

**WIRRAL COUNCIL**

**WIRRAL WEST CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE**

**6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016**

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

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

1.1 This report provides an update on current projects and activities funded using the Committee's budget allocations. The Wirral West Community Fund is subject to a separate update.

**2.0 CONSTITUENCY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Special Places Project (2014-15 Love Wirral budget allocation)**

2.1 As reported to the last meeting of the Committee, a Wirral West Special Places Panel was convened on the basis of one member per ward to agree which locations should be selected for a Special Places bench, resulting in the following list of locations being taken forward:

- Pump Lane Pond, Greasby;
- Carr Lane Play Area, Hoylake;
- Grove Park, Hoylake;
- Ridgewood Park, Pensby;
- Thingwall Road, Thingwall;
- Outside St Bartholomew's Church, overlooking the Village Green, Thurstaston;
- Footpath 43, Grange Hill (Lang Lane / Grange Old Road), West Kirby;
- Cubbins Green, West Kirby;
- Hilbre Island;
- Warwick Park, Upton.

- 2.2 Progress is ongoing with regards to the installation of the Special Places benches at these locations and the project will be delivered within the budget allocated. Each location has required consultation with a range of stakeholders, including the individuals and groups responsible for suggesting the original ideas, to ensure that benches are installed with due regard to a range of considerations and to ensure that the appropriate requirements and permissions are being met.

### **Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour (2015-16 ASB allocation)**

- 2.3 As previously reported to the Committee, the Council's February 2015 budget made provision for dedicated funding for Constituency Committees to identify actions for tackling issues of ASB.
- 2.4 The Constituency Committee resolved in July 2015 that an ASB Panel would be established (with representation from one member per ward, to be determined by the Committee) to make recommendations about the use of the Committee's budget. The Committee delegated decision-making in respect of this budget to the ASB Panel in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee and agreed that, given that Woodchurch is the constituency hotspot for ASB, the majority of funding (i.e. £10,000) should be utilised in Upton ward but with each ward having some resource to be deployed as necessary (i.e. £5,000 split between the remaining 4 wards). A number of projects are now ongoing using this budget, with ongoing consultation with members of the ASB Panel. Recent developments include:

#### *Diversionary Programme – Woodchurch and the wider constituency*

- 2.5 In December 2015, the Panel agreed to use £1,200 of the Woodchurch ASB budget to support diversionary activities delivered by the Council's Sports Development team at the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) in response to reports of ASB issues around the Carr Bridge Road area. A total of 12 sessions took place across the months of January – March 2016 (and into the first week of April). As reported to the last meeting of the Committee, levels of engagement in these diversionary activities were high with reported ASB showing a reduction when compared to the same period the previous year.
- 2.6 The Constituency Manager has been involved in ongoing discussions with all agencies about levels of ASB in the Wirral West area, including the Woodchurch hotspot. As indicated in the separate ASB update to the Committee (item 5), recent ASB issues suggest that increased engagement with young people covering a wider geographical area is required. The ASB Panel have recently agreed that additional resources from the Committee's ASB budget are put in place for the Sports Development and Youth Support teams to be able to offer a further programme at the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and additional diversionary activities targeted at young people from the Upton / Woodchurch / Overchurch, Pensby, and Greasby areas who demonstrate positive behaviours over a period of time. Over the longer term, supporting access to opportunities such as the NCS (National Citizenship Service) programme is also planned. The Constituency, Youth Support and Sports Development teams will also, as part of the programme, explore other possible diversionary activities which could be delivered at the MUGA location and elsewhere at different times by partner organisations with a focus on growing volunteers and youth mentors.

2.7 The ASB Panel has asked for an increased focus on evaluating the diversionary activities funded by the Committee and a number of measures will be included at to ensure this is done robustly, e.g.:

- Numbers of young people engaged;
- Impact on levels of reported ASB;
- Individual case studies of young people positively engaged in diversionary activities;
- Take up of access to opportunities by young people in the longer-term.

#### *Neighbourhood Watch in Wirral West*

2.8 The ASB Panel is keen to support the development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the constituency. The constituency team have been working closely with Merseyside Police and the Wirral Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator to take this forward and support the constituency Neighbourhood Watch meeting taking place in Wirral West on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Wirral West is the first of the four constituencies to approach having Neighbourhood Watch meetings on a constituency basis, given the level of support provided by the constituency team.

#### **Environmental Budget (2015-16 allocation)**

2.9 As reported previously to the Committee, at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 Council allocated £40,000 to support communities to help clean up their neighbourhoods (£10,000 for each constituency area). It was agreed by the Constituency Committee that an Environmental Panel should be convened and given delegated authority in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee to agree expenditure relating to action to address hotspots in the constituency and/or to encourage community involvement in environmental initiatives. It was also agreed that £2,000 of this budget would be ring-fenced to meet the delivery costs of the Special Places budget should this be required, leaving £8,000 available to allocate to environmental initiatives.

2.12 A number of Constituency Committee members met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September to discuss developing proposals for utilising the environmental budget. As a result of this meeting, the Constituency Manager will be exploring a number of options in conjunction with Waste and Recycling and other colleagues:

- Clean up ('sparkle') days in selected locations, combining pavement cleansing with litter picks and a general tidy up;
- The procurement of equipment for use by community groups to tackle localised environmental issues (with associated training);
- Making available items for communities to use when undertaking environmental activities supported by the Constituency Committee (e.g. hi-vis jackets, pop up banners, litter pick kits).

## Road Safety Budget

- 2.14 A detailed report to the Committee in November 2015 set out the position in respect of the Constituency Committee's 2015-16 Integrated Transport Block (road safety) budget allocation (including 2014-15 underspend). The Committee resolved that the Road Safety Panel established in 2014 to make recommendations about the 2014-15 allocation should reconvene to identify how the funding available might be allocated to local schemes and that decision making in respect of the budget should be delegated to the Panel in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee. Following a meeting of the Road Safety Panel on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016, work was undertaken with colleagues in Regeneration and Environment to collate the information requested by the Panel in respect of a 'shortlist' of schemes.
- 2.15 The Road Safety Panel met on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the budget available and to agree priorities for schemes to be funded. The budget available includes a further road safety budget for 2016-2017 as a result of each Constituency Committee being allocated £32,500 for local schemes from the Transport Plan for Growth by Cabinet on 18 July 2016 (minute 24 refers).
- 2.16 The total budget which has been devolved since 2014 to the Constituency Committee to allocate to local schemes is therefore as follows:
- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 2014-2015 Allocation (Integrated Transport Block): | <b>£77,750</b>  |
| 2015-2016 Allocation (Integrated Transport Block): | <b>£25,000</b>  |
| 2016-2017 Allocation (Transport Plan for Growth):  | <b>£32,500</b>  |
| Total Constituency Allocation:                     | <b>£135,250</b> |
- 2.17 The following schemes were taken forward following recommendations to the Committee in October 2014 and are now complete:

Ward	Schemes
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	Arrowe Road Pavement Parking Restrictions
	Hillbark Road / Ferndale Avenue Vehicle Activated Sign
Hoylake and Meols	Birkenhead Road / Carlton Lane Parking Restrictions
	Elwyn Road / Guffits Rake and Elwyn Road / Newlyn Road Parking Restrictions
	School Lane Build Out
Pensby and Thingwall	Kentmere Drive Road Markings
	Kylemore Drive Area 20mph Zone
	Pensby Road (shops) Cycle Stands
	Ridgewood Drive area 20mph Zone
	Whitfield Lane / Downham Road North 20mph Zone (with Wirral South)
Upton	New Hey Road, Woodchurch Zebra Crossing
	Royden Road Dropped Crossings
West Kirby and Thurstaston	Avalon School Parking Restrictions
	Frankby Road (near Hilbre School) Vehicle Activated Sign
	Saughall Massie Road, Newton

2.18 Taking into account the expenditure on these schemes (based on a best estimate of costs pending Final Accounts for 2015-16), the remaining allocation by ward based on the funding being distributed equitably is as follows:

Ward	Expenditure on Schemes Identified in October 2014	Remaining Budget Allocation
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	£12,654.73	<b>£14,395.27</b>
Hoylake and Meols	£10,763.74	<b>£16,286.26</b>
Pensby and Thingwall	£16,381.95	<b>£10,668.05</b>
Upton	£22,739.23	<b>£4,310.77</b>
West Kirby and Thurstaston	£8,630.32	<b>£18,419.68</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£71,169.97</b>	<b>£64,080.03</b>

2.19 At its meeting of the 20<sup>th</sup> September, the Road Safety Panel agreed that the following new schemes should be prioritised, subject to further investigation and consultation as appropriate:

Ward	Prioritised Schemes	Estimated Cost (where known)
Greasby, Frankby and Irby	<b>Hillview Road 20mph zone</b> - traffic calming (i.e. road humps) and associated signage along Hillview Rd and Sandy Lane (south of Hillview Road). This scheme will be progressed subject to the outcome of required traffic speed surveys and consultation with residents. Should this scheme not be taken forward, the budget available for Greasby, Frankby and Irby will be utilised for dropped crossings, locations to be identified.	£15,000
Hoylake and Meols	<b>Meols Station approach</b> – Traffic Regulation Order to address parking issues	£1,800
	<b>North Parade (Kings Gap to Hoyle Rd)</b> – Improved signage and build out at Hoyle Rd to prevent misuse of one way system	£10,000
	<b>Riversdale Road</b> – dropped kerb crossings at junction with Meols Drive	£1,700
	<b>Ashton Park access road (Westbourne Road / Church Road)</b> - ‘H bar’ access protection marking across Ashton Park access road and neighbouring properties to improve access and sight lines	£200
	<b>Groveside</b> – dropped kerb crossings at junction with Banks Road	£1,400
Pensby and Thingwall	<b>Gills Lane</b> – Traffic Regulation Orders to prevent parking and improve sightlines at junctions of Marlfield Lane and Thorncroft Drive	£2,400
	<b>Heywood Boulevard 20mph Zone</b> – signage in the vicinity of Thingwall Primary along Heywood Boulevard (bounded by Thingwall Rd East, Thingwall Drive)	£3,800
	<b>Portal Road</b> - Traffic Regulation Orders to prevent parking and improve sightlines at junctions of Gibson Close and Cheshire Way (proximity to Ladymount School)	£2,400
	<b>Whaley Lane</b> - Traffic Regulation Order to prevent parking and improve sightlines at junction of Thingwall Road East	£1,200

Ward	Prioritised Schemes	Estimated Cost (where known)
Upton	<b>Saughall Massie Lane</b> - Traffic Regulation Orders to prevent parking and improve sightlines on junctions with Saughall Massie Lane	-
West Kirby and Thurstaston	<b>Caldy Road</b> - school flashing lights, school sign relocation and 'H bar' markings to address unintended consequences (i.e. speeding) of the parking restrictions put in place relating to Avalon School	£3,600
	<b>Dropped crossings programme</b> – a maximum of 8 sets of dropped kerb crossings (based on an average cost of £1,700 for each set) in locations to be agreed	£14,500

2.20 The Road Safety Panel notes that a number of the issues and schemes which will not be taken forward as a priority for funding at the current time have been proposed by residents and communities. These include representations in respect of Heron Road and the longstanding proposal to explore a 20mph Zone in West Kirby town centre. The Constituency Manager is responding individually in respect of all suggestions put forward by residents and communities to provide feedback as to the Panel's discussions.

### 3.0 RISKS

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

### 4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 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.

### 5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 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.

### 6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

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

### 7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

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

### 8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

## 9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 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>

## 10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

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

## 11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

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

## 12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress and updates set out in the Constituency Manager's report.

12.2 It is recommended that the Committee endorses the recommendations of the Road Safety Panel set out at 2.19 in relation to the new schemes prioritised for funding.

## 13.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

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

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## APPENDICES

None

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Meeting	Date
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	12 <sup>th</sup> December 2013
Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager's Report	6 <sup>th</sup> March 2014

<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> October 2014</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> July 2015</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> November 2015</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> February 2016</b>
<b>Wirral West Constituency Committee – Constituency Manager’s Report</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2016</b>