

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL WEST CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

16TH JULY 2015

SUBJECT:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER'S PROGRESS REPORT
WARD/S AFFECTED:	WARDS WITHIN THE WIRRAL WEST CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ GREASBY, FRANKBY AND IRBY▪ HOYLAKE AND MEOLS▪ PENSBY AND THINGWALL▪ WEST KIRBY AND THURSTASTON▪ UPTON
REPORT OF:	CONSTITUENCY MANAGER (WIRRAL WEST)
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	CABINET MEMBER – NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOUSING AND ENGAGEMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1.1 This report sets out:

- Progress in relation to the use of the Committee's budget to date;
- An update on progress in relation to other activities being undertaken by the Wirral West constituency team;
- Items for noting in respect of local issues / consultations.

1.2 The report also sets out the status of ongoing actions raised by Committee Services as a result of previous Constituency Committee meetings at **Appendix 2**. The Committee is asked to note that completed actions have been removed.

2.0 CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE BUDGET 2013-14 and 2014-15

2.1 **Table 1** overleaf provides a summary how the Constituency Committee's devolved budgets in the first two years of constituency working (2013-14 / 2014-15) have been allocated. Agenda items 5, 6 and 7 present the impact of the Committee's budget allocation in Year 1 (i.e. 2013-14) in respect of delivering improved outcomes for the communities of Wirral West.

2.2 **Tables 2 and 3** provide additional information relating to the Constituency Committee's core budget (i.e. the Wirral West Community Fund) broken down by ward.

2.3 Taking into account the information provided in Tables 1, 2 and 3, the Committee's overall budget position in relation to 2013-14 and 2014-15 is:

Total Allocation: £277,750.00

Total Expenditure: £240,720.90 (87%)

2.4 The Committee is asked to note that all remaining budget from Years 1 and 2 has been carried over to be used in line with the purpose for which it was allocated.

Table 1 – Wirral West Constituency Committee: 'At a Glance' Budget Summary (Years 1 and 2)

Year	Allocation	How has this budget been used?	Details of Expenditure
2013-14	£50,000 core Constituency Committee budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wirral West Community Fund grants of up to £1,000 (maximum of £10,000 per ward) to deliver quality of life improvements by the end of 2014 - 31 groups; 38 individual projects funded ▪ Remainder allocated at the discretion of ward councillors on an ongoing basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £33,974.57 allocated in Community Fund grants ▪ See 2.2 for detailed Community Fund budget expenditure by ward
	£50,000 Public Health Outcomes Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wirral West Public Health Grants of up to £3,000 for local groups (allocation based on a minimum of £5,000 per ward, taking into account evidence of need) – 18 projects funded ▪ Underspend allocated to Stay, Safe, Warm and Well Project (Winter 2014) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £44,366.43 allocated in Public Health grants ▪ £3,423.00 spent to date on Stay, Safe, Warm and Well project ▪ £2,407.00 remaining to continue Stay Safe, Warm and Well in 2015
2014-15	£50,000 core Constituency Committee budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wirral West Community Fund grants of up to £1,000 (maximum of £10,000 per ward) for local groups to deliver quality of life improvements by the end of 2015 - 32 groups; 42 individual projects funded ▪ Remainder allocated at the discretion of ward councillors on an ongoing basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £41,700.70 allocated in Community Fund grants ▪ See 2.2 for detailed Community Fund budget expenditure by ward
	£40,000 Your Wirral Fund (Magenta Living)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Your Wirral grants of up to £2,500 for local groups addressing Your Wirral Fund criteria – 24 Your Wirral projects funded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £39,983.75 allocated in Your Wirral grants
	£10,000 Love Wirral budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £5,000 allocated to deliver the Wirral West Big Picnic Project ▪ £5,000 allocated for the delivery of a Wirral West Special Places Project from Autumn 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £3,040.28 spent to date on Big Picnic, projected underspend of £1,959.72
	£77,750 Road Safety Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local road safety schemes approved in October 2014 (see Appendix 1 for progress) ▪ Remainder (and any slippage from schemes agreed in October 2014) for dropped kerb schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £64,750 estimated expenditure on local schemes ▪ £12,100 estimated remainder (including slippage) for dropped kerb schemes

2.5 **Table 2** below sets out Community Fund expenditure in 2013-14 and 2014-15 and shows how the £20,000 available over the two year period for each ward (i.e. £10,000 per annum) has been spent. The Committee is asked to note that, as for all grant programmes, there is a risk of non-delivery of Community Fund projects for a number of reasons (e.g. unforeseen barriers and/or capacity issues) leading to the grant being returned or recouped. The constituency team has taken a flexible approach in terms of monitoring requirements to mitigate against projects failing to deliver e.g. extending deadlines where requested and approving variations in spend as long as these are in line with the original purpose of the grant request. The Community Fund budget position set out above will therefore be subject to change.

Table 2 – Wirral West Community Fund by Ward

		Greasby, Frankby and Irby	Hoylake and Meols	Pensby and Thingwall	Upton	West Kirby and Thurstaston
Amount allocated in Community Fund grants	Year 1 (2013-14)	£7,595.00	£3,016.00	£6,590.00	£6,850.57	£9,923.00
	Year 1 Grants returned	-	-	-	-	£737.33
	Year 2 (2014-15)	£5,646.00	£14,579.45	£7,347.50	£4,000.00	£10,127.75
	Year 2 Grants returned	-	£500.00	-	-	-
Additional expenditure at discretion of Ward Councillors (see Table 3)		-	£2,141.00	£6,062.50	£2,516.00	-
Total Expenditure		£13,241.00	£19,236.45	£20,000.00	£13,366.57	£19,313.42
Current Budget Available		£6,759.00	£763.55	£0.00	£6,633.43	£686.58

2.6 **Table 3** below sets out the additional Community Fund expenditure which has been authorised at the discretion of ward councillors in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Table 3 - Additional Community Fund expenditure at the discretion of Ward Councillors

Ward	Description	Amount	Total
Hoylake and Meols	▪ Support for community shop	£1,500.00	£2,141.00
	▪ Support for street party road closure	£141.00	
	▪ Match funding for Queens Park Pavilion improvements	£500.00	
Pensby and Thingwall	▪ Support for annual family fair, Pensby (2014)	£500.00	£6,062.50
	▪ Pensby Road bollards	£458.45	
	▪ Funding for a range of improvements at Ridgewood Park in conjunction with the Parks and Countryside Service, including signage, security lighting and picnic benches	£5,104.15	
Upton	▪ Match funding for CCTV repairs, Woodchurch	£850.00	£2,516.00
	▪ Contribution to addressing environmental issues at Saughall Massie Lane / Upton By-pass and Overchurch	£1,544.00	
	▪ New signage for Ackers Road roundabout, now being maintained by Woodchurch High School	£112.00	

3.0 CONSTITUENCY TEAM ACTIVITIES

3.1 Over and above the implementation of the Constituency Committee's budget decisions and related projects, the Wirral West constituency team is involved in a range of activities to deliver outcomes for the constituency. Some examples are provided below:

Activity	Partners	Outcomes
Call Blockers Project	Stay Safe, Warm and Well community groups, engagement networks, Trading Standards	60 free call blocker devices have been issued / delivered over the last 3 months by the Constituency Engagement Officer. Positive feedback suggests that this has been welcomed by older residents in the area who are particularly affected by nuisance calls.
Wirral Life Expectancy Project	Churches and faith organisations, Public Health	Presentations have been delivered to church networks on the constituency working approach and the Constituency Manager has made a proactive contribution to developing a faith pledge which sets out how the churches will work with the wider community.
Constituency Conference Development	Community members and partners from a range of agencies	Support has been mobilised for an engagement campaign which builds on previous work and would take the form of a 3-day constituency conference / engagement campaign focused on the role of young people in social action (the Committee is asked to note that the timetable for this activity has slipped due to capacity issues).

3.2 The constituency team also works with ward councillors, resident groups and networks, Council services and partner agencies on an ongoing basis to respond to local issues.

4.0 CONSULTATIONS

4.1 Fire Station Consultation Update

4.1.1 Further to previous updates to the Committee, the closure of West Kirby and Upton fire stations and the building of a new station on Saughall Massie Road has been approved by Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority. The decision to merge Upton and West Kirby fire stations was taken at a Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 30th June following consideration of a report on the 12-week public consultation. The Fire and Rescue Authority agenda for 30th June including the report on this consultation can be found at <http://mfra.merseyfire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=566&x=1>

5.0 CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 Burbo Bank Community Fund

5.1.1 The Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund, an update on which was provided at the last Committee meeting, is now open for applications. Grants from £500 up to £25,000 are available, and details are at <http://www.grantscape.org.uk/bbecbf/>

5.1.2 There will be two application closing dates for the Burbo Bank Community Fund each year. The next two application rounds are detailed below. Late applications submitted after a closing date will be processed in the next round (i.e. approximately six months later).

- Closing date: 2 September 2015
- Decision by: Mid December 2015
- Closing date: 7 March 2016
- Decision by: Early June 2016

5.1.3 The Committee is asked to note that the Constituency Manager is Wirral's local authority representative on the Advisory Panel for the Fund.

6.0 RISKS

6.1 A detailed risk assessment has been developed to support the constituency working approach.

7.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 This report sets out activities undertaken in relation to actions agreed by the Committee, all of which have been progressed with due consideration to a range of options.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 Consultation is undertaken with the members of the Constituency Committee as to the development and operation of the Committee. Ongoing consultation with the local community as to issues for the area is a clear objective of the constituency working approach.

9.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

9.1 The constituency working approach has positive implications for voluntary, community and faith groups in Wirral West.

10.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

10.1 The activities set out in this report are being delivered via existing resources and utilising the constituency budget as determined by the Committee.

11.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no legal implications relating to the activities set out in this report.

12.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 An impact review relating to neighbourhood working can be found at the link below:
<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

13.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no direct carbon reduction implications relating to this report.

14.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

14.1 There are no direct planning and community safety implications relating to this report.

15.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The Committee is requested to note the progress and updates set out in the Constituency Manager's report.

16.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

16.1 In order to ensure that actions requested by the Committee are being progressed as required.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: CONSTITUENCY ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES (progress as at July 2015)

Appendix 2: CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE ACTIONS (from July 2014 onwards)

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Meeting	Date
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	12th December 2013
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	6th March 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	3rd July 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	16th October 2014
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	26th February 2015

APPENDIX 1: STATUS OF ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES APPROVED IN OCTOBER 2014 (as at July 2015)

Location	Ward	Scheme	Estimated Cost	Responsible Officer	Status
Arrowe Road	Greasby, Frankby and Irby	Pavement parking TRO which will have added benefit of reducing speeding	£4,100	David Kirk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation complete ▪ Detailed design of TRO and draft legal Order in progress
Glenwood Drive / Coombe Road	Greasby, Frankby and Irby	Introduction of parking restrictions at junction	£1,200	Paul Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheme not progressed due to significant objection
Hillbark Road / Ferndale Avenue	Greasby, Frankby and Irby	Speed indicator device	£7,000	Carl Amos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract with supplier now signed ▪ Signs in process of being ordered ▪ Consultation underway with ward councillors as specific location
Banks Road / Victoria Drive	Hoylake and Meols	Introduction of parking restrictions	£2,000	Paul Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheme referred by Highways Panel for review as part of work being undertaken to develop a town centre action plan for West Kirby (minute ref to be inserted)
Birkenhead Road / Carlton Lane	Hoylake and Meols	Parking restrictions either side of Carlton Lane on Birkenhead Road	£1,200	Paul Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation complete ▪ Detailed design of TRO and draft legal Order in progress
Elwyn Road / Guffits Rake and Elwyn Road / Newlyn Road	Hoylake and Meols	Parking restrictions at junctions (school times)	£1,200	Paul Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation complete ▪ Detailed design of TRO and draft legal Order in progress
School Lane	Hoylake and Meols	Build out and carriageway markings	£10,000	Graham Roe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed design complete ▪ Scheme ready for advertisement / consultation
Kentmere Drive	Pensby and Thingwall	Give Way marking to reduce risks of speeding traffic exiting Stanley school onto Kentmere Drive	£200	Lee Bailey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheme complete
Kylemore Drive area	Pensby and	Introduction of 20mph speed limit	£3,200	Carl Amos /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheme complete

Location	Ward	Scheme	Estimated Cost	Responsible Officer	Status
	Thingwall	on residential roads including Kylemore Drive but bounded by Irby Road and Pensby Road		Ian White / Lee Bailey	
Pensby Road (shops)	Pensby and Thingwall	Introduction of cycle stands	£350	Mandy Keenan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys in progress
Ridgewood Drive area	Pensby and Thingwall	Introduction of 20mph speed limit on residential roads including Kylemore Drive but bounded by Irby Road and Pensby Road	£7,200	Carl Amos / Ian White / Lee Bailey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme issued to contractor
New Hey Road, Woodchurch	Upton	Introduction of zebra crossing on existing flat topped road hump opposite St Michael and All Angels school	£14,000	Graham Roe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme to be issued to contractor
Avalon School	West Kirby and Thurstaston	Introduction of parking restrictions	£3,000	Paul Barton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following objections, Highways Panel referred scheme back to officers for modifications (minute ref to be inserted)
Frankby Road (near Hilbre School)	West Kirby and Thurstaston	Speed indicator device	£7,000	Paul Cropper / David Kirk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with supplier now signed Signs in process of being ordered Consultation underway with ward councillors as to specific location
Saughall Massie Road, Newton	West Kirby and Thurstaston	Introduction of pavement parking TRO	£3,900	David Kirk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation complete Detailed design of TRO and draft legal Order in progress
Whitfield Lane / Downham Road North	Pensby and Thingwall and Heswall (joint scheme with Wirral South)	Introduction of 20mph speed limit on residential roads adjacent to Heswall Primary School	£16,300 (estimated cost to Wirral West £3,300)	Carl Amos / Ian White / Lee Bailey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheme issued to contractor

APPENDIX 2: CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE ACTIONS (from July 2014 onwards)

Committee Action	Meeting (Minute Ref)	Deadline	Officer Assigned	Status
<p>To consider the outcome of a review into parking in West Kirby and to consider the viability of a request from a member of the public to allow short term parking, where there are restrictions at present. A response to be provided to the questioner and to Members of the Wirral West Constituency Committee.</p>	<p>3rd July 2014 (Minute Ref 8)</p>	<p>August 2014</p>	<p>David Rees</p>	<p>This was considered as part of the development of recommendations to the Committee as to the allocation of the constituency road safety budget and it was requested that this piece of work be considered as appropriate should resources become available. Update: West Kirby Town Centre Action Plan now published at http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/business/investment-strategy/investing-places/town-centres includes a series of proposals relating to parking</p>
<p>That feedback is provided to the Constituency Committee in relation to various issues raised by the Committee's Community Representatives.</p>	<p>3rd July 2014 (Minute Ref 9)</p>	<p>August 2014</p>	<p>Jane Morgan</p>	<p>Updates on ongoing issues raised in July 2014: Derelict toilet block on Hoylake Promenade. Update: The Council is in the process of tendering the demolition for this and has requested service disconnections. The intention is to be on site first week in August with work complete within 3 weeks. Closure of West Kirby Fire Station. Update: the latest position with regard to the Fire Station consultation is set out elsewhere in this report. West Kirby town centre parking. Update: As mentioned above, West Kirby Town Centre Action Plan now published at http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/business/investment-strategy/investing-places/town-centres Council policy on Christmas lights. Update: It is now the Council's intention to continue to pay the energy costs of Christmas lighting this year, groups will now be charged from 2016 onwards.</p>

Committee Action	Meeting (Minute Ref)	Deadline	Officer Assigned	Status
To liaise with Councillor Stuart Whittingham with regard to the suitability of a proposal from a member of the public to introduce a 20mph speed limit in parts of West Kirby.	3rd July 2014 (Minute Ref 10)	August 2014	David Rees	As part of the recommendations relating to the allocation of the Committee's road safety budget in October 2014, officers were requested to note in respect of ongoing monitoring of road safety issues and the proposal was again been discussed as part of the development of a town centre action plan for West Kirby. Update: The West Kirby Town Centre Action Plan has now been published at http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/business/investment-strategy/investing-places/town-centres
That, in noting the priorities identified by local people, the Committee requests that these should be taken into account in respect of the work being undertaken by the Council and Executive to develop proposals for the further devolution of budgets, functions and responsibilities to the Constituency Committees. The Committee further requests that the Constituency Manager prepare a report for the next meeting of the Committee on how these proposals are progressing with a view to producing a business case.	3rd July 2014 (Minute Ref 7)	Before 6 October 2014	Jane Morgan	Update: see agenda item relating to the business case

Committee Action	Meeting (Minute Ref)	Deadline	Officer Assigned	Status
Wirral West Big Picnic Project and Wirral West Special Places Project to be funded by Love Wirral budget	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: Key milestones met in relation to Big Picnic project; planning underway for Special Places project; projects will be delivered within budget
Circulate link in respect of the Children's Centre consultation	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: action complete, link circulated by Constituency Engagement Officer following constituency meeting
Liaise with community centres in respect of constituency conference	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: constituency conference in development, community centres will be used as venues for constituency-wide conference / campaign
Submit updates to future committees in respect of developing the business case for neighbourhood working	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: see agenda item relating to the business case
Report to future Committee on progress in respect of timescales and which local road safety schemes have been implemented	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: see Appendix 1 to this report
Report to next Committee on the outcomes of the Stay Safe, Warm and Well Project – remaining funding to be used for the next financial year	26 th February 2015	No deadline set	Jane Morgan	Update: see agenda item relating to Stay Safe, Warm and Well