

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Chris Spriggs
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Delivering Differently
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Paul Satoor – Director for Corporate Services & Reform

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

1 INTEGRATION OF HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES

A new era in how health and social care services are provided in our borough started in June of this year, when many of our adult social care services were combined with services provided by Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT). The new service now provides a fully integrated single front door to all Health and Social Care Services in Wirral.

The integration of the assessment and support planning functions of adult social care will help social workers and nurses to work together much more effectively, delivering the “Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time”, through providing joined up services to residents. You can read Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust chief executive Karen Howell welcoming the news in her [Wirral Globe column](#).

2 COMMUNITY SAFETY HUB

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Safety has provided a detailed update on ensuring Wirral’s neighbourhoods are safe, including the successful development of the new, integrated Community Safety service.

The Safer Wirral hub will help keep communities safe, through collaboration between services such as Merseyside Police and Fire and Rescue service. Based at the Solar Campus in Leasowe, the new service the first phase of a new multi-agency service which will deliver an effective community safety service for the borough.

The service is led by Merseyside Police, with a number of Wirral Council teams, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and other key partner agencies. The project has already delivered significant reductions in anti-social behaviour across Wirral through its pilot phase.

3 DELIVERING WIRRAL'S CULTURE STRATEGY

I am delighted to be leading Wirral's approach to delivering our approach to cultural events and services, particularly focussing on improving how we work with our cultural organisations, neighbours, partners and existing businesses.

During the summer, the Merseyside River Festival was held – attracting thousands of visitors to both sides of the waterfront. Aeronautical displays over the river to mark Armed Forces Day – sponsored by Cammel Laird – followed by a gala fundraising dinner at Wallasey Town Hall combined to create a very special event for everyone who attended. More about the Festival can be read on the [Wirral Globe website](#).

Led by our colleagues at Wirral Chamber of Commerce, a programme of events called '[Summer Sessions](#)' proved a great success, with live music and family activities taking place in Hamilton Square. Other great events which residents have enjoyed this summer include the Festival of Firsts, Love New Brighton Parade, Wirral's Open Studio Tour, and the launch of the 'Mermaid Trail' in New Brighton.

In partnership with The Beautiful Ideas Company we delivered the Wirral Festival of Beautiful Ideas in April of this year, and had a fantastic response from Wirral's creative community. Over 100 local creatives and artists took part and 40 'beautiful ideas' were brought forward - a number of which are being further developed. More news of them will be available soon.

Another success I would like to bring to the attention of the Council is the Wirral Culture Tank: Visual Arts which took place over the summer. This event saw over 100 people and cultural organisations taking over the Williamson Art Gallery to hear key speakers such as Tony Woof from West Kirby Arts Centre, to network, provide feedback around the Wirral Cultural Partnership and add their flags to the Wirral Map of Culture.

We were also pleased to welcome Jane Beardsworth, Director North of Arts Council England, to Wirral in September to hear about our plans for making Wirral a great place to experience art, culture and creativity and see some of our fantastic assets such as Birkenhead Town Hall, Port Sunlight and the Floral Pavilion.

Plans are currently underway to launch Wirral's first ever Year of Culture in 2018. This exciting initiative will include showcasing Wirral's talented artist community and creative sector, new projects and new commissions, as part of an ambitious programme of events, and will provide the chance for local artists, creatives and performers to promote their work, their activities and events and to get involved in shaping what the year will look like. I will make sure to provide Council with full details of these exciting emerging plans soon.

Finally, I am delighted we are able to bring a fantastic event to Merseyside to celebrate Bonfire Night. The new River of Light Festival, in partnership with our colleagues in Liverpool, will see the world-renowned Titanium Fireworks put on a memorable free event for families. Events and activities at New Brighton will make this a must-see, high- quality cultural experience and I hope all Wirral residents are able to enjoy it.

Read more about the River of Light – and our [community firework displays](#) – through [Wirral View](#), the [Wirral Globe](#) and the [Liverpool Echo](#).