

Report

UPDATED REPORT FOR THE SCUTINY BOARD WHICH INCLUDES PROGRESS MADE AT MEETING 21ST SEPTEMBER – UPDATE ARE IN RED.

MONITORING REPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2009/2010

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Comments on Progress	Complete?
JUNE	WORK PROGRAMME PLUS ADDITIONS	-	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Resolved</u></p> <p>That the supplementary paper listing the reports from chief officers on key issues during the year be amended to include the additional items raised by Members, and that this form the basis of the committee's work programme for the current municipal year.</p>	
21ST SEP 2009	<p><u>Road Safety Update</u> (to include details of RTA's caused by alcohol misuse)</p>	Technical Services	<p>Progress report on delivering Corporate Priority 2.4: Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Minutes:</u></p> <p>The Director of Technical services submitted a report detailing the progress made in improving road safety and reducing the number of people injured on Wirral's roads, and the comprehensive programme of ongoing and proposed actions by the Council and its partners in respect of road safety, which aim to achieve the road safety objectives set out in the Council's Corporate Plan and Wirral Local Area Agreement.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Resolved –</u></p> <p>(1) That the Committee note the progress in improving road safety performance and analysis of casualty data outlined in this report;</p> <p>(2) That the Committee endorse the proposed Road Safety Action Plan for 2009/</p>	

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Allotment Development

Technical Services

Minutes:

The Director of Regeneration reported upon the work of the Allotment Development Officer and other issues related to allotments provision and development. The report also included a petition requesting the provision of an allotment site on land near Gilroy Road, West Kirby.

The Allotment Development Officer made progress in a number of areas. Approximately 15 sites had been visited and assessed as potential new allotment sites and at the present time 5 of these were being considered:

(i) The Warrens, Thingwall (ii) Sandringham Avenue, Hoylake (iii) Broadway, Greasby (iv) Gilroy Road, West Kirby (v) Mosslands Drive, Wallasey

Resolved (8:2) –

(1) That the work of the Allotments Development Officer be noted.

(2) That further reports be submitted to this Committee on possible allotment sites and any financial implications, and subject to further work by officers, endorses the development of the five sites currently being considered.

(3) That officers look into the possible transfer of Sandringham Avenue and Wingate Allotments to the respective allotment societies as a community asset transfer.

Golf Courses Security

Regeneration

Minutes:

The Director of Regeneration submitted a report outlining the current arrangements for security on golf courses.

He reported that a major review of the Parks and Countryside Service, including golf, was currently being undertaken in the form of the Parks and Countryside Service Procurement Exercise (PACSPE) to explore service delivery options and developing a business case for undertaking a procurement exercise for the service. This would be the subject a further report to Cabinet, and could result in changes to the management of the municipal golf courses.

Resolved - that the report be noted.

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Carbon Reduction Progress Update

Regeneration

Minutes:
The Director of Technical Services presented a report which updated Members on the various projects currently being undertaken by Technical Services to achieve the Corporate Objective to 'Reduce the Council's Carbon Footprint', as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan.

Members were asked to note the progress made to date on the Project Plan (Appendix 1) and to endorse the further initiatives proposed.

Resolved –

1. That the Committee note and endorse the performance and progress of the various Council 'Carbon Footprint Reduction' projects to date undertaken by the Technical Services Department.
2. That the Committee supports the proposal to take advantage of the national climate change campaign "Act on CO2" detailed in section 4.2.2
3. That the Committee supports the proposals detailed in section 4.4.2 with regards to phase 4 of the IEEP

Interim Report Flood Working Group

Technical Services

The Director of Technical Services submitted a report providing an update on the progress made to date by the Wirral Flood Group and seeking the views of members regarding the constitution and future direction of the work of this group.

The Wirral Flood Group comprised the Elected Members Steering Group, relevant Council officers from those service areas with responsibility for addressing the recommendations set out in Sir Michael Pitt's report, plus representatives from the Environment Agency, United Utilities, and Wirral NHS. Its work to date included:

- The agreement of Terms of Reference for the Group (Appendix 1)
- The establishment of the collaborative cross-departmental and agency working on matters related to flooding.

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- The opportunity for each agency and organisations responsible for flood prevention and for the management of water in general to bring to a multi-agency audience their individual roles and responsibilities and current work plans
- The compilation of a specific list of Wirral's flooding "hot spots". This list is in its early stages and will remain a "live" document. It is intended for this document to be available to officers and Elected Members, and allow them up to date information on each identified "hot spot" and the current status of work to alleviate or prevent flooding in that location.
- The establishment of a Council, Environment Agency and United Utilities Operational Group which seeks to identify the cause of flooding at each hot spot, who is responsible and more importantly what is being done to reduce the risk of flooding at those locations.

The new Flood and Water Management Bill which was due to come into force in early 2010 would place a statutory responsibility on local authorities to lead on local flood risk management. County and unitary authorities would also be responsible for local flood risk assessment, mapping and planning in relation to ordinary watercourses, surface run-off and groundwater. They would also lead the production of local surface water management plans and the agreement of the associated programmes of work with all stakeholders.

As a result of these new responsibilities , there was a need to recruit some expertise in the area of flood management to fully understand the root cause of flooding and be in a position to carry out a Surface Water Management Plan for Wirral, which was a recommendation of Pitt report and also a statutory responsibility for local authorities in the new Flood and Water Bill. It was envisaged that with this expertise and the ongoing dialogue at both operational and Elected Member level all identified "hot spots" of flooding on Wirral would be addressed.

Through the development of a database capturing the causation of flooding at these "hot spots", the Group would be in a position to engage in a more meaningful manner with the residents and property owners who have been affected by these floods.

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In addition to this, the Health, Safety & Resilience Team was currently preparing a specific guidance document for property owners on advice they can take both proactively (purchasing sand bags, fitting air brick covers, ensuring road gullies are free from detritus, etc) and also containing the relevant contact emergency details of the agencies with a responsibility for a flooding response.

The Director reported that the alleviation of flooding was a complicated issue, with a range of European, Central Government and Regional directives and strategies requiring actions from most departments of the council and many external agencies. The establishment of the Wirral Flood Group had provided an opportunity for improved co-ordination to ensure that the various agencies were working together to alleviate flooding on Wirral. To date the Wirral Flood Group had been successfully chaired by the Health, Safety & Resilience Operations Manager, but as the work of the Group evolved and having regard to the joint Elected Member and officer representation from a constitutional perspective, Members' views were particularly welcomed on the future Chairperson arrangements for the Group.

There was a general discussion regarding the working arrangements for the Group and it was suggested that the membership should be extended to include community groups from the Greasby and Leasowe areas and other "hot spots" for flooding on Wirral.

Resolved – That the Committee:

- 1. Note the progress to date of the Wirral Flood Group;**
- 2. Endorse the proposal to recruit additional flood management expertise as part of the existing Technical Services' staffing establishment;**
- 3. That the Health, Safety and Resilience Operations Manager, continue to chair the Group and that the committee agree in principle to the involvement of community groups, subject to a further report to the next meeting on this issue.**

<p>18th NOV 2009</p>	<p>Outstanding actions former Culture Tourism and Leisure O&S Committee</p> <p>Highway & Engineering Services Contract – Six Month Update</p> <p>Local Environmental Quality Update</p> <p>Young People and Community Safety*</p>	<p>Regeneration</p> <p>Technical Services</p> <p>Technical Services</p> <p>Regeneration</p>	<p>Progress report and formal presentation on the new strategic contract with Colas Ltd that commenced on 1st April 09</p> <p>Progress report on delivering Corporate Priority 2.3: Create exemplary levels of street cleanliness</p> <p>A review of the role of young people in relation to the community safety agenda</p>	
<p>20th JAN 2010</p>	<p>Waste Recycling/ Minimisation Update (to include Recycling of Kitchen Waste)</p> <p>Streetscene Environment Services Contract – Third Annual Review</p> <p>Dog Control on Beaches</p>	<p>Technical Services</p> <p>Technical Services</p> <p>Regeneration</p>	<p>Progress report on delivering Corporate Priority 2.1: Sustain improved levels of recycling</p> <p>Progress report and formal presentation on the strategic contract with Biffa that commenced in August 2006</p> <p>Report to consider the controls for dogs on amenity beaches</p>	
<p>8th MAR 2010</p>	<p>Alcohol and Community Safety* (to include safety park lighting)</p> <p>Flood Working Group Progress Report</p>	<p>Regeneration</p> <p>Technical Services</p>	<p>Report upon the impact of alcohol on the community safety agenda.</p> <p>Progress report of the Member Working Group established to consider the Council's response to climate change and flooding issues, in particular in response to the recent Pitt Review</p>	

Report 2

SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME FOR COUNCIL EXCELLENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2008/09

Topic Description	Topic suggested by	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Completion Date
i.) Golf Courses Security– September meeting.	(Councillor J Williams)		
ii.) Recycling of Kitchen Waste - January meeting as part of the waste Recycling Update.	(Councillor Redfern)		
iii.) Interim report on the work of the Flood Working Group - September meeting.	(Councillor Moseley)		
iv.) The addition of safety park lighting under the Community Safety item for the March meeting	(Councillor Taylor).		
v.) Outstanding actions arising from the last meeting of the former Culture , Tourism and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee - September meeting.	(Councillor Hale)		
vi.) Ongoing Road Safety Updates to include details road traffic accidents which are caused by the misuse of alcohol.	(Councillor Mitchell).		

* These items are subject to consultation with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership