

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 17 NOVEMBER 2010

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

WIRRAL UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITALS (WUTH) NHS FOUNDATION TRUST - TRAVEL PLAN REVIEW 2010

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) NHS Foundation Trust's Travel Plan Review 2010. This is the fourth annual review since the original Travel Plan was implemented as part of the Planning Approval for car parking provision at Arrowe Park Hospital in March 2006. The Travel Plan review details progress to date and an action plan for the coming year including a number of proposed amendments to the plan.
- 1.2 The report recommends that Members note the contents of the report and attachments and endorse the Travel Plan Review 2010 and the Traffic Management and Parking Policy Report. It is also recommended that in future the reporting of the Travel Plan Review is undertaken on a bi-annual basis to committee whilst reporting an update to the action plan on an annual basis to officers.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 WUTH originally submitted a Travel Plan in support of its planning application to increase the on-site car parking provision at Arrowe Park Hospital in 2005. This eventually became an integral part of the overall scheme through a Section 106 Agreement. The original Travel Plan was developed following negotiation and coordination with WUTH, the Council's Sustainable Transport Co-ordinator and Merseyside TravelWise who continue to provide on-going support and advice. The Plan covers both Arrowe Park Hospital and Clatterbridge Hospital and aims to reduce the levels of travel generated by the hospitals and sets out the Trust's aspirations for reducing the use of single occupancy private cars as the mode of choice when travelling to the hospitals.
- 2.2 WUTH as one of the largest employers in Wirral can make a major contribution to Wirral's commitment to develop and implement a sustainable transport strategy, and indeed to the delivery of the objectives set out in the Merseyside Local Transport Plan 2006-2011. The Travel Plan also supports other national and local policies such as encouraging healthy lifestyles and the reduction in obesity through increased exercise.

2.3 For reference, a site plan of the Arrowe Park Hospital and car parks is attached in **Appendix 1**.

3.0 TRAVEL PLAN REVIEW 2010

3.1 The main aims of the review of the Travel Plan are:

- To provide an update on the Travel Plan implementation
- To demonstrate what has been achieved since the last review
- To identify and make changes to the plan
- To review future actions and target dates

3.2 WUTH commissioned Mott MacDonald to undertake a review of the Travel Plan and the associated Traffic Management and Parking Policy, this review has been undertaken in consultation with the Councils Sustainable Transport Coordinator. Copies of the Travel Plan Review 2010, **Appendix 2**, and Traffic Management and Parking Policy Report, **Appendix 3**, are attached and form the main part of this report.

3.3 In summary the review includes:

- The results of a staff and patient/visitor travel survey and confirms that future surveys will be undertaken every two years.
- Highlights key achievements and progress on delivery of the previous action plan.
- A breakdown of the costs of delivering the travel plan and a proposal that public parking charges are increased in line with the increases in charges in other hospitals and public car parks in Wirral since 2005. It also proposes that in future parking charges are increased periodically in line with inflation or the increase in parking charges in Wirral Council car parks, subject to coin of the realm limitations.
- Confirms that 300 free public parking spaces will continue to be provided and details the control measures to be implemented to ensure these spaces remain available for public use.

3.4 The review remains subject to approval by the WUTH Trust's Board and should there be any significant changes to the review this will be reported to Members.

3.5 There is a requirement through the Section 106 Agreement that WUTH undertake a review of the Travel Plan on an annual basis and currently this review is also reported to members annually. It is proposed that the requirement for an annual review, including consultation with Wirral's Sustainable Transport Co-ordinator remains but that future reporting to Members is undertaken on a bi-annual basis. Members are reminded that WUTH cannot alter or amend the Travel Plan without prior written

approval from Wirral Council, as such the integrity of the Plan will not be diminished by this proposal.

4.0 FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial or significant staffing implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Staff from the Technical Services Department, and Merseyside TravelWise, as part of the Local Transport Plan Strategy, will continue to provide support to WUTH Trust in the development of their Travel Plan.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no specific equal opportunities implications arising directly from this report.

6.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no specific planning implications arising directly from this report.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no specific community safety implications arising directly from this report.

8.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific human rights implications arising directly from this report.

9.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific Local Agenda 21 Implications arising directly from this report.

10.0 ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

10.1 No background papers have been used in the preparation of this report.

11.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The Travel Plan covers both Arrowe Park and Clatterbridge Hospitals, which are in the Pensby/Thingwall Ward and Clatterbridge Ward respectively. However, these hospitals are key destinations for healthcare and employment not only for all Wirral residents, but also for people from outside the Borough.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 12.1 It is recommended that Members note and endorse the contents of the Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's Travel Plan Review 2010 and Traffic Management and Parking Policy Report.
- 12.2 Members are also recommended to endorse the reporting of future Travel Plans on a bi-annual basis to committee whilst reporting an update to the action plan on an annual basis to officers.

DAVID GREEN, DIRECTOR
TECHNICAL SERVICES