2 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	29/11/2018
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work programme	Report of the Chair	29/11/2018
Local Plan Update	Verbal Update	30/01/2019
Overview of Environmental Enforcement Contract	Presentation	30/01/2019
Budget Proposals Scrutiny Workshop Report	Scrutiny report	30/01/2019
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work programme	Report of the Chair	30/01/2019
Local Plan Update	Verbal Update	13/03/2019
Overview of Trade Waste Enforcement	Verbal Update	13/03/2019
Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19 Quarter 3	Officer Report	13/03/2019
Smoke free Wirral	Officer Report	13/03/2019
2018/19 Quarter 3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	13/03/2019
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work programme	Report of the Chair	13/03/2019

Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Format	Date
2017/18 Quarter 4 and Year End Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	03/07/2018
Improvement Journey - Update	Presentation	03/07/2018
Wirral Improvement Board Databook	Officer Report	03/07/2018
Children & Families OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	03/07/2018
2018/19 Quarter 1 performance	Officer Report	25/09/2018
Summary of standards - provisional outcomes for early years, key stage 1 and key stage 2	Officer Report	25/09/2018
Elective Home Education	Presentation	25/09/2018
Financial Update Q1	Officer Report	25/09/2018
Cheshire Lines Reality Check Update	Officer Report	25/09/2018
Children & Families OSC - Work Programme Update Report	Report of the Chair	25/09/2018
2018/19 Quarter 2 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	13/11/2018/
Improvement Journey, Data Book & all age disability update	Presentation	13/11/2018
Safeguarding Annual Report	Officer Report	13/11/2018
Future Safeguarding arrangements	Officer Report	13/11/2018
Reality Check Update Reports	Officer Report	13/11/2018
Financial update Q2	Officer Report	13/11/2018
Improvement Journey and Data Tracker Update	Presentation	24/01/2019
Summary of standards provisional outcomes for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5	Officer Report	24/01/2019
Participation and destination analysis of Wirral Young People aged 16 to 19	Officer Report	24/01/2019
Improving Life Chances Strategy	Officer Report	24/01/2019
Local Action to Tackle Obesity	Officer Report	24/01/2019
Reality Check report - St. Catherine's Hospital	Officer Report	24/01/2019
2019/2020 Budget Scrutiny Workshop Report	Officer Report	24/01/2019
Tackling Obesity	Officer Report	27/02/2019
2018/2019 Q3 Wirral Plan Performance	Officer Report	27/02/2019
Financial Monitoring report Q3	Officer Report	27/02/2019

Title	Format	Date
Wirral Fostering Service	Officer Report	27/02/2019
Early Help - Community Matters	Officer Report	27/02/2019
Future Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements - Workshop Report	Officer Report	27/02/2019

Adult Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title	Type	Date
Performance Monitoring - 2017/18 Q4	Officer Report	27/06/18
Wirral University Teaching Hospitals - Financial Challenges Update	Verbal Update	27/06/18
Urgent Care Review – Pre-Consultation	Verbal Update	27/06/18
Re-Establishment of the Health and Care Performance Panel	Verbal Update	27/06/18
Continuing Healthcare Scrutiny Review	Officer Report	27/06/18
Adult Care and Health Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	27/06/18
Financial Monitoring - 2018/19 Q1	Officer Report	12/09/18
Wirral University Teaching Hospitals - CQC Inspection	Officer Report	12/09/18
Seacombe Birthing Centre - Impact	Verbal Update	12/09/18
Wirral Community Trust - CQC Inspection	Officer Report	12/09/18
Urgent Care Consultation	Verbal Update	12/09/18
Integrated Social Care Transfer - Staff perspectives 12 months on	Verbal Update	12/09/18
Phlebotomy Service Update	Officer Report	12/09/18
Performance Monitoring - 2018/19 Q1	Officer Report	12/09/18
Health and Care Performance Panel - Terms of Reference	Officer Report	12/09/18
Adult Care and Health Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	12/09/18
Urgent Care Consultation	Officer Report	12/11/18
Wirral Health and Care Commissioning Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements	Call In Meeting	27/11/18
Financial Monitoring - 2018/19 Q2	Officer Report	27/11/18
Musculoskeletal Integrated Triage Service Update	Officer Report	27/11/18
Annual Social Care Complaints Report 2017/18	Officer Report	27/11/18
Learning Disability Commissioning	Verbal Update	27/11/18
Performance Monitoring - 2018/19 Q2	Officer Report	27/11/18
Report of the Health and Care Performance Panel	Officer Report	27/11/18
Adult Care and Health Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	27/11/18
Pooled Fund Section 75 Arrangements Scrutiny Workshop Report	Officer Report	29/01/19
Winter Pressure Arrangements at Clatterbridge	Officer Report	29/01/19
Local Delivery of the Five Year Forward View	Officer Report	29/01/19
Adults Safeguarding Annual Report 2017/18	Officer Report	29/01/19
Learning Disability Commissioning	Officer Report	29/01/19
Adult Care and Health Budget Scrutiny Workshop Report	Officer Report	29/01/19
Report of the Health and Care Performance Panel	Officer Report	29/01/19
Adult Care and Health Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	29/01/19

Title	Type	Date
Phlebotomy Service Update	Officer Report	19/03/19
Financial Monitoring Report - 2018/19 Q3	Officer Report	19/03/19
Performance Monitoring - 2018/19 Q3	Officer Report	19/03/19
Extra Care Housing Delivery	Officer Report	19/03/19
Continuing Healthcare Scrutiny Review - Action Plan Follow Up	Officer Report	19/03/19
Review of Draft Quality Accounts 2018/19	Officer Report	19/03/19
Report of the Health and Care Performance Panel	Officer Report	19/03/19
Adult Care and Health Work Programme Update Report	Officer Report	19/03/19

APPENDIX 4: SCRUTINY FRONTIERS 2019 - WIRRAL REALITY CHECK VISITS

[Centre for Public Scrutiny - Scrutiny Frontiers 2019](#)



Councillor Tom Usher

Chair of Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council

More than ever, Overview and Scrutiny Committees need to get under the skin of policy and strategic decisions. As Chair of my committee, I understand that the best way to scrutinise our service area is to visit the coalface of practice, meet with frontline staff and, where possible, service users themselves.

Following the inadequate Ofsted inspection of 2016, we considered possible approaches to gain a better picture of our business. Following this consultation, we developed a programme of Children's Services 'Reality Check' visits.

Benefits of the reality checks include improved understanding of services for vulnerable children and families, enhancing engagement with partner organisations and aiding assessment of integrated health and care. The approach enables triangulation of evidence from different sources to ensure scrutiny receives a robust and comprehensive picture on which to base their recommendations.

Visits are planned based on intelligence including Ofsted inspection findings, safeguarding arrangements and integration of health and care services. The visits are focused on the work of relevant stakeholders, including:

- Health Safeguarding Leads for Children Looked After
- Frontline Children's Social Workers across all service areas
- The Leaving Care Team - staff directly supporting young people leaving care
- The Early Help Service
- Children's Centres including a nationally pioneering community birthing centre.

Through the programme, Scrutiny also reviewed the tools and information that social workers access, ensuring case management systems and performance analysis are fit for purpose and used systematically. We also included an assessment of new agile working equipment designed to improve working practices.

Visits are co-operative and health partners have seen the value and invited scrutiny to visit. This is evidence of their real value, not only for members but also frontline staff who have felt their views are under-represented.

Visits seek to improve the effectiveness of services for our children and families. We have highlighted the importance of collaborative working, the wide-reaching role of the Corporate Parent and have sought reassurance that the child's voice is paramount.

Recommendations made include improving pathway plans to ensure care leavers' voices are captured. We have addressed concerns regarding re-referral rates to social services, putting in place an action plan monitored through Committee. We have identified concerns about staff communication and recommended co-location of staff across the borough and this has been implemented across children's services. Development of staff IT training has been endorsed and encouraged by scrutiny and agile working is now being introduced throughout the Local Authority. All recommendations were fully accepted by all agencies and are shared with the Cabinet Member and Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

There is always a risk that once the visits have concluded, services go back to 'business as usual'. I ask for regular update reports, so committee gets the opportunity to check on the status of recommendations. To date everything had been delivered or is on track.

Reality check visits encourage a culture that allows us to gain assurance that children's services are providing the best outcomes for our children and young people. As recommendations and reports are made in partnership with the services visited, it has evolved into a collaborative approach.

Overview and Scrutiny on Wirral has a strong culture of cross-party collaboration, robust pre-decision scrutiny, a clear focus on outcomes for residents and ensuring scrutiny has real impact. Scrutiny is at its most powerful when it is bold, innovative and visible to all parties. It promotes a culture of transparency and openness, embracing different perspectives. I am proud as Chair, to have contributed to entrenching a culture of due-diligence and delivering tangible outcomes for residents.

CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - BIRKENHEAD

Thursday, 28 February 2019

Present:

Councillor G Davies (in the Chair)

Councillors	P Cleary	S Kelly
	A Davies	J McManus
	S Foulkes	G Wood
	EA Grey	

Apologies

Councillors	A Brame	B Kenny
	WJ Davies	M McLaughlin
	P Davies	C Meaden
	P Doughty	T Norbury
	S Frost	J Stapleton

18 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair advised that agenda item 6 (Getting the Basics Right – Implementing a New Model for Community Engagement) would have precedence over the remaining agenda items.

20 GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT - IMPLEMENTING A NEW MODEL FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Constituency Manager presented a report advising of a Council decision taken on 10 December 2018, on receipt of a recommendation from the Cabinet, to implement a new model of community engagement. The new model, to commence in the 2019/20 Municipal Year, would involve the establishment of Ward Member budgets and the submitted report advised on:-

- the distribution of funding across Wards according to a weighting mechanism based upon 75% per head of population, 15% deprivation, 5% under 5 years population and 5% over 75 years population, details of which, together with allocations in respect of each Ward Member;
- the governance arrangements for the processes of applications for Ward Member budget funding and for annual review and evaluation; and
- Member support arrangements to aid Ward Councillors.

The decision of the Council also deleted the Constituency Committees, meaning that this would be the final meeting of the Birkenhead Constituency

Committee. Members were therefore invited to consider arrangements for collaborative working outside of formal governance conditions.

The report considered the background to the decision of the Council arising from a review undertaken by the former Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, key principles as to how the Ward Member budgets were to operate, a process for funding applications and approval, the availability of Member support, and options available for Members to work together within and across Ward boundaries. Draft guidance and a proposed application form were further appended to the submitted report for consideration.

The Chair questioned whether current projects such as the provision of skips across the Constituency area would be able to continue under this scheme. The Constituency Manager advised that should Members so wish it may be possible to consider a top slicing of the budgets. It was noted that there were services provided in certain Wards, for example foodbanks, that were accessed from across the Constituency, and comment made that there needed to be a way for these schemes to be funded from across the Constituency. The Constituency Manager advised that it was proposed to establish a workshop to enable Members to discuss their approach to Ward Member budgets and how these were to be managed.

The need for a dedicated area on the Council website to publicise the availability of Ward Member funds in the Birkenhead Constituency and to provide the opportunity to apply for funds was stated. This would allow access to funding for new and difficult to reach groups. The need for a robust communications strategy to support this was referenced.

The Constituency Manager further advised that the Highways Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Funding for Constituency Committees was coming to a close. A sum of £28,000 remained for the Birkenhead Constituency and the Committee was asked to consider allocating this amount to the following schemes that had been discussed previously by Members:

Location	Scheme	Estimated Cost
Harcourt Street, Birkenhead	Traffic calming	£10,000
Shrewsbury Road / Palm Grove, Oxtan	Pedestrian Refuge	£8,026
Woodchurch Road Service Road, Prenton	Traffic calming	£10,000
Total estimated schemes		£28,026
Approved remaining Constituency Committee funding		£28,026

RESOLVED: That

- (1) **the Ward Member Budget process and criteria, as set out in the submitted report, and the necessary Officer delegations required to administer the Ward Member budgets, be noted;**
- (2) **the opportunities for working together be noted and the convening of workshops to further consider how to progress this approach be supported;**
- (3) **the remaining Highways Integrated Transport Block funding for this Committee be allocated to schemes at Harcourt Street, Birkenhead for traffic calming; Shrewsbury Road / Palm Grove, Oxton for provision of a pedestrian refuge; and Woodchurch Road Service Road, Prenton for traffic calming.**

21 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Birkenhead Constituency Committee held on 27 September 2018 be approved as a correct record.

Councillor George Davies left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Steve Foulkes in the Chair.

22 **SHOWCASE PRESENTATION: FOOD PROJECTS**

Eve Barrett of the St James Centre reported on activity in Birkenhead. Over summer 2018 Birkenhead provided 10,000 meals for over 900 individual children. The importance of both providing good quality meals and activities for families, and of collecting data to show impacts, had been recognised. Christmas had seen St James provide 63 hampers to local residents, while Gautby Road had fed a Christmas dinner to 85 children over the festive period. A video providing feedback on February half term activities, which had seen over 220 individual children and young people use services, was shown.

The Committee was advised that the previous year had seen a growth in partnership working, collaboration and co-ordinated efforts and timetables. While the growth in the number of projects was a positive, this presented a challenge by putting financial pressure on projects overall. A growth in the number of people, including parents, accessing projects had also been seen. Further funding to support this would be needed, for example, through partnership bids.

For the future, the outcome of a bid to the Department for Education to fund projects across Wirral for holiday provision using the Birkenhead model food

hubs was due at the end of March. Regardless of whether the funding is allocated, a start had been made to establish a Birkenhead and Wirral-wide approach to food insecurity, including a community food provider list, training offers and connections to lifelong learning to support parents' continuing education with the aim of creating more than just a 'sticking plaster' approach to food insecurity.

George Thomas of the Beechwood Community Trust advised that the Trust was involved with the His Church charity, received food from Fair Shares and, through the Constituency Committee, had received 46 pallets of food, putting £48,000 of value back into the community. He noted that government figures for foodbank usage came primarily via the Trussell Trust, meaning that provision from many smaller providers was not counted. It was suggested that foodbank usage might be at least double that indicated by official figures.

The Community Trust was looking at other issues of poverty beyond food poverty. As examples, assistance was being offered to families struggling with gas and electric supply and a low cost funeral option had been identified. 280 hampers, supported by local and Constituency money, had been distributed at Christmas, along with toys from a Radio City appeal. The Trust had developed a good working arrangement with the Constituency Committee and the partnership work had impacted on many local people.

A member of the public supported the identification of issues beyond food poverty, referencing community cohesion and the availability of support to counter issues such as knife and gang crime. In looking at these schemes, value for money needed to be considered not in terms of cash, but in ensuring that every child has a future. Reference was made to support to families also given by Birkenhead Lions, including a family found at Christmas with no food or presents for children. Referring to the consideration of the new model of community engagement, a Member noted the need to prioritise such schemes and ensure that impetus in this area was not lost.

RESOLVED: That Eve Barrett and George Thomas be thanked for their presentations to the Committee.

23 **SHOWCASE PRESENTATION: ENVIRONMENT ACTION DAYS**

Sheila Henry and Nikki Groves gave a presentation to the Committee on the Community Environmental Action Days that are supported by the Committee.

Community Clean Up days are assisted by Community Payback and see the removal of household waste, the clearing of alleyways, the painting of buildings and railings, weed clearance, litter picking and the placing of skips on streets to tackle repeated fly tipping. In delivering Clean Ups, the Constituency worked jointly with partners in the statutory, business and community sectors, as well as the various Departments of the Council who

input into services such as waste and recycling, housing renewal, highways, parks and countryside, public health and anti-social behaviour.

The provision of skips in local areas produced a reduction in fly tipping and in the cost of collecting and disposing of waste, helped those residents without cars who might not be able to otherwise properly dispose of waste, helped all residents to legally dispose of their waste, improved resident wellbeing and helped create a more positive outlook among residents, encouraged community cohesion, and encouraged residents to take a pride in their community and become involved in future issues. The Committee viewed a series of 'before' and 'after' pictures of clean-up projects that had been undertaken in Birkenhead.

Further activities reported were 'Operation Sparkle' led by the Birkenhead Improvement District (BID) Team and supported by the Constituency Team, Magenta Living, Environmental Services and the Community Payback Team to target streets in retail areas in need of a general tidy-up to make these better places to shop and work, and 'Operation Banger' led by the police and supported by the fire service, housing providers and the Community Payback Team to remove combustible materials and flytipping in advance of Halloween and bonfire night in order to prevent the setting of deliberate fires and related anti-social behaviour. Positive feedback from the fire service on the impact of Operation Banger was noted.

The support of Community Payback Team was noted and thanked. Over six months Community Payback service users had completed more than 5,600 hours in Birkenhead, equating to more than £43,848 at the national minimum wage, paying back to the community. The Teams had made a positive impact on the Birkenhead community with alleyway clearances, weedkilling, and the removal of flytipping.

Members noted the impact and success of the Community Environment Action Days, commenting on the importance of Constituency staff to support them and of the need to consider the use of the new funds available to Ward Members to maintain the momentum of this initiative.

DECIDED:

That Sheila Henry and Nikki Groves be thanked for their presentation to the Committee.

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CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - WIRRAL SOUTH

Wednesday, 6 March 2019

Present:

Councillors	J Bird	A Sykes
	C Carubia	J Walsh
	T Cottier	I Williams
	P Gilchrist	KJ Williams
	M Jordan	
	D Mitchell	
	C Muspratt	
	L Rowlands	

Community Reps

M Craig	K Sutton
R Squire	P Wright

Apologies

Councillors	A Hodson	C Povall
	K Hodson	

Community Rep M Wright

12 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

No such declarations were made.

13 APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors A Hodson, K Hodson, C Povall. Community Representative, Mal Wright and David Armstrong, Assistant Chief Executive.

14 MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held 4 October 2018 be agreed.

15 UPDATE PROVIDED BY MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

The Constituency Manager informed the Committee that he had not received an update from Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and therefore could not update the Committee at this time.

Councillors noted their disappointment.

16 **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER (APPROX 20 MINUTES) INCLUDING RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

With the agreement of the Chair, it was agreed that this item would be taken out of order to accommodate the public in attendance.

Question one – David Bird, Eastham

Mr D Bird addressed the Committee to enquire into spending money allocated to it

Fergus Adams, Constituency Manager advised that he would give details of the budget situation within his Constituency Manager report.

No further questions were asked.

17 **WIRRAL SOUTH PRIORITY UPDATE**

A Report by the Director for Health and Wellbeing provided an update on the Constituency Committee's priorities for 2018/19. Members were reminded that the work of the Wirral South Constituency Committee contributes to a range of Wirral Plan 2020 pledges and that neighbourhood working is key to deliver the plan.

The current position was set out within the report and details of projected spend by 31st March 2019 were explained. Members heard how there was some underspend projected for the end of the year, and funds had been allocated, but in some cases work remains to be carried out.

The report detailed Budget themes including Social Isolation Grants Fund, Improved Open Spaces, Gaps in Youth Provision, Engagement, Love Wirral, Love where you live and Torr Park (Section 106 legal agreement).

Members were reminded that at Committee in October 2018, it was resolved to 'Begin the process to re-commission the Wirral South Youth Counselling Service'. Members were then advised that following advice from Procurement Officers, it was not deemed necessary to go through a formal commissioning exercise to extend the existing Service Level Agreement (SLA). The reason for this is that the SLA is currently delivered by an internal partner and as such extending it does not need to be put back out to tender.

On a motion by Councillor P Gilchrist and seconded by Councillor D Mitchell it was:

Resolved (12:0) That this committee-

(1) extends the existing service level agreement with Response to deliver the Wirral South Youth Counselling Service from the period 1 May 2019 to 30 April 2020; and

(2) notes the content of the report.

18 CONNECTING WIRRAL SOUTH - SOCIAL ISOLATION GRANTS FUND

A presentation by Fergus Adams, Wirral South Constituency Manager advised that a Panel of Elected Members including Councillors: P Gilchrist, C Muspratt, C Povall and I Williams had met on Tuesday 26 Feb to allocate the remaining Social Isolation Budget.

Members heard that due to tied scoring, the decision made to use the entire remaining Social Isolation Budget + adding £614 from the Engagement Budget, thus total amount of funding awarded would be £17,114 rather than £16,500.

The Constituency Manager informed that projects would be evaluated and reported back to Members.

Resolved – That Members note the decision of the Panel.

19 UPDATE FROM MERSERYSIDE POLICE

Neighbourhood Inspector, Georgina Minnery provided Members with a verbal update. Tom Robinson, Police Sergeant was also in attendance.

Details of Crime and Anti Social Behaviour were reported to the Committee and Members heard how all crime is down by 12.46% (38 crimes). In particular burglary (dwelling) was down by 29.63% (8 crimes) and burglary (other) was down by 50% (10 crimes).

Members heard how ABS was down by 15 incidents, however there had been a spike in youth disorder in Bromborough Ward. Members were advised that a possibility of extra patrols were being looked into and a dispersal zone would be put into force during the weekend of 8 March 2019.

In response to a question by a Members the Committee were advised that travelling criminals from the wider Merseyside area and beyond had been targeted through AMPR systems and through intelligence sharing amongst force borders.

A query was raised regarding a caravan currently located on Brackenwood Road and a discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities of the Council

and the Police to move it. Members were advised that this would be reviewed by Merseyside Police.

In response to a further question, Members heard how there are not currently any particular Neighbourhood Police Officers in post, but a lot of current Officers have specific skills of previous Neighbourhood Officers and there are a number of home watch groups in place.

In response to a question by a Members of the Public, Inspector Minnery advised that she would pass details of social isolation schemes onto appropriate people who attend Bebington Police Station.

Resolved – That Members note the verbal report.

20 **WIRRAL SOUTH COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

A report by the Wirral South Constituency Representatives detailed progress to date following the co opting of five Community Representatives (Com Reps) to the Wirral South Constituency Committee. The report highlighted particular issues being experienced by the communities within the five wards and sought to bring them formally to the attention of the Committee.

The Com Reps expressed their dissatisfaction with the demise of the Constituency Committees, particularly Wirral South CC. The Com Reps reported that they are proud of their achievements over the past five years and the way in which they had worked together with Elected Members in supporting the needs and aspirations of their communities.

Com Reps reiterated their frustration, disappointment and concerns over the lack of progress in developing a Wirral wide strategic Neighbourhood Development Plan, which was approved by Cabinet in October 2015.

Information on work completed in each of the Wirral South Constituency Wards was detailed within the report.

Mark Craig, Com Rep for New Ferry thanked Members of the Council for agreeing to allocate funds to the New Ferry community following the March 2017 explosion. He advised the Committee that as the second anniversary of the explosion approaches, an event is being organised to mark the occasion. He advised that some residents remain traumatised and therefore the proposal is to hold a quiet and respectful lantern parade.

Ray Squire, Com Rep for Heswall addressed the Committee to express his disappointment in the disbanding of the Committee and commented how it had been a great shame to not have any Cabinet Members on the Committee.

It was moved by Councillor P Gilchrist and seconded by Councillor D Mitchell that an additional recommendation be agreed as follows:

“ This Committee places on record it’s grateful thanks to all Com Reps” and:

Resolved That (12:0):

- (1) the Chair liaises with the appropriate Council Officers to ensure that the resolutions approved in the Com Rep report in October are actioned as a priority; and**
- (2) this Committee places on record its grateful thanks to all Com Reps.**

21 **GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT - IMPLEMENTING A NEW MODEL FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Constituency Manager presented a report advising of a Council decision taken on 10 December 2018, on receipt of a recommendation from the Cabinet, to implement a new model of community engagement. The new model, to commence in the 2019/20 Municipal Year, would involve the establishment of Ward Member budgets and the submitted report advised on:-

- the distribution of funding across Wards according to a weighting mechanism based upon 75% per head of population, 15% deprivation, 5% under 5 years population and 5% over 75 years population, details of which, together with allocations in respect of each Ward Member;
- the governance arrangements for the processes of applications for Ward Member budget funding and for annual review and evaluation; and
- Member support arrangements to aid Ward Councillors.

The decision of the Council also deleted the Constituency Committees, meaning that this would be the final meeting of the Wirral South Constituency Committee. Members were therefore invited to consider arrangements for collaborative working outside of formal governance conditions.

The report considered the background to the decision of the Council arising from a review undertaken by the former Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, key principles as to how the Ward Member budgets were to operate, a process for funding applications and approval, the availability of Member support, and options available for Members to work together within and across Ward boundaries. Draft guidance and a proposed application form were further appended to the submitted report for consideration.

An amendment to the second recommendation within the report was proposed by Councillor P Gilchrist and seconded by Councillor C Muspratt and it was:

Resolved (12:0) That

Members recognise the detailed consideration given to joint working at the recent workshops. Members also recognise that opportunities for future joint working and funding. In order to further this, in the new municipal year, an opportunity be sought to draw up a scheme to fund social isolation that is acceptable to Members, involving contributions from Members.

The Committee then moved onto the recommendations in the report. It was moved by Councillor P Gilchrist and seconded by Councillor C Muspratt and:

Resolved (12:0) That:

elected Members note the process and criteria as set out in the appendices attached to this report and the necessary Officer delegations to administer the Ward Member budgets; and Members recognise the detailed consideration given to joint working at the recent workshops. Members also recognise that opportunities for future joint working and funding. In order to further this, in the new municipal year, an opportunity be sought to draw up a scheme to fund social isolation that is acceptable to Members, involving contributions from Members.

22 **WIRRAL SOUTH CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE: A POSITIVE LEGACY**

Members were provided with a presentation on the legacy of the Wirral South Constituency Committee and key work conducted was identified as follows:

- Wirral South Youth Counselling Service had been operating for 30 months and was delivered from Eastham Youth Club, New Ferry Youth Club and Heswall Hall. 45 young people had accessed a programme of counselling sessions and 136 young people accessed counselling and advice via informal drop in sessions.
- The Wirral South Christmas Together programme had been operational over 3 years and had engaged with 529 individuals and 214 volunteers had been involved.
- Wirral South in Bloom had been operational over 3 years and had funded over 30 projects.
- Wirral South Improved Open Spaces had enabled five individual parks to be supported, delivered £75,000 worth of improvements and had resulted in 2 new green flags being awarded.

Members and Com Reps expressed their thanks to the Constituency Manager for all work involved. Members resolved to continue with the work they had achieved and to work in a way to fully benefit their communities.

Resolved – That Members note the content of the verbal report.

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CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - WALLASEY

Tuesday, 12 March 2019

Present: Councillor B Mooney (Chair)

Councillors C Blakeley L Rennie
P Hayes S Williams
AER Jones B Berry
S Jones T Jones
C Jones P Stuart
A Leech

Apologies Councillors RL Abbey T Usher
P Hackett I Lewis
J Williamson

20 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or 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.

No such declarations were made.

21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Councillors Ron Abbey, Pat Hackett, Ian Lewis, Tom Usher and Janet Williamson.

22 MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the Wallasey Constituency Committee meetings held on 26 September, 2018 and the special meeting held on 12 December, 2018 be approved.

23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Constituency Manager informed the Committee that no Public Questions had been received on-line.

The Chair asked for questions from a member of the public who raised the question of why the Council had recently purchased a cinema when it had a housing waiting list and why there was a need was Wirral's Council Tax being

used to pay for a Metro Mayor. The member of the public also wished to complain about fly tipping outside the New Brighton Community Centre as no action had been taken following complaints. He also questioned the merits of high salaries paid to Wirral Council Directors at a time when the Council was supposed to be cutting costs.

The Chair of the Constituency Committee informed the member of the public that the resident could leave his contact details following the meeting and his concerns would be responded to. Councillor Anita Leech, Cabinet Member for Environment, indicated that she would meet with the resident following the meeting and take up the issue of fly tipping.

The Chair then asked for questions from Rev. Father Leon Ostaszewski who commented that at previous meetings he had raised questions on the future of Wirral libraries, and he was now assured that this was being addressed. Rev. Father Leon Ostaszewski then listed roads in the Wallasey that had poor surfaces which needed to be looked at, including Valkyrie Road, Seaview Road, Belvidere Road and Lyndhurst Road. He also indicated that the steep steps leading to Lymington Road from Breck Road, Wallasey were poorly lit as two street lights were out of action. He concluded by asking if there were any updates that could be provided on the future of the former St John's CE Church in Liscard Road. Rev Father Leon Ostaszewski also asked if there could be occasional meetings to bring up any concerns. The Chair indicated that the matters raised would be picked up by the Constituency Manager for action.

24 **WALLASEY 'LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE' FUND (2018/19)**

The Constituency Manager introduced a report of the Director of Strategy and Partnerships that provided an update on the Wallasey 'Love where you live' Fund. Appendix 1 to the report contained the WLWYL Fund 2018 -19 Summary and Scoring and Appendix 2 to the report contained the WLWYL Fund 2018 -19 Ranking and Recommendations for Funding.

Further to Wallasey Constituency Committee on 26 September 2018 (minute 14 refers), Wallasey 'Love Where You Live' Fund had been launched on 3 October 2018. This small grants programme had invited applications for no more than £500 from voluntary, community and faith sector groups to make environmental improvements to any outdoor areas to which the general public had access. £18,000 had been set aside by the Committee for this Fund.

The Wallasey Constituency Manager informed the Committee that the Fund had closed for applications at noon on Monday 3 December 2018 and 17 bids had been received, seeking a total of £8,442.54. The recommended awarding of grants would leave £9,557.46 from this Fund as an uncommitted underspend. Councillor Anita Leech provided details of a late bid which would be eligible and scored well and asked the Committee for approval as any

underspend would not be carried over. A member of the public requested that any available funding be spent on starting a fishing club at Central Park, Wallasey and informed Members that he had spent 2 months as a volunteer cleaning the debris from the lake area and he had been informed there was no funding for improvement to this neglected area of the Borough. On behalf of the Committee the Chair thanked the member of the public for all the work he had done and indicated that she would speak to Darran Marquiss, (Wallasey Park, Allotment & Countryside Manager) about this matter and would meet with the member of the public following this Constituency Committee meeting.

Resolved – That the recommendations for funding in Appendix 2 of the report be approved, plus the late bid by Leasowe Community Allotments for the sum of £491.36.

25 **WALLASEY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE BUDGET AND SPEND - FINAL REPORT**

The Wallasey Constituency Committee Manager introduced a report of the Corporate Director of Strategy & Partnerships that provided Members with an update on the Constituency Committee's completed projects and spend, concluding the Wallasey Constituency Committee's operation. The report provided details of the 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 spend. The report also set out details of the Problem Solving Fund and informed the Committee that at Wallasey Constituency Committee on 28 September 2018 (minute 13 refers) spend from the Fund had been noted which had left a balance of £7,368.78. The report identified spend that had been agreed from the Problem Solving Fund and there was now £4,600 remaining. The Constituency Manager informed members that they would be contacted by email at the beginning of April with an update as to any further spend from the Problem Solving Fund up until the end of March 2019. Appendix 1 to the report set out the status of Integrated Transport Block Capital Fund and Transport Plan for Growth Schemes. Members would also be updated on the issue of tackling food poverty as the procurement process was now being undertaken and the bids received would soon be scored. A member questioned the underspend relating to improvements to road safety and maintenance and asked if the Constituency Committee could utilise the underspend identified. The Constituency Manager informed members that this could not be done before the end of this financial year however the core budget underspend could be added to the Problem Solving Fund.

Members then discussed proposals for areas requiring spend including more bins for the Harrison Drive area of New Brighton, more wheeled bins on the

promenade to be located at access points and anchorage points for bins to address the potential of the occurrence of a serious accident; more open bins to be replaced by lidded bins and dropped kerbs throughout the Borough and in particular in the Moreton area. Councillor Anita Leech, Cabinet Member for Environment suggested that requests for bins be sent to her and then be collated and she reported that there would be a bin audit in the new financial year. The Constituency Manager reported that spend from the Problem Solving Fund would be agreed on a first come first served basis until the money was used up.

Resolved – That;

- 1 the report be noted.**
- 2 the outstanding sum for the core budget underspend be moved to the Problem Solving Fund.**

26 **GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT - IMPLEMENTING A NEW MODEL FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Constituency Manager introduced a report of the Director of Governance and Assurance (Monitoring Officer) which informed the Committee that following agreement at Council on 10 December 2018, endorsing the recommendation by Cabinet on 26 November 2018, a new model of community engagement commencing in the municipal year 2019/2020 would be implemented. Appendix A to the report provided Ward Member Budget Allocations, Appendix B provided Guidance on Ward Member Budgets, Appendix C provided a copy of the ward Member Budget Application Form and Appendix D provided details of Officer Support by Ward.

The report set out the distribution of funding across wards, according to a weighting based upon 75% per head of population, 15% deprivation, 5% under 5 years population and 5% over 75 years population (as set out in Appendix A to the report), and allocations in respect of each Ward Member. The report set out the governance arrangements for the process of applications for Ward Member budget funding and annual review and evaluation and provided Member support arrangements to aid ward councillors.

In accordance with the recommendations approved by Council the deletion of the provisions of the Constitution relating to Constituency Committees determined that this meeting be the final convergence of the Constituency Committee. The Constituency Manager suggested therefore that Members may also wish to consider arrangements for collaborative working outside of formal governance conditions. Members welcomed the new approach and sought clarity on how matters would be raised in areas such as Moreton

which had no traders' group or residents' group to identify issues and priorities. The Constituency Manager confirmed that it would be acceptable for the Ward Councillor to make requests for funding based on their local knowledge and area intelligence that would be shared with them in due course.

Resolved – That the process and criteria as set out in the appendices attached to the report and the necessary officer delegations to administer the Ward Member budgets be noted.

27 **VOTE OF THANKS**

Councillor Tony Jones thanked the Constituency Manager and officers for all the work that they had done and thanked Councillor Bernie Mooney who had Chaired the Wallasey Constituency Committee. The Chair and Committee members endorsed the thanks to the officers. Thanks were also offered to Rev Father Leon Ostaszewski and members of the public for their interest and the Chair also noted that work would continue. Members also offered special thanks to the officers, including Michelle Gray, Constituency Engagement Officer, who worked hard behind the scenes.

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CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE - WIRRAL WEST

Thursday, 14 March 2019

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	J Green (Chair)	
	Councillors	T Anderson D Burgess-Joyce K Canon W Clements T Cox	D Elderton G Ellis J Robinson S Whittingham
<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	P Brightmore A Gardner T Smith	M Sullivan G Watt

37 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to consider whether they had 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.

The following declarations were made:

Councillor Wendy Clements: Interest in Item 3 as she is a Trustee of Greasby Community Association

Councillor Tom Anderson: Interest in Item 3 as he is a Trustee of Greasby Community Association

Community Representative Jackie Hall: Interest in Item 3 as she is a Trustee of Greasby Community Association

Councillor Jeff Green: Personal interest as Chairman of Wirral Golf Club Ltd

38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from councillors Phillip Brightmore, Andrew Gardner, Tony Smith, Mike Sullivan and Geoffrey Watt

39 MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2018 be approved.

40 **WIRRAL WEST COMMUNITY FUND (2018/19)**

Caroline Laing, Neighbourhoods Constituency Manager introduced a report which set out details of applications made to Wirral West Community Fund for decision by Wirral West Constituency Committee.

The Chair noted that he was concerned that funding for a defibrillator for Bertram Tennis Court could be deemed ineligible. The chair noted that the cost for this defibrillator was listed in the report and asked if the committee was willing to allow funding to be used for this request. Members agreed to allow this funding.

Councillor Stuart Whittingham put on record his thanks to everyone that had been involved with the Wirral West Community Fund.

Caroline Laing stated that the number of people that voted on the funding requests was 2294 in answer to a question from the Chair. The Chair stated that putting these funding requests to the public vote was an innovation that made the process more transparent.

The Chair put on record the committee's thanks to all the groups that have applied for funding and to the residents that have participated by voting.

Resolved: That

(1) the Wirral West Community Fund requests be noted and approved.

(2) The request for funding of a defibrillator for Bertram Tennis Court be approved.

41 **URGENT CARE CONSULTATION - JACQUI EVANS (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - UNPLANNED CARE AND COMMUNITY CARE MARKET COMMISSIONING)**

Jacqui Evans, Assistant Director, Unplanned Care and Community Care Market Commissioning, gave an update on plans for urgent care access. It was noted that the consultation was in place to improve access to urgent care for resident of the Wirral as there was a variance across the Wirral in terms of the offer of urgent care such as differing opening hours. The committee was informed that no definitive position had yet been reached and that while the consultation had concluded on 12th December 2018, the information received was being analysed by an independent analysis company and that a report was due back from them by the 3rd week of April 2019. There have also been

a number of alternative suggestions from other providers including some primary care federations and those proposals are being considered in detail.

An urgent care stakeholder group had been established since December 2018 that has been meeting monthly to review progress. It was noted that this is considered to be national best practice.

Jacqui Evans noted that the biggest change to the current offer would be an urgent treatment centre being set-up at Arrowe Park hospital. This would be run by GPs and nurses and would help to free up the emergency department.

The Chair stated that currently the Wirral has walk-in centres in Wallasey, Birkenhead and Eastham and they are quite large, this could create a blockage if they are shut.

Jacqui Evans stated that of all the visitors to Arrowe Park Urgent Treatment Centre, 47% could have been treated by a nurse. There have been delays in ambulances being released. She stated that patients would have access to a GP in their local area if they need urgent care that day. The CCG want a consistent offer to all patients.

Councillor Burgess-Joyce asked why the Wirral failed to get funding from NHS England and whether pharmacies are charging the NHS £28 each time they give patients medical advice.

Jacqui Evans explained that NHS England had indicated that Wirral's funding bid was good but that it was mis-timed and funding had been reduced nationally. She stated that she was not sure of the figure of £28 being charged by pharmacies and would look into it.

Cllr Cox highlighted that communication was a key issue and asked how patients would be informed of where to go for the correct treatment.

Jacqui Evans acknowledged that communication needed to be improved. She stated that the consultation is not about moving all the urgent care to Arrowe Park. They will come back with the best recommendations based on the feedback received. She stated that they had not got communications right in the past and they would be working with councillors and residents on how to best communicate to patients how to best access the correct services.

Cllr Whittingham highlighted that some bus services have been cancelled and asked how this has been taken into account by the review.

Jacqui Evans that there was a regular access working group where they work with transport officers and companies. She stated that some buses had been re-routed to account for the cancelled service.

Cllr Ellis raised problems with waiting times and queried if this would be remedied as part of the service review.

Jacqui Evans stated that the focus of this review is for urgent treatment and that some people are not deemed to be in need of urgent care. Some of the changes would include extended access to GPs with an additional 1080 appointments a week which should see a reduction in waiting times.

The Chair opened questions up to members of the public.

A member of the audience stated that he had asked at the previous meeting if walk in centres would be closed and was told no. He stated that halfway through the consultation the council had voted to scrap it, but the CCG carried on. He claimed it was not acceptable that over 18s have to travel to Arrowe Park.

Jacqui Evans stated that under 18s were part of the consultation and what was described will not definitely happen. She stated there was a lot of feedback that needed to be analysed before a decision was made and that was why they were getting independent help to do this.

42 **HOYLAKE GOLF RESORT**

David Ball, assistant director Major Growth Projects, gave a brief update on the Hoylake Golf Resort plans. He stated that at the Extraordinary Council Meeting on 25 February 2019, the outcome was to take funding and phasing plans to scrutiny committee, who would then make recommendations to Cabinet. There was currently no timescale and was aware that there would be a new leader after the local elections in May. A referral will be made to cabinet in July.

Cllr Burgess-Joyce stated that some councillors had tried to vote against the project at the last Council meeting but were defeated. He asked where does the decision go after Cabinet?

David Ball clarified that the decision stops at Cabinet as an executive decision.

The Chair highlighted that a budget of £26m had been supported by the Cabinet and asked how much money has been spent on this project so far.

David Ball explained that he did not have an exact figure to hand but that it was in the last Cabinet report. Money had been put aside for consultancy support but it had not yet been spent.

The Chair opened questions up to the public.

A Stephanie Miller asked for an update on the Hoylake Golf Course funding and phasing plan and to know if there was a financial clause in the plan to pay compensation to the Nicklaus Joint Venture Group and Celtic Manor should the council decide to pull out of the scheme.

The Chair asked for reassurance that there are no severance costs associated with the Hoylake golf course contract.

David Ball explained that the council has entered into a development agreement with Celtic Manor and if the council were to break that agreement then they could be open to legal action. He stated that these were standard terms and conditions and covered breaches of condition for both sides. He also stated that he was developing an agreement between the council and the Nicklaus Joint Venture Group.

The Chair stated that answers to these questions should be made available to all.

A Ken Barnes asked 2 questions:

1. In recent media articles and on their website, the Hoylake Golf Resort developers have stated that the Golf Resort Link Road will not be funded from the public purse.

Yet in the report to cabinet of December 2017, it was stated that the Link Road would be funded either by a grant from the Liverpool City Region or by the sale of the publicly owned land for the Resort. Please could you clarify how the Golf Resort Roads will be funded?

2. Please can you provide an update on the proposal to “off load” municipal golf courses to private management companies. How many companies have shown an interest in taking on the courses and when are they likely to be transferred to the “private companies”?

David Ball could not give an answer on the second question as he is not working on the proposals for municipal golf courses.

David Ball stated that there was various opportunities for funding the link road including Liverpool Region or using other funding. He did not know why Nicklaus Joint Venture Group stated that it would not be publicly funded.

The chair asked for clarity on the number of proposed properties to be built on the golf course.

David Ball confirmed that the current plan included 160 executive houses and 40 apartments equalling 200 dwellings in total.

A lady in the audience mentioned that the current plan for the golf resort included a 90 bedroom hotel and stated that the Celtic Manor golf resort in Wales started off with less but now has a much larger capacity. She wanted to know if the planned 90 bed hotel at the Wirral resort was just for the first phase and if it was likely to be expanded in future.

David Ball stated that at the current time there were no plans to expand.

A man in the audience asked if the 40 apartments planned for the golf resort were likely to fall under affordable housing rules.

David Ball stated that the council has different affordable housing policies in different parts of the borough and that the 40 apartments at the golf resort are being built specifically for golfers.

A Doug Johnston stated that other Jack Nicklaus golf clubs have declining memberships. He suggested that Wirral Council should establish a golf tourism office which would generate more money than the current proposals.

The Chair stated that there is a tourism team within the council that works hard for the borough.

A lady in the audience commented that AMY had done a consultation on the road and approximately £1.5m had been spent on this. She queried what right the Cabinet had to make executive decisions. She also stated that the land that the golf resort is being proposed to be built on is a flood plane and the resort could exacerbate flooding.

David Ball stated that the Nicklaus group would be undertaking studies on flooding as well as other environmental and ecological issues and these studies would all be open to scrutiny by the council. He also noted that the Cabinet is the executive power of the council and therefore was the only group that could make executive decisions.

Cllr Ellis expressed his frustration at the project and suggested that everyone should work together to stop it.

A Graham Wilson stated that the decision by full council cannot effect Cabinet decisions.

The Chair clarified that 56 out of 66 councillors have no direct say on whether this project goes ahead or not. But that if the Executive saw the full weight of opposition then the Cabinet would be effected.

Cllr Whittingham (a cabinet member) stated that the Cabinet is made up of elected members and that all Cabinet meetings are held in public. He stated that it was the Cabinets duty to look at all evidence before making a decision.

A man in the audience asked which scrutiny committee would look at the golf resort.

David Ball stated it would be the Business Oversight and Scrutiny committee.

A Rob Wilkinson stated that he understood that the council will be financing the golf resort with £26m and queried what would happen to that money if the company went bust.

David Ball stated that the council is looking at loaning the developers to part fund the site and the money would be secured against the value of the homes to be built. He stated that Nicklaus Joint Venture Group are the preferred developer and have identified a number of partners including Celtic Manor and Red Row. Terms and Conditions being used are standard for this sort of development.

The Chair asked how the council would retrieve the £26m if the houses are not built on the site.

David Ball stated that it would be a breach of the commercial agreement.

Cllr Canon stated that she has spoken to greenbelt groups and has listened. She stated that the vote at Council was not meaningful and wanted to make clear that she is listening to those opposed to the golf resort.

The Chair proposed a statement from the committee and it was agreed (8-1 abstention) that: "This committee disagrees with the ongoing development of the Hoylake Celtic Manor golf resort and calls on the Cabinet to change its mind and end this development"

The Chair recommended that the public keep the pressure up in order to affect change.

43 **GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT - IMPLEMENTING A NEW MODEL FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Caroline Laing, acting constituency manager, read from the report "Getting the Basics Right "Implementing a new Model for Community Engagement" regarding the distribution of funding across wards.

The Chair stated that West Kirby, Thurstaston and Hoylake and Meols wards are looking go back to the old style of ward budget management and felt it would make sense to stay with the same officer to manage this.

44 **UPDATE FROM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE**

Jackie Hall, Community Representative, made a suggestion to the audience member that raised the issue of dilapidated table tennis equipment; to look at the under-spends in the community fund and see if your local councillors can find the money to help.

Jackie Hall highlighted that Hoylake and Meols wards have so many community groups that they never have enough funds to get grants from and are always overspent. She stated that the £35k spent on Christmas lights came from the community groups directly and was not paid for by the council. She suggested that if other wards had such strong community groups that the Wirral would be a much better place.

45 **COMMUNITY QUESTION TIME**

A Peter Surrige, a representative of the Friends in Retirement Table Tennis Club at West Kirby Concourse, raised the dilapidated condition of the clubs table tennis tables and that the West Kirby Concourse will receive a share of a £340k fund for Wirral leisure centre improvements but that it will be spent on new consoles. He wished to know how to get funding for 4 new tables, which he estimated would cost no more than £1000 to replace all 4.

The Chair relayed an answer provided in advance to this question: a new Team Leader (Manager) to West Kirby Concourse – Mr Mike Henderson, has recently been appointed, and the Friends in Retirement Table Tennis Club should contact Mike in the first instance and then come to your local councillors from there. He also highlighted that there were going to be changes to budgets that would give councillors individual budgets.

A John Heath raised a number of issues relating to development on the greenbelt and the quoted government figures for houses that need to be built on the Wirral. He stated that there is no need to release any greenbelt for development until at least 2028. He queried what need there was for houses for additional 20k people when population on the Wirral is not rising.

David Ball stated that he would supply John with a written answer and would be happy to meet with him to discuss the figures.

A man in the audience stated that he had attended a meeting with Peel Holdings in Heswall where they stated that they had enough brown belt land to build 14,000 homes. He also stated that there are 4,500 empty homes in the Wirral so why do we need to build on the green belt?

A Roy Baston stated that flooding was a serious concern and that if the relevant company hasn't had a survey of the land done already then it was criminal, and the plans should not have got this far.

David Ball stated that the Nicklaus Joint Venture Group have done some surveys and that when the development comes through the planning stages there will need to be further surveys done at a greater depth.

A lady in the audience asked about the Wirral's need for new housing and suggested that the council's press release on the subject was misleading in stating that central government was forcing the council to stick with the standard method calculating a housing target. She quoted a recent letter from the secretary of state to Council Leader Phil Davies stating that the standard method for assessing housing need does not produce a housing target and that the authority should make a realistic assessment of the number of homes needed. She also stated that the Housing Minister Kit Malthouse had said that the governments targets were not mandatory and that any inspector would accept a variance from that target if properly evidenced. She asked why is the barrister being employed by the council at a reported cost of £135k not preparing a properly assessed variation from these housing targets? She mentioned that Tandrige Council had submitted a housing target of half what the standard assessment methodology suggested and the planning inspector found the plan to be sound.

David Ball stated that central government had made a standard methodology for housing need to be used across the country. Currently the council has been advised to use the standard method approach to determine what our housing need is. He suggested that he would need to give a much more lengthy answer to cover the specifics of the question.

The Chair summed up the current housing issues on the Wirral.

46 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Caroline Laing, acting constituency manager, gave a budget update for the committee. The community fund is currently underspent and any unspent funding would be returned to the council at the end of the financial year unless otherwise committed.

Caroline concluded by mentioning the Transport Plan for Growth Fund with a list of potential schemes from the Road Safety Panel made up of one Member from each ward.

The committee agreed to endorse these schemes.

The Chair stated that they would need to get funding agreed for community schemes as soon as possible to ensure that they do not lose the funding.

Caroline Laing stated that spending requests needed to be made by the following week to ensure they can be processed before the end of the financial year.

The Chair closed the meeting and thanked officers

WIRRAL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

JUNE 2019

Introduction

1. The Independent Panel on Members' Allowances met on 4 June 2019 to give urgent consideration to whether Leaders and Deputy Leaders of Minority Groups i.e. Groups having fewer Members than the second largest Opposition Group, should receive Special Responsibility Allowances. Also, following representations made by the Director of Pensions, the Panel was requested to give consideration to them and make a recommendation in respect of the amount of Special Responsibility Allowance that the Chair of the Pensions Committee should receive. The Panel comprised:

Peter Bounds, Former Chief Executive of Liverpool City Council (Chairman)
Nunzia Bertali, Consular Correspondent
Pauline Brown, Eclipse Executive Ltd
Ray Allan, Solicitor (Retired) – Apologised for absence

Budgetary Pressures

2. We are aware that there has been pressure because of austerity to keep Members' Allowances at the same level for a number of years. The Council continues to face considerable financial challenges and it is vital to ensure that public money is well spent and that all allowances are justified and merited. Members had previously given a lead on this and, with the support of the Panel, elected to take a 5% cut in basic allowance in 2011 and there have been no increases since then.

Periodic Review of Members' Allowances

3. We began a periodic review of Members' Allowances on 14 November 2018 but its work has been put on hold until 25 September 2019 when a further meeting has been scheduled to continue this review.

4. One Member had heard that the Panel was meeting and had sent in written representations which we agreed to take into account, as part of our periodic review of the Members' Allowances Scheme, later in the year.

5. The Chair of the Panel offered to draft a consultation paper in order to assist the periodic review which will be circulated to all Members of the Council in advance of our next meeting so that responses can be considered before the Panel makes any recommendations to the Council.

Chair of the Pensions Committee

6. We agreed that consideration of the proposal to increase the Special Responsibility Allowance paid to the Chair of the Pensions Committee be deferred until the next meeting of the Panel on 25 September 2019, when the periodic review of Members' Allowances will be continuing.

Minority Groups

7. We have been asked to meet again, in the interim, because the Council is now made up of Councillors representing five different Political Groups as follows:

- Labour – 32
- Conservative – 22
- Lib Dem – 6
- Independents – 3
- Greens – 3

8. This is as a result of the Local Government Elections held in May 2019. The Council's Members' Allowances Scheme only makes reference to three Political Groups so there is no provision for the new Minority Groups.

9. We considered the published material and comparisons with the Council's fifteen comparator local authorities, paying particular attention to those that have similar Minority Groups. We also took into consideration the requirements of Government Regulations on Member Allowances. The Leader of the Council - Councillor Pat Hackett (Labour) and the Deputy Leader of the Labour Group - Councillor Janette Williamson were invited into the meeting to make representations. They attended and presented Group views to the Independent Panel and were followed by the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor Phil Gilchrist. Councillor Ian Lewis – Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Lesley Rennie, Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Moira McLaughlin – Leader of the Independent Group and Councillor Pat Cleary – Leader of the Green Group had also been invited to make representations but they all chose to do so in writing. All the representations that were received have been taken into consideration in making our recommendations.

10. We are aware that the Basic Members' Allowance is paid in recognition of the time commitment of all Councillors, including such inevitable calls on time as meetings with officers, constituents and attendance at Political Group meetings. It is also intended to cover incidental costs such as the use of Members' homes. However, in accordance with statutory guidance, it is accepted that an element of the role of an elected Member must be viewed as voluntary and unpaid.

11. We are also aware that, currently, each of the two Minority Group Leaders are already in receipt of a Special Responsibility Allowance as one Member is the Chair

of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, whilst the other is a Member of the Liverpool City Region Transport Committee. This is an important factor because Members are restricted to one Special Responsibility Allowance only. In the future, of course, Leaders of Minority Groups may not be carrying out any other role and may wish to claim a Special Responsibility Allowance for being a Group Leader, if this is possible.

12. We are informed that the five Group Leaders have begun to meet together, for an hour, on a fortnightly basis, in the spirit of cooperation and in an attempt to reach agreement on some issues e.g. committee places, Council wide projects. This is an extra duty being undertaken, because they are Group Leaders. It is also noted that Group Leaders are responsible for galvanising the rest of their Members and the Minority Groups have changed the status quo.

Recommendations

13. The Council be recommended to agree to the following:

That

- (1) a Special Responsibility Allowance of £1,146 (5% of the SRA paid to the Leader of the Council) be paid to the Leaders of Minority Groups, i.e. Groups having fewer Members than the second largest Opposition Group, comprising of at least three Members;**
- (2) no Special Responsibility Allowances be paid to the Deputy Leaders of Minority Groups; and**
- (3) the Panel be requested to give further consideration to Special Responsibility Allowances for the Leaders and Deputy Leaders, as part of its periodic review of Members' Allowances, when it meets again on 25 September 2019.**

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MINUTE EXTRACT

EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

12 JUNE 2019

3 APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

The Director of Governance and Assurance, Philip McCourt, introduced a report on the options to appoint to the role of Head of Paid Service following the resignation of Mr Eric Robinson.

In introducing his report the Director of Governance and Assurance apologised to the Committee that the report had not been made exempt prior to its publication, in accordance with the Council's Standing Order No. 14, 'Motions affecting persons employed by the Council'. He stated that he had apologised to the officers concerned. He suggested that if at any point during the meeting Members wished to go into exempt discussion then he would invite Members to do so.

Councillor Jeff Green expressed the view that the members of the Committee had been put in an invidious position because the Chief Executive had circulated an email to all staff with a date of when he was leaving and that Mr Paul Sator would be taking over. Whilst he did believe that the report should be discussed in public to be open and transparent, he considered that it was disrespectful to the committee to have done that.

Councillor Lesley Rennie expressed the view that it was unfortunate to have got off on the wrong foot at the start of a new municipal year and asked what consultation had been undertaken by the Chief Executive before the Executive View email was sent to all staff.

Councillor Janette Williamson expressed the view that what had happened had been a mistake but that she didn't feel disrespected as a Committee Member by it.

The Director of Governance and Assurance reiterated his apology to the Committee, accepted that full accountability in respect of this matter sat with him, and stated that measures would be put in place to ensure it did not happen again.

The Director of Change and Organisational Design, Mrs Nikki Boardman, assured the Committee that all Political Group Leaders had received an apology.

Members agreed to accept the apologies that had been given.

The Director of Governance and Assurance suggested that the four recommendations within the report could be taken in turn with a debate on each.

With regard to the first recommendation the Director of Governance and Assurance went through the timeline of Mr Robinson's resignation. Mr Robinson had been

informed on the morning of 28 May, 2019 that the Secretary of State would be making an announcement in respect of his appointment (the press release being made on 29 May, 2019). Discussions were held with the Leader and Mr Robinson had requested that he be allowed to leave with 2 months' notice taking account of 11 days annual leave remaining.

Councillor Pat Hackett informed the meeting that the Chief Executive had spoken to him in his role as the Council's Leader on 29 May and explained his offer of a new opportunity with the Disclosure and Barring Service and that he had accepted his resignation. A conversation had taken place over leaving dates and he had made a judgement call over a hand-over period with a new officer leadership in place sooner rather than later. For the sake of the organisation he felt the need to move on as soon as possible.

Councillor Lesley Rennie suggested that Mr Robinson could leave with immediate effect.

Councillor Anita Leech suggested that it would be good practice to have a hand-over period as without this it could put some undue pressure on the interim appointee.

The Director of Governance and Assurance stated the requirement in law for every local authority to have a designated Head of Paid Service in post confirmed by a meeting of the full Council. The next scheduled meeting of ordinary Council was on 15 July, the earliest date for which an appointment could therefore be made.

Councillor Jenny Johnson commented that she would expect Mr Robinson to meet his contractually obliged notice period of three months.

Councillor Phil Gilchrist asked that it be placed on record his dissatisfaction with the notice period being shortened.

On a motion by Councillor Jeff Green, seconded by Councillor Lesley Rennie, it was –

(1) Resolved (5:4) (One abstention) – That this Committee confirms the termination of employment of Mr Eric Robinson as Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) with effect from 15 July, 2019.

The Director of Governance and Assurance then spoke to the second recommendation regarding the appointment of Mr Paul Satoor to the post of Chief Executive for a period of twelve months, or until such time as a permanent appointment was made.

Councillor Lesley Rennie commented upon whether the authority needed to have a Chief Executive in the future and suggested that the Council had a Head of Paid Service with separate officers as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer. A period of twelve months was a long time and any appointment should be subject to a satisfactory quarterly performance appraisal. Also no Chief Officer should be paid more than the Prime Minister.

The Director of Governance and Assurance stated that for most local authorities the role of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer was held by the Chief Executive or by the Monitoring Officer. If the Council sought to offer the post on different terms and conditions then further discussions would need to take place with the proposed appointee.

Councillor Jeff Green commented upon the need for a wider discussion on the number of highly paid officers within the authority and whether or not they were all required. The Head of Paid Service could be any Chief Officer though the level of remuneration should be no more than the Prime Minister. Given that it was proposed for Mr Paul Satoor to be undertaking this role on an interim basis he should be offered a salary of £153,000, the same as the Prime Minister.

Councillor Chris Jones stated that she did not think it reasonable to ask Mr Satoor to take on the role at less than the current incumbent.

Responding to comments from Members, Mr Tony Williams, Head of HR, stated that the Chief Executive's salary range was £158,000 to £178,000 and Mr Satoor would be paid at the bottom of that range. There was one Corporate Director paid at the next level below that range at £145,000 - £161,000, the Corporate Director of Children's Services and he was managed by the Chief Executive. Within the Liverpool City Region Chief Executives were paid an average of £159,000 and a top rate of £166,000, excluding Liverpool City Council. Metropolitan Authorities averaged between £179,000 to £186,000. A comprehensive report on comparator salaries and issues around the Head of Paid Service would be brought to a future meeting.

Councillor Pat Hackett suggested that it would be irresponsible to act impulsively without careful consideration and of the need to have someone in place at this crucial time for the organisation.

Councillor Jenny Johnson suggested the need to go out to the marketplace to recruit the best possible interim.

Councillor Mike Collins suggested that any officers taking an interim role shouldn't expect the full salary and that some of the work being undertaken could be shared out amongst the senior leadership team.

Councillor Chris Jones commented that going out to the marketplace for a locum interim could take just as long as recruiting a new Chief Executive, whereas a seamless transition to an in-house interim would be less disruptive.

It was then moved by Councillor Anita Leech and seconded by Councillor Pat Hackett, that –

““This Committee recommends to Council that Mr Paul Satoor be appointed to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), to include the appointment as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for a period of twelve months or until such time as a permanent appointment is made.”

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Lesley Rennie and seconded by Councillor Jeff Green, that –

“This Committee recommends to Council that Mr Paul Satoor be appointed to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), to include the appointment as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for a period of twelve months on an interim basis subject to a successful quarterly performance appraisal and that no officer be paid more than the Prime Minister.”

The amendment was put and lost (4:6).

The motion was put and carried (10:0).

(2) Resolved (10:0) – That this Committee recommends to Council that Mr Paul Satoor be appointed to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), to include the appointment as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for a period of twelve months or until such time as a permanent appointment is made.

The Director of Change and Organisational Design, then spoke to the third recommendation in respect of a proposed report on the review of all the options as to how to appoint a Head of Paid Service.

Councillor Phil Gilchrist suggested the need to include a full explanation as to the differentials between the lowest paid Council workers and the highest paid and how these could be reduced.

Some Members expressed the view that they would not want to commit to a report on differentials which reduced salaries.

It was then moved by Councillor Anita Leech and seconded by Councillor Janette Williamson that –

“A report concerning the considerations and requisite steps for the permanent appointment to the position of Head of Paid Service be brought to the Committee by the Director of Change and Organisational Design at a convenient date which would include a full exploration of the role, remuneration and appointment process.”

It was moved as an amendment by Councillor Phil Gilchrist and seconded by Councillor Jeff Green that –

“A report concerning the considerations and requisite steps for the permanent appointment to the position of Head of Paid Service be brought to the Committee by the Director of Change and Organisational Design at a convenient date. The report must include the results of a full exploration of how the differential salaries between a permanent Chief Executive and other Corporate Directors, Deputy Directors and other Directors can be reduced whilst paying full regard to concerns expressed by Members regarding a salary multiplier.”

The amendment was put and lost (5:6 on the Chair’s casting vote).

The motion was put and carried (6:5 on the Chair's casting vote).

(3) Resolved (6:5 on the Chair's casting vote) – That a report concerning the considerations and requisite steps for the permanent appointment to the position of Head of Paid Service be brought to the Committee by the Director of Change and Organisational Design at a convenient date which would include a full exploration of the role, remuneration and appointment process.

The Director of Change and Organisational Design then spoke to the fourth recommendation in respect of the vacant post of Corporate Director for Economic and Housing Growth, which Mr Paul Satoor had been acting into since the resignation of the previous postholder in December, 2018.

Responding to Members' comments, the Director of Change and Organisational Design stated that an appointment would be made on an interim basis subject to further conversations about filling the role on a permanent basis. This would be an internal recruitment. With regard to a replacement for Mr Paul Satoor's current role as Corporate Director for Business Management it was Mr Paul Satoor's intention to look at the senior management structure. A report would be brought to a meeting in September / October. It was then –

(4) Resolved (9:0) (One abstention) – That a recruitment process be undertaken to recruit on an interim basis to the vacant post of Corporate Director for Economic and Housing Growth.

The Director of Governance and Assurance advised the Committee of the possibility of appointing an appointments panel for this post but if a Panel was not appointed then the appointment could be made by the Committee.

A Panel was not appointed.

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MINUTE EXTRACT

CABINET

24 JUNE 2019

7 EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

Councillor Pat Hackett introduced a report which provided details of amendments he had made as the Leader of the Council, to the Scheme of Delegation of Executive Functions, effective immediately in and from 1 September 2019.

The Cabinet was reminded that the Council had adopted a Leader and Cabinet executive form of governance. Following the end of the term of office of the Member holding the position of Leader (every fourth year or less), the Council had elected the Leader of the Council at its Annual Meeting. At the last Annual Meeting of Council, Councillor Pat Hackett had been elected as Leader for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of May 2023 (subject to the provisions of the Constitution and any change in the Council's governance arrangements that may affect it).

The Cabinet was also reminded that the Leader must appoint a Deputy Leader and up to eight other Members to form the Executive, in respect of which the Council used the term 'Cabinet'.

It was noted that Article 7.06 (The Cabinet) of Part 2 of the Council's Constitution concerned the responsibility for functions. This provided that:

- “(i) The Leader may discharge any executive function, or
- (ii) may arrange for the discharge of any of those functions –
- (a) by the Cabinet;
- (b) by any Cabinet Member;
- (c) by a committee of the Cabinet;
- (d) by area committee; or
- (e) by an officer of the authority.”

The means by which these functions were allocated were set out in a Leader's Scheme of Delegation. The current Scheme was published as Table 3 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, together with a schedule of delegation of functions to individual Cabinet Members (3k - Schedule 5) and to individual officers (3j - Schedule 4B).

Appended to the Cabinet report was a replacement Leader's Scheme of Delegation and Procedure. This included, at Appendix C, the named appointments of Deputy Leader and the remaining Members of the Cabinet and a description of their Portfolios of responsibility. This was of immediate effect.

The Cabinet noted that the key changes between the existing Scheme and this were:

- (a) The introduction of a clear hierarchy of decision making through the setting of financial limits to delegated decisions, which in summary was that:
- (i) officers may only take decisions up to a financial value of £1.5M; beyond which
 - (ii) individual Cabinet Members may only take decisions up to a financial value of £5M; and all other decisions beyond that must be taken by the Cabinet as a collective meeting.
- (b) Individual Cabinet Member decisions were to be subject to a set of rules regarding how and when they may take those decisions, including what advice and material must be before the Cabinet Member at that time. Existing rules concerning the reporting of those decisions, including that all such decisions were normally subject to call-in, were included for ease of reference.
- (c) Cabinet decisions were likewise subject to those rules, but additionally would include the intention of the Leader to request the establishment of:
- all-party policy advisory groups; and
 - Member workshops

by which the Cabinet could approach Members outside of the Cabinet to help it develop major policies and the budget and in making decisions on major projects.

- (d) Officer executive decisions made at a lower level than at present would be subject to a requirement to publish that decision, and their reasons for making it, on the Council's website. This would apply to all decisions, other than ordinary business such as the provision of children's and social care packages, of a value above £250,000. Whilst these would not be subject to call-in, any key decision made by an officer would be subject to the same rules as for Cabinet Member decisions and would be subject to call-in.

The Scheme was of immediate effect. This was with the exception of the final provisions relating to officer decisions (paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Scheme and Procedure), which would not be implemented until September 2019 to allow for implementation and training.

It was normal practice for the Leader to give notice of amendments to their Scheme of Delegation to the proper officer, the Director of Governance and Assurance, for the changes to be included in the Constitution and for the changes to also then be reported to a meeting of the Cabinet, and the Council.

Councillor Hackett informed that this was a very important report about making sure that decisions were taken in an open and transparent manner and were able to be challenged and scrutinised. He promised to make the Council more inclusive in its decision-making and was of the view that agreeing the recommendations would help with this. The changes would open up the Council and enable Members from each Political Group to become more involved and have more influence in the decisions that affect their constituents.

Councillor Tony Jones informed that he was in full supported the report's contents. He informed that the main goal of the Executive was to open up all decision-making and make the Town Hall more inclusive for Members and residents. Councillor Jones considered the report to be a really positive step of which he assured that there would be more to come.

Councillor Anita Leech drew attention to the fact that the Administration was a minority Administration and informed that this should not be allowed to paralyse it. It would have to continue with business as usual and would have to find a way of working cross party and to open discussion and debate to allow this to happen.

Councillor Chris Jones considered the proposal to publish officer decisions with the same level of scrutiny and openness and transparency as Member decisions was a perfect illustration and proof of the Administration's commitment to be open and inclusive. She fully supported the recommendations set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the amended Leader's Scheme of Delegation and Procedure which is of immediate effect, except the provisions relating to executive decisions taken by officers (paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Scheme and Procedure), which will not be implemented until September 2019, be noted and**
- (2) the Council be informed of the amended Leader's Scheme of Delegation and Procedure at its meeting scheduled for 15 July 2019.**

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**COUNCILLOR
PAT HACKETT**

CABINET

24 JUNE 2019

EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

Councillor Pat Hackett, said:

“Ensuring good governance, openness and transparency in all decision making, is vital. These principles will underpin how this new Administration works. I believe the proposals within this report serve to increase oversight and visibility of every decision the Cabinet and Council makes, making sure all Members and every resident can hold us to account.”

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides details of amendments made by the Leader of the Council to their Scheme of Delegation of Executive Functions, effective immediately in and from 1st September 2019.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Cabinet is requested to

- (1) note the amended Leader’s Scheme of Delegation and Procedure which is of immediate effect, except the provisions relating to executive decisions taken by officers (paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Scheme and Procedure), which will not be implemented until September 2019, and
- (2) inform the meeting of Council on 15 July 2019.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The Leader is required to:
- (a) appoint members of Cabinet, including a Deputy Leader; and
 - (b) maintain a Scheme of Delegation of executive functions.
- 1.2 In doing so, the Leader has expressed a desire to increase participation of Members outside of the Cabinet in decision making and to increase transparency in the process and reporting of decisions by Cabinet members and by officers.
- 1.3 Part of the Scheme's associated procedure (paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5) will require additional time for implementation, training and embedding in the Council's processes.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The amendments to the Leader's Scheme of Delegation, provided they are lawful in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended), are required to be published and implemented.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Council has adopted a Leader and Cabinet executive form of governance. Following the end of term of office of the Member holding the position of Leader (every fourth year or less), the Council elects the Leader of the Council at its Annual Meeting. At the most recent Annual Meeting of Council, Councillor Pat Hackett was newly elected as Leader for the period ending with the Annual meeting of May 2023 (subject to the provisions of the Constitution and any change in Council's governance arrangements that may affect that).
- 3.2 The Leader must appoint a Deputy Leader and up to eight other members to form the Executive, in respect of which Wirral Council uses the term 'Cabinet'.
- 3.3 Article 7.06 (The Cabinet) of Part 2 of the Council's Constitution concerns the responsibility for functions. This provides that:
- “(i) The Leader may discharge any executive function, or
 - (ii) may arrange for the discharge of any of those functions –
 - (a) by the Cabinet;
 - (b) by any Cabinet Member;
 - (c) by a committee of the Cabinet;
 - (d) by area committee; or
 - (e) by an officer of the authority.”
- 3.4 The means by which these functions are allocated are set out in a Leader's Scheme of Delegation. The current Scheme is published as Table 3 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, together with a schedule of delegation of

functions to individual cabinet members (3k - Schedule 5) and to individual officers (3j - Schedule 4B).

- 3.5 Appended is a replacement Leader's Scheme of Delegation and Procedure.
- 3.6 This includes, at Appendix C, the named appointments of Deputy Leader and remaining members of Cabinet and a description of their Portfolios of responsibility. This is of immediate effect.
- 3.7 The key changes between the existing Scheme and this are:
- (a) The introduction of a clear hierarchy of decision making through the setting of financial limits to delegated decisions, which in summary is that
- (i) officers may only take decisions up to a financial value of £1.5M; beyond which
 - (ii) individual Cabinet members may only take decisions up to a financial value of £5M; and
- all other decisions beyond that must be taken by Cabinet as a collective meeting.
- (b) Individual Cabinet member decisions are to be subject to a set of rules regarding how and when they may take those decisions, including what advice and material must be before the Cabinet member at that time. Existing rules concerning the reporting of those decisions, including that all such decisions are normally subject to call-in, are included for ease of reference.
- (c) Cabinet decisions are likewise subject to those rules, but additionally will include the intention of the Leader to request the establishment of:
- all-party policy advisory groups; and
 - Member workshops
- by which the Cabinet can approach Members outside of the Cabinet to help it develop major policies and the budget and in making decisions on major projects.
- (d) Officer executive decisions made at a lower level than at present will be subject to a requirement to publish that decision, and their reasons for making it, on the Council's website. This will apply to all decisions, other than ordinary business such as the provision of children's and social care packages, of a value above £250,000. Whilst these will not be subject to call-in, any key decision made by an officer will be subject to the same rules as for Cabinet member decisions and will be subject to call-in.
- 3.8 The Scheme is of immediate effect. This is with the exception of the final provisions above (paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Scheme and Procedure), which will not be implemented until September 2019 to allow for implementation and training.

3.9 It is normal practice for the Leader to give notice of amendments to their Scheme of Delegation to the proper officer, the Director of Governance and Assurance, for the changes to be included in the Constitution and for the changes to also then be reported to a meeting of Cabinet, and Council.

4.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The changes concerning reporting and publication of decisions will require an increased officer input.

5.0 LEGAL

5.1 The Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) sets out requirements of the Council in operating under an executive form of governance and a Leader and Cabinet form of executive arrangements.

5.2 The Act also requires the Council to adopt a Constitution. The contents of the associated Regulations and Direction under the Act require the Council to set out its executive arrangements. A form of those executive arrangements applying to the Cabinet (also known as cabinet standing orders or executive procedure rules) are included in the Scheme of Delegation and Procedures appended to this report.

6.0 RELEVANT RISKS

6.1 The changes concerning reporting and publication of decisions will create a risk of challenge should those procedures fail to be complied with when decisions are made.

6.2 This is balanced by the decrease in risk associated with a better audit trail, increased transparency and the application of greater quality control associated with implementing those procedures.

7.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no equalities implications

REPORT AUTHOR: Philip McCourt,
Director of Governance & Assurance

APPENDED Leaders Scheme of Delegation and Procedures

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEADER'S SCHEME OF DELEGATION & PROCEDURE

(To be included as Section 3 in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution)

This document sets out how executive decisions are taken at Wirral Council.

CONTENT

THE EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

1. Summary of the executive decision making process
2. Executive decisions
3. Cabinet decision making
4. Cabinet committee decision making
5. Individual cabinet member decision making
6. Officer decision making

Appendix

- A CABINET DECISION MAKING**
- B CABINET COMMITTEES**
- C CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS**
- D OFFICER DELEGATIONS**

THE EXECUTIVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

The Council's decision making process is under greater scrutiny than ever before, both from elected Members and members of the public, and it is important that we have robust recording procedures in place.

This document sets out a new procedural framework for documenting and publishing executive decisions taken by Members or an officer under delegated powers.

1. SUMMARY OF THE EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

1.1 The Leader of the Council has overall responsibility for the executive functions of the Council.

1.2 To deliver those executive functions, the Leader has

- appointed a Cabinet comprising the Leader and up to nine further elected Members of the Council and has determined which delegated executive functions shall be the responsibility of the Cabinet;
- appointed one of those Members as Deputy Leader of the Council to act in the absence of the Leader;
- allocated a Portfolio of responsibility to each of the Cabinet Members, including a Portfolio of matters to be the responsibility of the Leader, and has determined a Scheme of Delegation to Individual Cabinet Members that sets out the decisions that each Cabinet member may take;
- established and appointed to a Cabinet Committee as the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board and has determined which delegated decisions that Committee may take;
- determined which delegated executive functions shall be the responsibility of Council officers and has determined a Scheme of Executive Delegation to officers that sets out the decisions that officers may take;
- confirmed the responsibility of the Head of Paid Service and Directors (chief officers) for the general management of the authority and for day to day operation for functions and services of the Council; AND
- determined the process and circumstances in which those decisions must be made.

2. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

2.1 An "executive decision" is one made in connection with the discharge of a function which is the responsibility of the executive, i.e., the Leader and Cabinet.

2.2 Certain executive decisions are defined in law as 'Key Decisions'. The Council's adopted definition of a key decision is –

- (a) any decision of the Cabinet incurring expenditure or making savings in excess of **10% of the relevant budget head or £500,000**, whichever is the smaller, unless
 - the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed in full Council; or
 - it is a decision taken in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy; or
- (b) any decision of the Cabinet which is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the Borough (and which in the absence of Statutory Guidance will be guided by the view of the Leader in respect of a prospective decision likely to have a significant effect on a significant number of people).

In addition to the above, and for the avoidance of doubt, any decision approving proposals for the making of a plan or budget which requires the approval of full Council shall be treated as a key decision.

2.3 A key decision differs from other kinds of decisions because, where a decision maker intends to make a key decision, they must first publish a document containing publicity requirements about the decision and (subject to certain exception and urgency provisions) they cannot make the decision until at least 28 clear days the document, known as the 'Forward Plan, has been made available for inspection by the public. Further information on this can be found in Part 4 the Council's Constitution.

2.4 An Executive Decision taken by Cabinet, Cabinet Members and officers are referred to as non-key decisions, but they are still to be recorded. A non-key Executive Decision is -

- (a) A decision that directly relates to the development of the Budget and Policy Framework, comprising:
 - (i) decisions to approve a draft document or proposal and to commence formal consultation on that document or proposal; or
 - (ii) decisions to recommend to Council the adoption of the Budget or a policy within the Policy Framework following consideration of the outcome of the formal consultation;
- (b) any decision taken by the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or by the Leader or another individual Cabinet Member;
- (c) decisions taken by an officer in specific consultation with the Cabinet, a Cabinet Committee or an individual Cabinet Member; and

- (d) a decision taken by an officer that would otherwise be taken by the Cabinet, a Cabinet Committee or an individual Cabinet Member but has been made under delegated powers from one of those decision-making bodies:
 - (i) under a specific express authorisation; or
 - (ii) under a general authorisation to officers to take such decisions and the effect of the decision is to—
 - (1) grant a permission or licence;
 - (2) affect the rights of an individual; or
 - (3) award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Council's financial position, for which purposes is taken to be a financial saving or expenditure of **more than £250,000** (and less than £500,000).

2.5 All Key Decisions and those non-key decisions taken by Cabinet, a Cabinet Committee or a Cabinet Member are subject to the Council's call-in process.

2.6 Many administrative and operational decisions to be taken by officers relate to their general management role in conducting the Council's business and how they deal with their day to day work. This may amount to sums greater than that referred to above, particularly in relation to decisions taken on expenditure on individual children's or adult social care packages. These decisions are not to be regarded as executive decisions and, as such, they will not need to be recorded and published in the way described here.

3. CABINET DECISION MAKING

3.1 The Cabinet makes all executive decisions that are not otherwise delegated to the Cabinet Committee, an individual Cabinet Member or an officer of the Council.

3.2 Any executive functions or matters may additionally be referred by the Leader, Cabinet Member or Director to Cabinet for consideration, determination and decision. Examples of matters that should normally be referred to Cabinet rather than be taken as a delegated decision are those that fall into one or more of the following categories:

- (a) the matter under consideration is a high profile matter;
- (b) the decision has a significant budgetary impact;
- (c) there is a need or it is considered prudent to engage the public and/or raise public awareness; and/or
- (d) the function/matter provides important performance management information.

- 3.3 Decisions of the Cabinet will be taken at a meeting convened in accordance with the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules (set out in part 4B of this Constitution and which set out the requirements covering public meetings).
- 3.4 The order of business will be as set out in **Appendix A** unless the Leader determines otherwise for reasons to be given at the meeting and recorded.
- 3.5 The quorum for a meeting of the executive (meeting collectively as the Cabinet) shall be two and shall be chaired by the Leader if present.
- 3.6 An executive decision shall be taken by Cabinet only on consideration of a full report by the relevant officer(s), published in accordance with the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, which shall contain as a minimum:
- (a) a recommended decision;
 - (b) a presentation of reasons for the recommendation being put forward
 - (c) details of any other options considered and why those options were rejected;
 - (d) details of any consultation undertaken or proposed including, in respect of consultation undertaken, the nature and extent of the consultation undertaken with stakeholders and the overview and scrutiny committees and the outcome of that consultation;
 - (e) a consideration of the financial and legal issues pertaining to the matter, and such other matters as governance chief officers (the head of paid service, s.151 officer or monitoring officer) may require, including risk, staffing or equalities implications; plus
 - (f) a list compiled of any Background Papers to the report, meaning those documents other than published works that, in the opinion of the proper officer, relate to the subject matter of the report or, as the case may be, the part of the report; and
 - (i) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
 - (ii) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the report;
- together with any additional comments the Cabinet member with portfolio wished to add to the report.
- 3.7 The minutes of the meeting must, as a minimum, contain:
- (a) a record of the decision;
 - (b) the date the decision was taken;
 - (c) a record of the reasons for the decision;
 - (d) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Cabinet at the meeting at which the decision was made;

- (e) a record of any declaration of interest and, in respect of decision making by elected members, a note of any dispensation granted; and
- (f) a record of any conflict of interest relating to the matter decided which is declared by any member of the Cabinet which made the decision and where applicable, a note of dispensation granted (by the Standards Committee); and
- (g) where appropriate, a statement of urgency and that the decision is exempted from call-in.

3.8 The decisions taken by Cabinet are subject to the Council's procedures for delayed implementation and call- in.

4. CABINET COMMITTEE DECISION MAKING

4.1 Where executive decisions are delegated to a Committee of the Cabinet the Procedures relating to Cabinet meetings and consideration of business as shown at paragraph 3.3 to 3.7 above apply also to Cabinet Committee meetings, subject to any member of the Cabinet being read as any member of the Committee.

4.2 The Leader has established and appointed to a Committee of Cabinet, the composition and terms of reference of which is set out at **Appendix B**.

5. INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION MAKING

5.1 The Leader of the Council has allocated a Portfolio of responsibility to each Cabinet Member, which is set out as **Appendix C**. An individual Cabinet Member may take executive decisions within the scope of their portfolio subject to the conditions set out in this Scheme of Delegation and related procedures as detailed below.

5.2 A Cabinet Member may then take a decision **only**:

- (a) where it is considered on the basis of a written report prepared in accordance with paragraphs 3.6 above;
- (b) at a time and place that will be agreed with the relevant Director (or nominee) and the relevant Director (or nominee) is in attendance when the decision is taken;
- (c) after the Leader has been given at least 3 clear days' prior notice that the decision is proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member and the Leader has not decided that the proposed decision is to be referred to the Cabinet, Cabinet Committee or take the decision him/herself; and
- (d) the decision is not otherwise reserved to Cabinet (under 5.3 below).

5.3 Where a proposed executive decision concerns:

- (a) the appointment of consultants over the value of **£50,000**;
- (b) the extension of contracts for any period greater than two years or where an extension was not an option in the original contract;
- (c) the commencement of a procurement exercise over the value of **£5,000,000**;
- (d) the acceptance of tenders and award of a contract over the value of **£5,000,000** or where the tender value exceeds the figure set out in the relevant budget; or
- (e) additional or replacement items for the current year's Capital Programme where the amount of the estimate exceeds **£5,000,000** or increases the overall total of the Departmental Capital Programme;

the matter must be referred to Cabinet.

5.4 The Cabinet Member shall ensure that a '**Cabinet Member Decision Notice**' is prepared as a written record of their decision, that it contains:

- a) a record of the names and titles of the decision taker and, where appropriate, the officer(s) in attendance;
- b) a record of the decision;
- c) the date the decision was taken;
- d) a statement of the reasons for the decision;
- e) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Cabinet Member when making the decision;
- f) a record of any declaration of interest and, in respect of decision making by elected members, a note of any dispensation granted;
- g) where appropriate, a statement of urgency and that the decision is exempted from call-in

and is counter-signed by the relevant Director (or nominee).

5.5 The Cabinet Member Decision Notice shall be delivered it to the Director of Governance and Assurance (via the Committee Services Team) who shall publish the Decision Notice and accompanying report in accordance with the Constitution.

5.6 The decisions taken by a Cabinet Member are subject to the Council's procedures for delayed implementation and call- in.

5.7 Cabinet Member decisions will be reported to Cabinet.

6. OFFICER DECISION MAKING

- 6.1 The Leader has determined a specified Scheme of Delegation to Officers, which is set out as **Appendix D**. An individual officer may take an Executive Decision, as defined at paragraph 2.4 above, that is within the scope of their management portfolio, subject to the conditions set out in this Scheme of Delegation and related procedures as detailed below.
- 6.2 A Key Decision may then be taken by an officer **only**:
- (a) where it is considered on the basis of a written report prepared in accordance with paragraphs 3.6 above; and
 - (b) when the relevant report author (or nominee) is in attendance when the decision is taken.
- 6.3 An Executive Decision may then be taken by an officer only where:
- (a) the proposed decision concerns the award of contract or otherwise materially affects the Council's financial position, by a financial saving or expenditure, of **no more than £1,500,000**;
 - (b) the item of business has not been previously requested by a Cabinet Member to be referred to the cabinet or a Cabinet member; or
 - (c) the officer concerned is not of the opinion that, due to its sensitive or high profile nature, the item of business is to be referred to a Cabinet member or the Cabinet for determination (but shall not do so if any third party rights would be adversely affected solely as a result of the officer declining to exercise their delegated power).
- 6.4 An officer who takes an Executive Decision shall ensure that an 'Officer Decision Notice' is prepared as a written record of their decision and that it contains:
- a) a record of the names and titles of the decision taker and, where appropriate, the other officer(s) in attendance;
 - b) a record of the decision including the date it was made;
 - c) a statement of the reasons for the decision;
 - d) details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision;
 - e) a record of any statement made by any Cabinet Member who is consulted by the officer, including any conflict of interest declared by that Cabinet Member which relates to the decision; and
 - f) in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the relevant local authority's head of paid service; and

- g) in respect of a Key Decision, a statement of urgency and that the decision is exempted from call-in where appropriate.
- 6.5 The Officer Decision Notice shall be delivered it to the Director of Governance and Assurance (via the Committee Services Team), together with the supporting report where a Key Decision, who shall publish the Decision Notice.
- 6.6 Any report or papers relied upon to reach the decision must also be provided to be made available for inspection by members of the public.
- 6.6 Officer decisions are not eligible for call-in unless the decision is a Key Decision.

Appendix A

CABINET DECISION MAKING

1. INTRODUCTION – WAY OF WORKING

1.1 The Council currently has no set procedure for the conduct of the meeting of the Cabinet. This is set out below, which includes new provision for access to speak to Cabinet decision making by other Members of the Council.

1.2 In addition to this procedure, a number of decisions throughout the year will be informed, in addition to consultation with Overview and Scrutiny Committees and stakeholders in the normal way, by:

Policy Advisory Groups: All party groups (to include a Group Leaders' meeting and a Local Plan Group) will be invited to meet to regularly discuss and be brief on major projects and issues. These will be chaired by the Leader or relevant Cabinet Member with Portfolio and their intention is to involve the other political groups and to inform the Cabinet and Cabinet member in their decision making. These meetings are held in private and the papers exempt unless otherwise stated.

and

Member Workshops: Private meetings open to relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees members (or all Members as the Overview and Scrutiny Committees may feel appropriate), which will explore major and potentially controversial matters in depth throughout a day, half-day or full evening before a decision comes to a formal meeting of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and then Cabinet.

2. MEETINGS OF CABINET - HOW CABINET MEETINGS ARE TO BE CONDUCTED

2.1 Who presides?

The Leader will preside at any meeting of the Cabinet or its committees at which they are present, or may appoint another Cabinet member to do so or if no such appointment has been made, then the committee will elect one of its members to preside.

2.2 Who may attend?

Any member of the press and public can attend Cabinet meetings as per the details set out in the Access to Information Rules in part 4 of this constitution.

2.3 What business?

At each meeting of the Cabinet the following business will be conducted:

- (i) declarations of interest, if any;
- (ii) matters referred to the Cabinet (whether by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or by the full Council) for reconsideration by the Cabinet in accordance with the provisions contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the constitution;
- (iii) consideration of reports from Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the Committee Chair or their nominee has the right to speak to give the view of a committee when making a referral (without the need to give notice); and
- (iv) matters set out in the agenda for the meeting, and which shall indicate which are key decisions and which are not in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

2.4 Consultation

All reports to the Cabinet from any member of the Cabinet or an officer on proposals relating to the budget and policy framework must contain details of the nature and extent of consultation with stakeholders and relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and the outcome of that consultation. Reports about other matters will set out the details and outcome of consultation as appropriate. The level of consultation required will be appropriate to the nature of the matter under consideration.

2.5 Who can put items on the Cabinet agenda?

The Leader will decide upon the schedule for the meetings of the Cabinet. The Leader may put on the agenda of any Cabinet meeting any matter which they wish, whether or not authority has been delegated to the Cabinet, a committee of Cabinet or any Cabinet member or officer in respect of that matter. The proper officer will comply with requests by the Leader in this respect.

- (1) Any member of the Cabinet may require the proper officer to make sure that an item is placed on the agenda of the next available meeting of the Cabinet for consideration. If they receive such a request the proper officer will comply.
- (2) The proper officer will make sure that an item is placed on the agenda of a meeting of the Cabinet as soon as is practicable (dependent on production and publication of reports) following a resolution of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee or of the full Council that an item be considered by the Cabinet.

- (3) The head of paid service, monitoring officer and/or the s.151 (chief finance) officer may include an item for consideration on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting and may require the proper officer to call a special meeting in pursuance of their statutory duties. In other circumstances, where any two of the head of paid service, chief finance officer and monitoring officer/proper officer are of the opinion that a meeting of the Cabinet needs to be called to consider a matter that requires a decision, they may jointly include an item on the agenda of an Cabinet meeting. If there is no meeting of the Cabinet soon enough to deal with the issue in question, then the person(s) entitled to include an item on the agenda may also require that a meeting be convened at which the matter will be considered.

Appendix B

Cabinet Committees

The Leader has established and appointed to a Committee of Cabinet, to be known as the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board. The composition and terms of reference of the cabinet Committee are as follows.

Primary Purpose

Meeting as a 'committee in common' alongside a body as shall be determined by the Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body, the Committee's purpose is to consider matters relating to the joint commissioning of health and social care services with Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group.

Membership

Three members of Cabinet as determined by the Leader.

Terms of Reference

The Joint Strategic Commissioning Board (JSCB) Committee of Cabinet is established to focus on the commissioning, strategic design and performance management of health and care services on Wirral, including the outcomes and quality of those services. The Board will oversee the development of population based commissioning.

The JSCB Cabinet Committee, which will meet at the same time and with the same agenda as the Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group JSCB, will undertake the following duties and responsibilities, exercising delegated powers of the WBC Executive and formulating recommendations for adoption by the WBC Cabinet and / or the CCG Governing Body, as the case may be, that seek –

- To promote the integration of health and social services generally across WBC and WCCG;
- To approve integrated health and care commissioning strategies;
- To approve large scale health and care transformation programmes;
- To approve and maintain oversight of plans and oversight of delivery for specific areas such as:
 - Better Care Fund Schemes
 - Urgent Care Transformation o Commissioning Prospectus
 - Learning Disabilities Plan;

- To ensure effective stewardship of Section 75 pooled monies and address any issues of concern;
- To maintain oversight of health and care system performance and address any issues of concern;
- To ensure the implementation of integrated health and care commissioning strategies and transformation programmes.

Appendix C

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS

PORTFOLIO	LEADER
	Cllr Pat Hackett
BRIEF	Provide strategic direction for the organisation and leadership for the place. Represent Wirral at regional, national and international level.

PORTFOLIO	Finance & Resources
	Cllr Janette Williamson
BRIEF	Ensures Wirral is a well-run organisation. Provides financial stability and oversees all areas of Governance. Leads on the implementation of the People Strategy.

PORTFOLIO	Children, Families and Education
	Cllr Tom Usher
BRIEF	Delivering improved outcomes for children and families. Clear focus on safeguarding and keeping families safe in their homes and communities.

PORTFOLIO	Care, Health and Wellbeing
	Cllr Chris Jones
BRIEF	Delivering better outcomes for adults. Providing tailored, integrated services to disabled, vulnerable people to help them live healthier lives

PORTFOLIO	Housing & Planning
	Cllr Stuart Whittingham
BRIEF	The housing offer – now and into the future – meets the needs of Wirral communities.

PORTFOLIO	Community Services
	Cllr Julie McManus
BRIEF	Everyday, universal services provided and commissioned by the Council, which every resident relies on are provided efficiently and effectively.

PORTFOLIO	Environment and Climate Change
	Cllr Liz Grey
BRIEF	Wirral's local environment is protected and enhanced. We redouble our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint and support climate change efforts.

PORTFOLIO	The Local Plan
	Cllr Anita Leech
BRIEF	Wirral delivers a robust, appropriate Local Plan which meets the needs of our residents.

PORTFOLIO	Culture and Tourism
	Cllr Christine Spriggs
BRIEF	Wirral residents enjoy a wide range of cultural and sporting opportunities. Our visitor economy continues to grow.

PORTFOLIO	Regeneration and Growth
	Cllr Tony Jones
BRIEF	The Council takes the driving seat in creating jobs and regeneration for Wirral residents and communities.

Appendix D

OFFICER DELEGATIONS

1. Summary of the functions to be discharged by the Directors

1.1 Head of Paid Service

To the extent permitted by law, any function may be exercised by the Head of Paid Service notwithstanding its delegation to the Cabinet, Cabinet Member or another Director where, in the opinion of the Head of Paid Service it is necessary and expedient in the circumstances to do so.

1.2 Directorates

The Head of Paid Service, Corporate Directors and Directors are hereby authorised to take all lawful action consistent with overall Council policy to deliver the agreed strategy, plans and priorities within their area of responsibility and within approved budgets on the basis set out at 2. and 3. below.

1.3 The Council's Management Structure forms Part 7 of the Council's Constitution and is published on the Council's website as "[Who we are and what we do](#)"

(<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/about-council/freedom-information-and-data-protection/publication-scheme/who-we-are-and-what-we-do>).

2. Delegation of functions to officers

2.1 The Leader authorises the Head of Paid Service and Directors to exercise any of the executive functions of the Council insofar as these relate to the general management of the authority and the day to day delivery of Council services and which are not otherwise delegated or reserved to the Cabinet, a Cabinet Committee, an individual Cabinet Member or an individual officer under this Scheme of Delegation and Procedure.

2.2 An officer shall be entitled to discharge functions allocated to the Director described in section 1 above, for which they are the delegated officer, subject to the general provisions governing delegations contained in section 3 below.

2.3 In deciding whether or not to exercise such delegated powers, the Head of Paid Service and Directors should consider whether it is appropriate to consult the Leader or appropriate Cabinet Member with Portfolio and have regard to their views. Officers shall always be entitled to refer matters for decision to the Cabinet where they consider it expedient to do so.

2.4 Specific delegations are made as follows:

- (a) The officer occupying the post of Director of Finance and Investment (S.151 Officer), and the team under their direction, is authorised to do all things necessary in the performance of financial services and insurance arrangements and in connection with the discharge of functions delegated under this section and Articles 12 and 14 of the Council's Constitution.
- (b) The officer occupying the post of Director of Governance and Assurance (Monitoring Officer), and members of the team under their direction, is authorised to do all things necessary to perform legal services and in connection with the discharge of functions delegated under this section and Articles 12, 14 and 15 of the Council's Constitution.

(For the avoidance of doubt the conferring of the function on the officer occupying the post of Director of Governance and Assurance is not to intend or remove the power of any authorised officer engaged in investigation to obtain or seek from a Justice of the Peace, or the court, a warrant of entry, Order under RIPA 2000 or other process ancillary to the investigation he or she is engaged in.)

- (c) In addition to any other delegation to an officer contained in this section of the constitution, each council officer may discharge any function as is necessary for them to perform such of the duties as are set out in their job description as they are required to undertake by the officer or officers responsible for their management and subject to the general provisions governing delegations contained in section 3 below.
- (d) The officers specified in this paragraph may institute criminal proceedings at designated police stations by requesting the custody officer to charge a suspect on the Council's behalf, but only:
 - (i) in connection with offences the council has power to enforce; and
 - (ii) following consultation with the Director of Governance and Assurance, the Head of Legal Services or an appropriate member of their team, except when the officer is acting outside of normal Council business hours.

2.5 In cases of doubt, anything which is not covered by this scheme, including the appointment of a proper officer for the purpose of any statutory function, will be determined by the Head of Paid Service.

2.6 Whilst decisions and actions taken in pursuance of the general management of the authority and the day to day delivery of Council services are not eligible for call-in, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee may require the attendance of an Officer to

explain a particular decision or services of decisions or a course of action undertaken.

3. General provisions governing delegations to officers

- 3.1 The conferring of a delegated power is not intended to and does not in fact supersede or replace any statutory requirement or override any provision of the Council's articles, contract standing orders, financial regulations and any other provision of the Constitution.
- 3.2 Accordingly decision makers acting under delegated powers must do so in accordance with any such provision and having due regard to any relevant Council Policy or Government Guidance.
- 3.3 Reference to any Act, Order or Regulation etc. is deemed to be a reference to any modification or re-enactment thereof.
- 3.4 Where there is a clear and pressing need for a Key Decision to be taken and it is not reasonably practicable, for any reason, for that decision to be taken by the Cabinet, Leader or Cabinet Member then each Director shall be taken to hold specific authority under this provision to take Key Decisions within their Directorate. The provisions concerning officers taking and reporting key decisions are set out in Section 6 of the main Leader's Scheme of delegation and procedures. Any decision taken under this delegation will be reported to the Leader at the next meeting of Cabinet.
- 3.5 It is recognised that delegated officers cannot personally undertake the discharge of every function conferred upon them. Delegated officers are accordingly entitled to arrange for the discharge by their subordinate officers of functions allocated to them provided that the delegated officer remains responsible for and accountable to the Cabinet and Council for the exercise of their delegated powers and puts in place such measures as the delegated officer considers appropriate to ensure that those officers assisting them in the discharge of functions do so in accordance with the provisions of this delegation and do not exceed the limits of any authorisation made to them by the delegated officer to assist them in this task.
- 3.6 For the avoidance of doubt, any reference in this part to the discharge of any functions includes a reference to the doing of anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of those functions.
- 3.7 If any delegated officer receives any statutory notice which if contravened would give rise to a risk of prosecution, they shall immediately refer it to the Director of Governance and Assurance (Monitoring Officer) and to the Leader, who shall be entitled to call for a report on the matter to themselves and as necessary, to the Cabinet.

- 3.8 For the avoidance of doubt, an officer seized of the power to make a decision, may, where they consider it necessary in the particular circumstances, refer the matter for decision by the Leader or relevant Cabinet Member with portfolio;
- 3.9 The Leader or relevant Cabinet Member with portfolio may also request an officer not to exercise their delegated power in any particular case and to instead bring a report to Cabinet.
- 3.10 All delegated officers should seek and obtain appropriate professional advice from those employed or otherwise engaged by the Council for that purpose in connection with a matter under consideration for determination. The making of Key Decisions requires such advice to be in writing in accordance with the main Scheme of Delegation and Procedure.

COUNCIL – 15 JULY 2019

Motions

The following motions have been submitted in accordance with the notice required by Standing Order 7(1) and are listed in accordance with Standing Order 7(2).

(1) A BETTER OFFER FOR CARE LEAVERS

Proposed by Councillor Tom Usher

Seconded by Councillor Kate Cannon

Council notes that the new Offer for Care Leavers reflects a commitment to do the right thing by the young people in our care. Those involved, both from the Council and our partner organisations should be thanked for their work and determination, especially those young people at the Care Leaver's Council and beyond who helped shape this new offer.

Council also makes the assurance that it will continue to listen to children and young people in its efforts to improve the offer. We are resolute that one of the most important responsibilities of any government, local or national is to ensure children and young people get the best possible start to their life. Council supports the decision to exempt care leavers from Council Tax and to write off any arrears owed.

The Council supports the £20m investment made in 2018/19 and is committed to continued investment in Children's services. However, our commitment and aspirations for our young people are made more difficult by the government's refusal to act on the crisis in social care funding. If austerity is truly over, Council calls on the government to set children as their number one priority, provide adequate funding for local councils, and reverse some of the harmful cuts in services that have led to a record number of children in care. In the sixth richest country in the world we should not have more than one in four children living in poverty in the UK. This statistic shames us all.

(2) RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION, RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Proposed by Councillor Ian Lewis

Seconded by Councillor Tom Anderson

Council believes that at the heart of preparing children for life in modern Britain is making sure that they understand the world they are growing up in.

Council welcomes the publication of guidance for schools on relationships, sex and health education by the Department for Education and agrees with the statement by Stonewall that it marks a 'real, positive step forward for LGBT inclusion in England's schools' to help ensure all children have the knowledge they need to grow up healthy, happy and safe.

Council urges all schools in Wirral to take steps now to ensure compliance with the guidance ahead of the introduction of compulsory relationships education for primary-age pupils and compulsory relationships and sex education for secondary-age pupils, and compulsory health education for all pupils in state-funded schools from September 2020.

Council also looks forward to the work by the expert group convened by the Secretary of State to support the effective implementation of these new subjects in schools, which includes teaching unions such as the NAHT, sector experts, representatives of faith groups, parents and young people.

(3) INVESTING TO CHANGE OUR URBAN SCENE

Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist
Seconded by Councillor Dave Mitchell

Council believes that there is a need for a step change or programme of improvements to the quality of the urban scene in Wirral. The footways leading to local shopping centres and the areas of dropped kerbs and crossings need upgrading in some areas to provide safe, convenient and attractive routes for pedestrians and the users of electric buggies.

Council notes that there has been a measurable decline in the condition of Wirral's roads and that the recently announced maintenance programme is constrained by the financial pressures facing the Borough. Some local shopping centres have areas of damaged footways and need investment to ensure these are not only safe but are even and attractive environments.

Council considers that the use of prudential borrowing may provide a way of investing in road surfaces, footways and cycling facilities. The opportunity could be taken to look at modifications to improve safety, reduce speeds and improve facilities for parking, pedestrians and cyclists. This might enable the creation of a more pleasant environment, especially in congested areas and around schools.

Council recommends that Cabinet invites Ward Members to submit reports on the areas that they believe need to be upgraded. This would be over and above minor maintenance but should be a series of suggestions for turning the decline around. A target date for submissions should be offered so that a planned programme of improvement can be drawn up.

Council also requests that Cabinet reports back on how long it would take to address the backlog of highway repairs at current spending levels and how the deterioration might be reversed and resourced through prudential borrowing.

(4) GLYPHOSATE-FREE WIRRAL

Proposed by Councillor Steve Hayes

Seconded by Councillor Chris Cooke

Council notes:

The use of pesticides such as glyphosate in the UK has increased by 60% in real terms since 1990 [1]. Italy, Portugal and the Canadian city of Vancouver have all banned the use of glyphosate [or glyphosate based weed killers] and France is working towards this. Mosanto and German owner Bayer face 9,000 lawsuits in the USA from those that believe their illnesses are caused by their products, the first plaintiff won unanimously with many more to follow [2]. Recent studies published in ScienceDirect show a 41% increased risk of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma caused by exposure from glyphosate-based weed killers and products [3].

Council believes:

- There is compelling evidence that glyphosate and a wide range of other herbicides and pesticides may be harmful to human health
- The use of pesticides and weed killers reduces biodiversity, impacting negatively on insects, birds and bees, in a time when the world is losing 2.5% of its insect population per-year [4].
- Harmful weed killer residues can creep into the food chain.
- Pets and children should not be playing in parks, in our streets or any area treated with such chemicals.

Council recommends that cabinet resolves to:

- Phase out the use of all pesticides and weed killers on council land.
- Cut out all use of glyphosate based treatments in all council-owned parks within one year and across all council-owned land within two years.
- Trial pesticide-free alternatives during this period. Particularly those adopted by the likes of Hammersmith and Fulham and Lewes Councils who use biodegradable foam or hot steam treatments on weeds.
- Grant an exception to the above ban regarding the control of Japanese knotweed, or other invasive species, where there are currently no effective mechanical techniques available. However, in this case chemicals such as glyphosate will only be stem-injected, rather than sprayed, to reduce its spread in the environment.

- Grant an exception on sprays only in relation to Giant Hogweed where it's not safe to be dug out or safely removed by other means and then cordon off the surrounding area.
- Write to the prime minister to inform the government of this Council's opposition to glyphosate-based pesticides and to call for a UK-wide programme to phase out their use.

1. <http://www.pan-uk.org/pesticides-agriculture-uk/> Link to external page/site

2. <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/oct/07/monsanto-trial-cancer-appeal-glyphosate-chemical> Link to external page/site

3. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1383574218300887> Link to external page/site

4. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/10/plummeting-insect-numbers-threaten-collapse-of-nature-> Link to external page/site

(5) VERGES AND POLLINATORS

Proposed by Councillor Stuart Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Chris Blakeley

Council notes the public interest in, and appreciation of, the scheme in Rotherham where the main Ring road has, for some years, had areas planted with native wild flowers.

As these have created an attractive visual environment and encouraged pollinators Council requests Cabinet to instruct officers to:

- a) report in detail on such a scheme, the cost of introduction and potential maintenance
- b) offer advice on suitable areas for similar planting in Wirral
- c) consider an area for an initial trial scheme in Wirral
- d) draw up proposals for consultation regarding further areas where this could be introduced

and present this report for consideration by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee with a timetable that might enable a trial scheme to commence in 2020.

(6) KEEP FREE TV LICENSES FOR OVER 75S

Proposed by Councillor Chris Jones

Seconded by Councillor Sharon Jones

Introduced by a Labour Government in 2000 the introduction of free TV licences helped alleviate hardship for many people over the age of 75, a high proportion of whom are in the lowest three income deciles.

However, the present government has outsourced to the BBC new 'means testing' whereby only older people who receive Pension Credit benefit will receive free TV licenses. They are amongst the poorest in our society. Yet two fifths of those entitled to the benefit aren't getting it. Some simply don't know they can claim, many may struggle even to discover how to claim, and many are embarrassed about needing help. Many older people have struggled through their working lives to accumulate a little extra for retirement. But that small 'rainy day' pot means they are excluded from means-tested benefits. Many of that age are coping with the costs of diminished health or disability. Many have outlived their life partners and are alone and lonely. Taking away their TV license is a cruel blow.

Council calls on this 'Austerity Government' to reverse a mean, means-testing measure, foisted by proxy onto the BBC, that contrasts so vividly with the wish of some politicians to give even greater tax reductions to the super-rich.

(7) TV LICENCES

Proposed by Councillor Chris Blakeley

Seconded by Councillor Mary Jordan

Council notes and condemns the decision made by the BBC to remove free TV licenses from over 75s except for those on pension credit.

Council believes that this decision could have a negative effect on the wellbeing of some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

Therefore, Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Director General of the BBC to relay the Council's views and opposition and calls on the BBC to think again and reinstate unconditionally free TV licenses for over 75s.

(8) INCONSIDERATE PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS

Proposed by Councillor Stuart Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Alan Brame

Council notes that inconsiderate parking around schools has a detrimental impact on the local environment and has safety implications for children using the local road network to walk or cycle to school.

Council is aware that this is an issue that affects schools in Wirral and elsewhere in the country. Council notes that initiatives have been introduced in other parts of the country to tackle the problem, notably...

in Solihull

<http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Resident/Parking-travel-roads/road-safety/Solihull-School-Streets-Pilot/How-will-it-work>)

in Edinburgh

http://www.streetsaheadinburgh.org.uk/streetsahead/info/35/school_travel/87/school_streets

in Hackney

<https://www.hackney.gov.uk/school-streets>

...who have each explored introducing Controlled Parking Zones around their worst effected schools. Council believes that it is time that such schemes were introduced around targeted Wirral schools, especially primary schools.

Council recommends that Cabinet should introduce Controlled Parking Zones schemes at selected schools, with the residential areas around Townfield Primary School and Raeburn Primary School selected as suitable pilot areas.

(9) THE TORIES' NATIONAL HOUSING SHORTAGE, POVERTY INCOMES, UNEMPLOYMENT AND PRIVATE-SECTOR OVERCROWDING

Proposed by Councillor Adrian Jones

Seconded by Councillor Paul Stuart

Council notes government announcements claiming the highest statistical rates of employment in decades, implying that serious UK unemployment is virtually a thing of the past.

Council further notes that to effect a favourable presentation of this claim millions of adults are shown in government publicity as 'employed' who are in fact under-employed working only part-time in low paid jobs.

TUC research shows that accurately weighted accounting would add a further 1.3 million to the real unemployment total – demonstrating that analysis exposing the extent of austerity driven poverty-wages and uncovering statistically masked unemployment shows the true situation in a bleaker light.

Council further notes that: *"More people are being pushed to the hard edge of the housing crisis by crippling private rents, frozen benefits and endless waiting lists for social homes that don't exist."* (Liverpool Echo report, May 31st 2019.)

Simultaneous analysis from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reveals: *"A poverty cloud is hanging over 42% of workers in the North West with almost a million earning below £20,000 a year."* (Liverpool Echo report, 8th June 2019.)

Council further notes that the government's continuing 'austerity' policy of wage depression, underscoring its low-wage, post-industrial poverty-economy, combined with the greatest dearth of house building since the decades after the First World War, encourages increasing conversion of former Wirral family homes and shops into multi occupancy dwellings which, through over-crowding and high rents, risks today's creation of tomorrow's slums.

Council believes everybody should have access to decent housing as a fundamental right and applauds Wirral's Housing Standards Team, and Selective Licensing scheme, for significantly influencing the quality of Wirral's private sector housing stock but believes the tendency to over-crowding can only practicably be reversed by large scale development of high-quality council housing at *genuinely* affordable rents.

Council therefore calls upon the cabinet member for Housing and Planning to:

- Work closely with Homes England and other partners to tackle viability issues and maximise development on brown field land in Wirral;
- examine options to increase the supply of genuinely affordable quality homes to meet housing need; and
- develop a Policy approach via the planning system to respond to potential over-crowding by the creation of further Houses in Multiple Occupation

Council would therefore welcome measures by central government to alleviate the risk of multi-millions of pounds of HRE (Housing Revenue Account) clawback from previous stock transfers and notes that a Labour Government would remove that anomaly.

Finally, Council recalls with immense pleasure the Wirral Conservative Leader's recent declaration in favour of large-scale Wirral council housing, proposals that accord uncharacteristically with our Wirral Labour administration's – and Jeremy Corbyn's.

(10) TYRED

Proposed by Councillor Ian Lewis

Seconded by Councillor Lesley Rennie

Council welcomes, finally, the decision by the Department for Transport to implement a limit on the age of tyres that can be used on buses, coaches, lorries and minibuses and thanks Frances Molloy and the team at Tyred for the relentless pursuit of a long overdue change in the law to improve road safety.

(11) CUTTING POLLUTION IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL

Proposed by Councillor Phil Gilchrist

Seconded by Councillor Dave Mitchell

Council recognises that in January 2019, the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP launched the Clean Air Strategy 2019, describing air pollution as a 'health emergency':

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/air-pollution-is-a-health-emergency>

Council also notes that in March 2019, Public Health England published a substantial report on the relationship between air pollution and health:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-outdoor-air-quality-and-health-review-of-interventions>

In addition to this, the National Planning Policy Framework published in July 2018 states that:

102. Transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals so that:

- d) the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account - including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects, and for net environmental gains....

Council also appreciates that the Air Quality Annual Status Report brings together findings relating to air pollution in Wirral and compares the findings at various monitoring sites through time:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/environmental%20problems/Pollution/Wirral%20ASR%202018.pdf>

Council also welcomes all the publicity given in the build-up to, and following, Clean Air Day on 20 June 2019, involving local schools.

Council considers that:

- a) all these interventions and approaches need to be strengthened and coordinated;
- b) there is a need to reduce congestion and air pollution around our schools and build on wider public support for tackling environmental issues;
- c) the development of the Local Plan needs to take account of the latest initiatives on tackling pollution and environmental concerns.

To this end, Council requests that the Health and Wellbeing Board, at its meeting on 13 November 2019, should review these issues to ensure that these various projects and initiatives are considered, together with the aim of coordinating, building upon and extending them.

Council requests that this review and the outcome of the discussion on policy should be referred to the Cabinet so that the issues can be progressed.

(12) BOROUGH OF CULTURE

Proposed by Councillor Christine Spriggs

Seconded by Councillor Janette Williamson

Council welcomes the Wirral-led partnership that has made the 'Borough of Culture' year so far such an overwhelming success. As part of our Wirral Plan we pledged to encourage more Wirral people to enjoy the wide range of culture and arts opportunities on offer across our Borough and so far, in the first half of the programme; an estimated 100,000 visitors have attended Borough of Culture events and it is anticipated some 500,000 residents and visitors will do so over the course of the year. Amazing high-quality events that have taken place so far include the spectacular **Animated Square** event, the **Witching Hour** event taking place in our wonderful and historic Birkenhead Park, the **OVO Energy Tour Series** and now a season of **Art Outdoors** happening across the Borough.

Council notes that over £140k has already been secured through grant, sponsorship and commercial opportunities, including the largest ever successful grant of £130k secured from Arts Council England; that over 100 local Wirral residents have been trained to act as volunteers and have supported the delivery of the Borough of Culture programme, equating to over 300 volunteering hours; that over 90% of visitors have rated the quality of all events so far this year, as either 'good', or 'very good' and *welcomes the news that an anticipated overall economic impact of £7m over the course of the year will be achieved.*

Council also agrees with **Arts Council England** that from providing jobs to making places better to live, arts and culture make a huge contribution to the economy.

Council therefore congratulates the Culture and Tourism team and the wider council staff teams and our partners who have worked so hard on every aspect of the programme and welcomes the second half of our highly successful Wirral Borough of Culture year.

(13) WIRRAL VIEW

Proposed by Councillor Tony Cox

Seconded by Councillor Steve Williams

Council notes that Wirral View newspaper has, to date, cost £402,000 of taxpayers' money but continues to fail to reach all parts of the Borough.

Council further notes that the Authority has, itself, chosen to advertise in the independent, free local media rather than its own publication.

Council therefore asks Cabinet to end its support for this publication.

(14) PROTECTING WIRRAL'S HERITAGE SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

Proposed by Councillor Chris Carubia

Seconded by Councillor Stuart Kelly

Council welcomes the work being undertaken by Wirral Archaeology to explore and publicise Wirral's valuable Viking heritage.

Council looks forward to receiving information on their past, current and future findings that will enable Wirral to add to the understanding and appreciation of this heritage.

Council notes that the Unitary Development Plan has a detailed policy and justification relating to non-scheduled remains in Section CH25 which states that...

"Where archaeological remains are of significant importance and can only be appropriately preserved in-situ, the Local Planning Authority will assess the impact of the proposals, in terms of the potential disturbance to be caused to those remains and

their setting. Where those remains cannot be accommodated within the layout of a revised development scheme or where it is not appropriate to do so, planning permission will be refused."

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/planning%20and%20building/Local%20Plans%20and%20planning%20policy/Local%20plans/Unitary%20Development%20Plan/UDP%20Written%20Statement%20Sections/9.%20Heritage%20and%20Conservation.pdf>

In addition, Council notes that the National Planning Policy Framework places emphasis on sites of archaeological interest and such heritage assets (see section 16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment) and states at paragraph 189 that....

"In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation."

Council believes that these policies offer important protection to various sites throughout Wirral and asks Cabinet to report on how, as part of the current work on the Local Plan, sites of potential archaeological importance can be properly protected and recognised.

(15) MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE (MFRS)

Proposed by Councillor Brian Kenny

Seconded by Councillor Jean Stapleton

This Wirral Council:

1. Recognises and applauds Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS) for enhancing the reputation of Merseyside following its very strong performance in the recent Inspection carried out by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

The Inspectorate deemed Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority as GOOD when considering.

- How effective they are in keeping people safe from fire and other risks
- How efficient they are in keeping people safe from fire and other risks
- How well they look after their people

but notably, OUTSTANDING in the areas of preventing fires and national resilience – the only Service in the Country to receive 2 Outstanding's for its work.

2. Notes that this is the highest 'performance' in the Country, from the first two rounds of inspection.
3. Congratulates the Chief Fire Officer for his leadership and his team for their hard work and tenacity, notably his Fire Fighters; Fire Prevention teams; Protection Officers; Support Services and the representative bodies, who along with the members of the MFRA have achieved this recognition.
4. Agrees that the political decision to - support an operational model which only utilises professional full time firefighters, to partner with the Home Office as lead authority for national resilience, to maintain a 10 minute response standard (5 min 40 sec average attendance time), to resource to demand, to increase the number of fire engines, to improve the diversity of the workforce, to invest in up to date fit for purpose Community Fire and Rescue Stations, whilst giving home fire prevention very high priority; has contributed to the result and findings of the inspectorate.
5. Notes that the proposed changes to the Integrated Risk Management Plan will help to maintain night time cover at Wallasey Fire Station and for the Wirral in General, as part of a plan to improve staff availability, increase the numbers of fire engines and update the general staffing system within the Authority, further contributing to the safety of Merseyside.
6. Believes that the results would have been even better if the Government had maintained the proper level of funding for MFRA, who have suffered some of the largest cuts to Government grant in the country, but have tenaciously hung on to full time firefighters whilst maintaining an emphasis on community fire prevention, in order to help keep Merseyside safe.

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