

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his portfolio.

1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It is now almost exactly two years since we delivered the first Wirral Residents' Survey. I am pleased to report that leading research agency Ipsos MORI have been commissioned to repeat the survey this year, and residents are completing surveys now.

The 2015 survey was extremely helpful, allowing us to base many decisions and design of our strategies on sound evidence and I am looking for similarly helpful data this time around. I will make sure the results of the survey are published early in the New Year. Members can remind themselves of the 2015 survey findings from the council website, www.wirral.gov.uk/wirralplan.

It is also almost a year since Wirral View was created. While not without its challenges, I believe the publication has been welcomed by many communities and voluntary organisations across the borough – giving them an otherwise unavailable opportunity to promote their work to large audiences.

I think it is important we build on this, and I wanted to use this opportunity to share a particular success from the most recent edition, and a story about 'Places of Welcome', a network of community organisations who offer an unconditional welcome to local people regardless of their circumstances.

Following this article, a further 8 community organisations have contacted the network to volunteer to become Places of Welcome, potentially doubling the total number in Wirral. This is a small but powerful example of why Wirral View was created – allowing community organisations to connect, share ideas and get important information and support to more residents.

Constituency teams continue to support work across the pledges. In particular they have been contributing to the Council's Love Where You Love initiative which aims to support the fantastic contribution made by volunteers to keeping

the borough clean and tidy. The teams are working to set up five Love Where You Live hubs in each constituency area, each providing access to litter pick kits for adults and children and a supply of bags. The hubs will also be able to supply contact details for organising collection and disposal of litter if required, information and advice about safely organising clean ups and Love Where You Live signage and promotional materials.

The 'Love Where You Live' campaign is being extensively promoted through [Wirral View](#).

Birkenhead

As part of the Feeding Birkenhead campaign, Birkenhead Constituency and Sports Development are working with Gautby Road Play and Community Centre to deliver 'Fit and Fed' which is about delivering youth outdoor sessions and providing food to young people in the area who are at risk of getting involved in ASB. You can read more about the Feeding Birkenhead project in the [Wirral Globe](#).

Wallasey

During the summer I was particularly proud to see the launch of the New Brighton Mermaid Trail, a new tourist art trail, that has been developed by New Brighton Coastal Community Team; a partnership between local businesses, local community groups/organisations and Wirral Council. The mermaids are not only a stunning addition to the Wirral, they are a great illustration of people working together to increase tourism and employment opportunities, whilst supporting and responding to the needs of the local community.

The New Brighton Mermaid Trail has been covered extensively on [Wirral View](#), and in the [Wirral Globe](#) and [Liverpool Echo](#).

Wirral South

The Wirral South Constituency Team has, and continues to; provide support to the local community in New Ferry following the blast in March. This support has ranged from the immediate emergency hub response through to the ongoing recovery.

Wirral West

In Wirral West, the Small Grant, Big Difference programme has resulted in 24 local groups awarded funding to make Love Where You Live improvements which will enhance the area and support the fantastic work of local volunteers. Groups applied for a diverse range of support including gardening equipment, trees for planting, and to spruce up community buildings.