

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2010-2011

Departmental Mission Statement:

"Consulting and engaging with residents, our business and community partners, to deliver a range of efficient and high quality Technical Services, from building design, highways maintenance and transportation to development control, waste and recycling, which improve the quality of life for people in Wirral"

DAVID GREEN DIRECTOR November 2009

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1. Departmental Overview

Departmental Mission Statement:

"Consulting and engaging with residents, our business and community partners, to deliver a range of efficient and high quality Technical Services, from building design, highways maintenance and transportation to development control, waste and recycling, which improve the quality of life for people in Wirral"

As a result of the Council's Fit For Purpose initiative, the Technical Services Department took responsibility for a series of services previously spread across four Departments. Technical Services has now been organised around two main service streams with an independent Support and Information Services Division as follows:

Director Technical Services Department

Head of Service Building Design and Development Head of Service Streetscene & Waste Services

SUPPORT & INFORMATION SERVICES

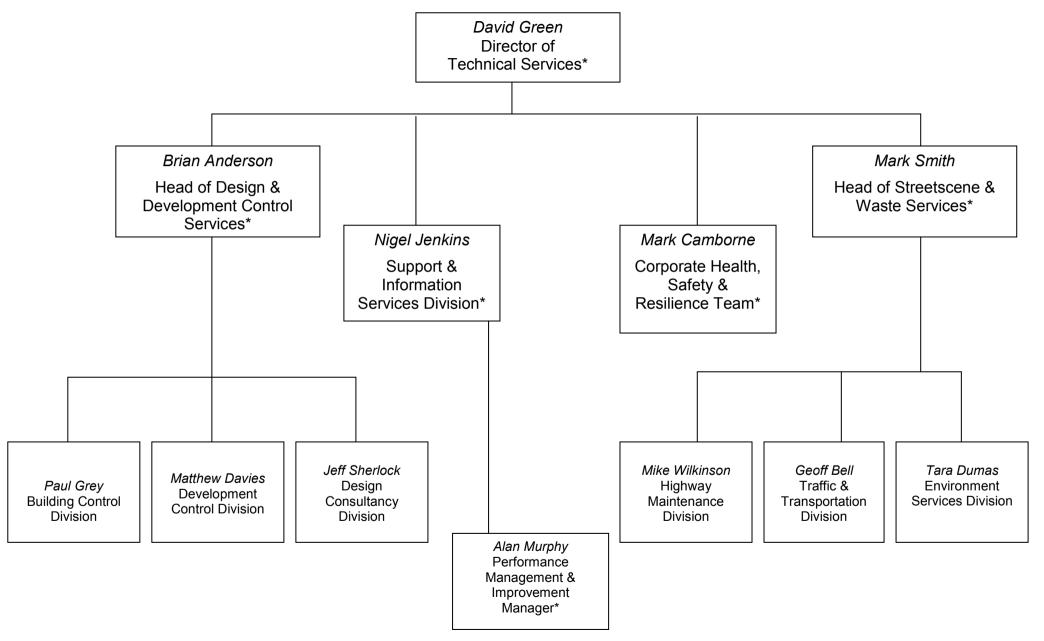
Design Consultancy
(including, Building Design,
Property Maintenance,
Energy Conservation
Procurement/Contracts &
Sustainability Unit)
Building Control
Development Control
Land Charges

Staff & Business Development
Health & Safety
Environmental Management
Administration Services
IT Development
IT Strategy
Performance Management
Quality Assurance

Traffic Management
Highway Maintenance
Drainage
Street Lighting
Contract Management
Waste & Recycling
Street Cleansing
Coast Protection
Parking Enforcement
Asset Management
Highway Design

In addition, this Department is responsible for the Corporate Health, Safety & Resilience Team led by the Health, Safety & Resilience Operations Manager. Each Head of Service is responsible for a number of Divisions each led by a Service Manager/Assistant Director. The Department's Strategic Management Team (SMT) consists of the Director, the Heads of Service, the Service Manager (Support and Information Services), Health, Safety & Resilience Operations Manager, Performance Management and Improvement Manager and the Department's Accountant from Finance. It meets on a monthly basis to discuss matters raised at the Corporate Chief Officers Management Team (COMT) and other issues relating to the management and operation of the Department.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE INCLUDING KEY OFFICERS (* = SMT Member)



This is complemented by a Joint OMT chaired by Service Manager (Support & Information Services) and by monthly Operational Management Team (OMT) meetings chaired by each Head of Service and attended by their respective Service Managers/Assistant Directors with a set agenda focusing on the delivery of the service and improvement aims set out in this Plan.

In addition, the Director gives a regular "Team Brief" focusing on information sharing to the Department's Service Managers/Assistant Directors which is then cascaded down the organisational structure through structured briefings by them and their Team Leaders to their respective teams.

The Department is based in the Cheshire Lines Building on Canning Street. The Department also has a depot at Cleveland Street for its transport operations.

Overall, the Department employs 335 FTE Staff and manages Capital and Revenue budgets which for 2009/10 were £10.4 million and £41.6 million respectively. 2010/11 budgets will be confirmed at a later date.

1.2 **Statutory Responsibilities**

Activity

The Department has a wide variety of functions and works within a complex legislative and policy framework. The main statutory responsibilities and corresponding legislation used by the Department are as follows:

Maintain highways at public expense	Highways Act 1980
Secure and facilitate the expeditious movement of traffic and improve the	Traffic Management Act 2004
reduction rates of KSI's	Road Traffic Act 1988
	Local Government Act
	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Develop initiatives in partnership to	Environmental Protection Act 1990
manage waste, maximise recycling and provide exemplary levels of street	Landfill Directive 1999
cleanliness within the borough	Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse
	The Controlled Waste Regulations 1992

Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005.

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment

Legislation

Develop a strategy to reduce the Climate Change Act 2008 Authority's carbon footprint

Energy Act 2008

Act 2005

Carry out work in a safe manner Health & Safety at Work Act 1974

Construction (Design & Management)

Regulations 1994

Road Safety Code of Good Practice

1996

Determining Planning Applications Planning Act 1990 England and Wales

Planning Enforcement Town & Country Planning (General

Permitted Development) Order 1995

Building Control Building Act 1984

Dangerous Structures

Safety at Sports Ground Act 1975

Public Safety at Events

Emergency Planning Civil Contingencies Act 2005

1.3 Business Planning & Performance Management

Updating the Departmental Plan

Our previous Departmental Plan for 2009/10 was considered and approved by Cabinet in February and updated in June 2009. The current Plan focuses on the Department's contribution to achieving Corporate and LAA priorities and Departmental Aims for 2010/11:

Aim TS1: Waste Recycling/ Minimisation

Aim TS2: Carbon Footprint Aim TS3: Environmental Quality

Aim TS4: Road Safety
Aim TS5: Congestion

Aim TS6: Strategic Asset Programme

Aim TS7: Streetscene Customer Access Strategy

Aim TS8: Planning Service Aim TS9: Highways Service

Aim TS10: Resilience and Emergency Planning

Aim TS11: Excellent Department

There is a clear relationship between these Departmental Aims and the National Indicators that the Department has responsibility for, and the relationship between these Aims, Corporate/ LAA priorities and National Indicators is summarised in the Outcomes Framework set out in Section 3.

Performance Management

Role of Strategic Management Team (SMT)

The agenda for SMT meetings focuses on a number of standard headings including matters for debate/ information exchange, business planning and performance management, financial matters and health and safety.

To ensure a robust approach to monitoring the delivery of all of our corporate and departmental objectives and ensure an appropriate programme management forum is in place to take account of the inter-relationships between the various projects, SMT is the formal structure for monitoring the delivery of Departmental Project Plans. Project Plans for Departmental Plans TS1 to TS11 are

considered on a rotation basis with lead officers attending the monthly SMT to review and discuss any issues of concern (via exception/highlight reporting).

Role of Operational Management Team (OMT)

The agenda for OMT meetings also focuses on a number of standard headings including information exchange, performance management, financial matters, Forward Plan/Committee reports, innovation & best practice. Even though these meetings already have a strong focus on performance management and monitor the delivery of National Indicators and some Local Indicators, it is proposed that this approach is further strengthened by monitoring the full suite of Local Performance Indicators.

Departmental Development Days

Recently Departmental Development Days have replaced the previous approach of annual Business Planning Away Days and these quarterly Development Days, involving all senior/middle managers, are the primary vehicle for achieving continuous improvement focusing on the four primary improvement themes which reflect CAA organisational assessment guidance. Delivery is monitored via general Departmental Aim TS11: Create An Excellent Department. The improvement themes are:

- Demonstrate and improve VFM
- Identify innovation and learn from best performers
- > Develop our people
- > Improve customer perception and engagement

2. Contribution to the Council's Corporate Plan

2.1 Strategic objectives and aims for 2010-13

The Department's responsibilities affect everyone who lives or works in the Borough and all those who visit or pass through it. Our major contribution to delivering strategic objectives comes from our fundamental role in delivering waste management and recycling services; maintaining the highway and managing its safe use by all sections of society; and planning and controlling development of the built environment. We offer support to other Departments which underpins their contributions to those other strategic objectives which require or depend upon maintenance of and improvement to the highway network and the Council's building stock.

2.2 <u>Improvement priorities for 2010-11</u>

The council has a number of improvement priorities for 2010-11, as agreed by Cabinet on the 24th September 2009. The department leads on the following:

Reduce Wirral's carbon footprint by working with our partners and the community to reduce the carbon footprint across the Local Authority area

- Automate data collection
- Introduce a Combined Heat & Power plant at Europa Pools & photovoltaic system at Cheshire Lines Building
- Implementation of C Red Initiative
- Encourage Council staff to adopt greener modes of transport

This is the link to the Wirral Carbon Reduction Plan http://democracy.wirral.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=1958

Reduce number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents as detailed in the Wirral Road Safety Action Plan

- Develop & undertake effective roads policing enforcement activity & community engagement in partnership with Merseyside Police.
- Develop & implement education & training targeted at high risk road user groups
- Develop & implement communications strategy targeting road safety issues in conjunction with National; Regional & Local priorities.
- Develop & implement programmes of Safer Routes To Schools encouraging safer sustainable travel & further development of school travel plans.
- Identify & implement range of physical highway improvements aimed at reducing road casualties.

This link is to the Wirral Road Safety Action Plan http://www.wirral.gov.uk/minute/public/wirral%20road%20safety%20plan%202008%20rep7 b 27364.pdf

The activities and key outcomes in relation to these improvement priorities that the department will deliver in 2010-11 are detailed in Section 3

2.3 Summary of contribution to LAA improvement priorities

The council has signed up to deliver Wirral's Local Area Agreement as a member of the Local Strategic Partnership.

In 2010-11, the department will lead on the delivery of the LAA improvement priorities and targets shown on the next page:

SCS Theme	NI	National Indicators (Designated targets)	Baseline	LAA Improvement Target 2010/11	Partners
Safer, Stronger Communities	47	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	174 (2005-07)	11.1%	Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership
Life Chances for Children and Young People	48	Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accident	31 (2005-07)	6.2%	Children & Young People Partnership
	167	Congestion - average journey time per mile during the morning peak	4.12 minutes per mile	5.1%	Living & Working Environment Partnership, Local Transport Plan Partnership
	186	Per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the Local Authority area	6 tonnes CO2 per capita (2005)	11.4%	
	192	Household waste recycled and composted	14.2% (2006/07)	37%	
Living & Working Environment	195a	Improved street and environmental cleanliness – Litter (Primary)	11% (2007/08)	7%	Living & Working Environment Partnership
	195b	Improved street and environmental cleanliness – Detritus (Secondary)	11% (2007/08)	8%	
	195c	Improved street and environmental cleanliness – Graffiti	7% (2007/08)	Conditional to show no deterioration from baseline figure	
	195d	Improved street and environmental cleanliness – Fly posting	1% (2007/08)	Conditional to show no deterioration from baseline figure	

3 What are we going to deliver?

As well as leading on or contributing to the Corporate and LAA priorities listed above the Department has a number of imperatives covering our statutory or legislative duties. These sit alongside the priorities already described and consume significant energies and resources. It has proved useful to develop Departmental Aims to clarify and emphasise the activities and/or projects that will deliver both the Corporate and Departmental Aims. The full list of Departmental Aims is repeated below and Outcomes Framework overleaf illustrates how they all fit together.

Aim TS1: Waste, Recycling/Minimisation

Aim TS2 : Carbon Footprint Aim TS3 : Environmental Quality

Aim TS4 : Road Safety Aim TS5 : Congestion

Aim TS6: Strategic Asset Programme

Aim TS7: Streetscene Customer Access Strategy

Aim TS8 : Planning Service Aim TS9 : Highways Service

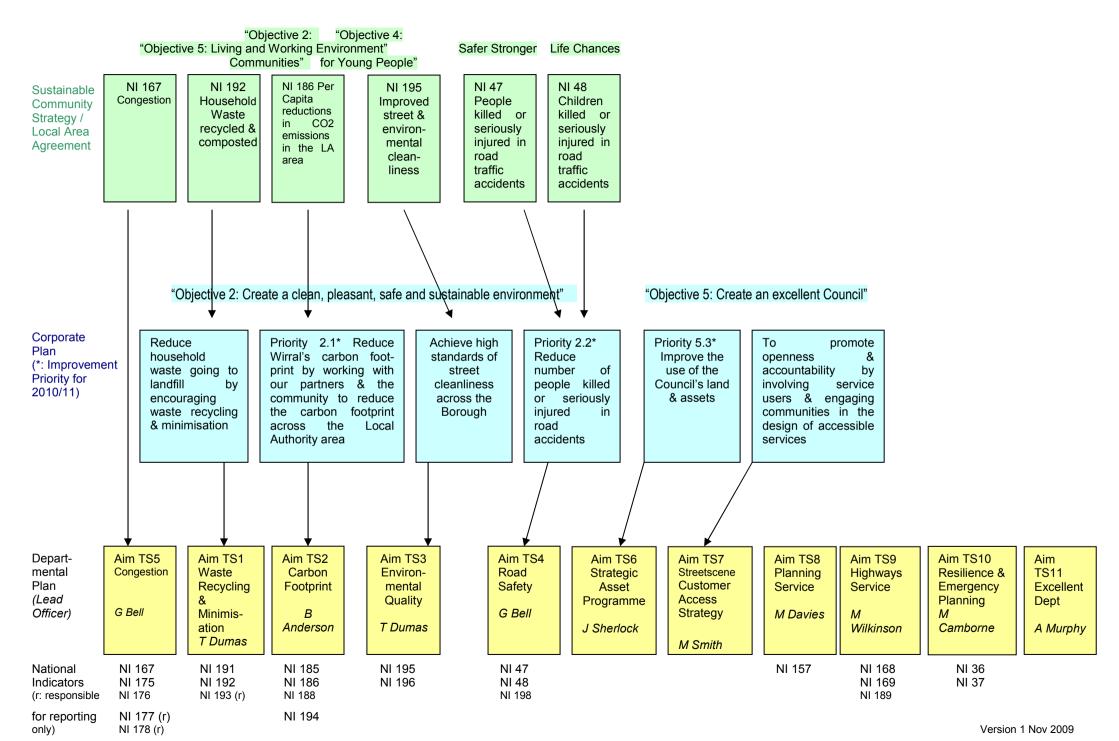
Aim TS10: Resilience and Emergency Planning

Aim TS11: Excellent Department

The remainder of this section gives an overview of the Department's activities or projects to be undertaken broken down into :

- 2010-11 Corporate Priorities for Improvement
- Other Corporate Aims
- · Departmental Aims

TECHNICAL SERVICES OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK 2010/11



3.1 Corporate Priorities for Improvement 2010-11

Priority for Improvement 2010-11	We will measure our success by: Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects / Activity	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
Reduce Wirral's carbon footprint by working with our partners and the community to reduce the carbon footprint across the Local Authority area. (TS 2)	NI 185 Carbon reduction from local authority operations NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change NI 194 Air quality — reduction in NO _x and primary PM ₁₀ emissions through local authority's estate and operations Monitor emissions from: • Energy use in Buildings. • Transport Fleet. • Business Mileage.	Automate data collection Introduce a Combined Heat & Power plant at Europa Pools & photovoltaic system at Cheshire Lines Building Implementation of C Red Initiative Encourage Council staff to adopt greener modes of transport	Mainstream funding	Environment	Design Consultancy	No	Dept of Law, HR & Asset Management; Dept of Finance

Priority for Improvement 2010-11	We will measure our success by: Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects / Activity	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
Reduce number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents (TS 4)	NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents NI 48 Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents NI 198 Children travelling to school – mode of transport	Develop and undertake effective roads policing enforcement activity & community engagement in partnership with Merseyside Police Develop & implement education & training targeted at high risk road user groups Develop & implement communications strategy targeting road safety issues in conjunction with National, Regional & Local priorities Identify & implement range of physical highway improvements aimed at reducing road casualties	Mainstream funding	Streetscene & Transport Services	Traffic Management	Yes by increasing life expectancy. Measured by Mortality from accidents: directly agestandardised rates and by NI 47 & 48	Police MRSP Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO) MFRS CYPD Staying Safe Partnership Colas

Priority for Improvement 2010-11	We will measure our success by: Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects / Activity	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
		Develop & implement programmes of Safer Routes to Schools encouraging safer, sustainable travel and further development of school travel plans					

3.2 **Corporate Aims for 2010-13**

Aims 2009-2013	We will measure our success by: Related Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
Strategic Object	ive 2						
Reduce household waste going to landfill by encouraging	NI192 Household waste recycled or composted	Increase diversion of street cleansing waste streams from landfill	Love Food, Hate Waste Campaign, MWDA.	Streetscene & Transport Services	Environmental Waste	No	Biffa
waste recycling and minimisation (TS 1)		Improve quality of recyclates delivered to the Materials Recovery Facility		Environment			
		Work with the Merseyside Waste Partnership members to review the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside					Merseyside Waste Partnership

Aims 2009-2013	We will measure our success by: Related Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
Achieve high	NI195 Improved	Deliver initiatives through partnership working aimed at educating and empowering residents and businesses to minimise waste and maximise recycling Narrow the gap	Mainstream	Streetscene &	Environmental	Yes. Local	Biffa MWDA RSL
standards of street cleanliness across the borough (TS 3)	street and environmental cleanliness – litter, detritus & graffiti NI 196 Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping	in cleanliness standards between the 5% most deprived areas and the Borough as a whole Monitor and respond appropriately to the levels of flytipping across the Borough	funding, MWDA, North West Enterprise Fund	Transport Services	Waste	Indicator 4178	

Aims 2009-2013	We will measure our success by: Related Performance Indicators	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	Funding / Resources	Lead Portfolio	Lead Service Area	Will this activity contribute to narrowing the gap in Wirral? If so, how will this be measured?	Who else is required?
		Continue to improve the overall cleanliness of public highways through the Environmental Streetscene Contract and Biffa "partnering" arrangement					
		Work with partners and statutory landowners to identify and deliver Boroughwide improvements in environmental quality	Mainstream funding				Biffa PCT WPH RSL etc

3.3 Departmental Aims 2010 – 11

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
TS 5. Reduce congestion	Improved traffic flow and minimal disruption on Wirral's roads	Quality Bus Initiatives - Investigate introduction of Quality Bus Contract /red route to build upon bus priority measures already in place Highway Management - Review route parking controls; Explore additional use of VMS as part of Intelligent Telematic Strategy Choice and Behaviour - Monitor Arrowe Park Hospital's Travel Plan to encourage modal shift Develop traffic model of corridor to determine future interventions and actions Merseyside Congestion Group meetings	NI167 Congestion - average person journey time per mile during the morning peak	Forward Planning	Merseytravel, Bus operators Siemens, Statutory Undertakers Arrowe Park Hospital LTP Support Unit Mott MacDonald Merseyside Information Service Merseyside Congestion Group
TS 6. Supporting the Strategic Asset Programme	Prepare for Phase 3	Help identify site options and prepare design feasibility Office Accomodation review – provide detailed surveys and condition assessments with demolition estimates where necessary		Design Consultancy	Head of Law, HR & Asst Mangmt
TS 7. Streetscene Customer Access Strategy	Access to services – achieve consistent performance	Provide service-specific request and task-types (remove General Enquiries)	Quarterly review and progress report against project plan milestones	Support & Information Services	Finance- CSDT Finance- ITS

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
		Review and improve the effectiveness of processes	Improved service area PI measures		
	Deliver improved customer care standards	Provide CRM integration to Biffa Springboard system Improve CRM links to corporate land & property systems			
	Reduce avoidable contact and lower costs	Improve the provision of information on the internet Provide "e-forms" for capturing online service requests	NI14 – reducing avoidable contact		
TS 8. Improving the Planning Service	Further develop processes to reduce time to determine applications	Produce a Section 106 Planning Obligations Strategy & Improve the Legal Framework	Monitoring System to track sums received/outstanding Spend on community benefits Obligation status	Development Control	Head of Law, HR & Asst Mangmt Fwd Planning
		Update & Modernise the Scheme of Delegation	NI157	Development Control	Planning Committee Head of Law, HR & Asst Mangmt Fwd Planning
		Develop Validation Checklist for Applicants	NI157 Reducing the number of invalid applications	Development Control Division	Applicants, Developers Agents Consultees

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
	Protect the Built Environment	Proactively Undertake our Planning Enforcement Role	The Government is to set indicators and give enforcement a higher priority in promoting planning.	Development Control Division	Planning Committee Head of Law, HR & Asst Mngmt Fwd Planning
	Improve customer perception of the Planning Service	Focus on our Customer Experience: CALL CENTRE One Stop Shops Duty Officer Protocol	Reduce the number of Complaints MP/Councillor enquiries Appeals Ombudsman	Development Control Division	Call Centre Manager One Stop Shop Manager
TS 9. Develop the Highways Service	Manage the HES Contract	Agree Performance Management Framework with Colas and monitor progress throughout. Develop intelligent client role for contract management unit in HMD.	Contract KPIs Client KPIs NI 168, NI 169 Staff skills analysis complete. Identify training needs. Gradual reduction in staffing levels	HMD Contract Unit HMD Contract Unit	Colas; TS I & Q Section TS Staff Development Section
		Develop innovation working group	Introduction of new materials for maintenance works	HMD Asset and Contract Units	Colas
		Develop contract efficiencies	New methods of working Reduced client supervision Improved planning/programming of works	HMD Asset and Contract Units	Colas
	Enforcement	Implement Environment/Highway licensing function within Sidem	Implementation complete	TS Enforcement	Spur I S

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
		Develop links with internal & external Agencies to act on Council's behalf, re: enforcement Review Enforcement contracts and possible procurement options	Milestones Agree SLA with agencies by March 2010 Contracts prepared by April 2010. Possible PQQ completed	Section	Police; Community Patrol CPU Legal Finance
		EU Service Directive: improving access to our services through the web, re: licensing functions on the highway	System fully operational by Dec 09 for electronic licensing applications and approvals	Bob Berisford; TS Enforcement Section	Legal; Finance; ICT
	Asset Management	Determine basic requirements of Asset Management system, its relevance to current operation and future objectives		HMD Asset Unit	Mark Ennis; Karen Laird
		Investigate possible procurement alternatives for system and seek Cabinet approval to begin procurement exercise		HMD Asset Unit	CPU
		Installation of system, data and training for appropriate staff.		HMD Asset Unit	ICT; Software supplier
TS 10. Emergency Planning & Resilience	Integrated working with Work with Community Cohesion Group	Working with Community Cohesion Group to ensure synergy with NI35 Protecting against radicalisation	NI 36	HS&R	
	to ensure synergy with NI 35 – protection against radicalisation	Work with Multi-Agency partners to ensure all work streams are joined up.			

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
	To work more closely with Counter Terrorism Security Advisors	Work with Merseyside Police under RESPECT work stream via LRF and Community Safety work groups	NI37		
	to ensure that all relevant advice is considered by all relevant council services and the vulnerability to a potential terrorist attack of crowded places on Wirral is mitigated	Undertake work with MERPOL CTSA to deliver Operation Argos and Project Griffin			
	To Increase the Awareness of Civil Protection Arrangements in the Wirral	Develop procedures following new guidance from CCS on enhancing community resilience.		HS&R	All Departments
	Ensure the council has suitable and sufficient business continuity plans to ensure resilience against foreseeable risks	Undertake a thorough exercise and test of all departmental BC arrangements			
	Prevent death or serious injury to a service user, staff member, or anyone to whom the Council owes a duty of care.	Institute Of Safety and Health (IOSH) Managing Safely training to all Managers and Supervisors below Head of Service	% of department managers attending IOSH MS training programme. Reported to Departmental/Corporate H&S Committees Qtly	Central Services Health, Safety & Resilience Team	All dept training coordinators All Senior mangers and line managers

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
		Continue to review and revise all policies on a risk based approach and to ensure they are circulated and agreed via the Central Safety Committee	Policy reviewed annually Particular H&S Arrangements reviewed/ developed monthly. Reported Qtly to departmental/ Corporate H&S Committees	Central Services Health, Safety & Resilience Team	H&S team HR & IT support
		Investigation of all reportable incidents and collection of all accident/incident statistics	% Measurement of RIDDOR investigations. Yr on Yr reduction of RIDDOR incidents of 10% (excl schools) Record data monthly and reported Qtly to Departmental/ Corporate H&S Committees	Central Services Health, Safety & Resilience Team	H&S team All senior Dept mgrs & line mngnt
	Assist in the reduction of employee absence by the introduction of an Employee health & wellbeing programme – Fit4Wirral	Continue to meet and attempt to identify areas of potential collaborative working			
TS 11. Create an Excellent Department	Establish Clarity of Purpose	Greater understanding of the variability in our processes Establish Staff's improvement priorities both 'operational' and 'aspirational'.		Support & Information Services (Performance Management)	SMT, OMT and Extended Management Team

Departmental Aim	Planned Outcomes	We will deliver: Projects and/or Activities	We will measure our success by: Related National or Local Indicators or Milestones	Lead Service Area	Who else is required?
		Establish customer/citizen priorities			
		for TS services			
	Improve	Review role competencies and			
	consistency of	individual's performance in role			
	management	Provision of proper and			
	practices within	appropriate equipment and other			
	Department	resources			
		Consistent methods of working			
	Develop more	Develop existing procedures to			
	efficient and	remove causes of variation			
	effective	Comparison of TS performance			
	processes	with peers in local government and			
		best-in-class across the board			