

**CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT**

<b>REPORT OF</b>	Councillor Angela Davies
<b>CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR</b>	Transformation
<b>CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER</b>	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 WIRRAL GROWTH COMPANY**

We continue to make fast, exciting progress in setting up the Wirral Growth Company. This programme will put the Council in its strongest ever position to drive forward, and direct, regeneration in the borough – putting us in the driving seat to design what Wirral looks like in the future, and creating thousands of jobs, building hundreds of new homes and revitalising our retail centres along the way.

We are now into a detailed process of competitive dialogue with the bidding organisations – huge developers with extensive track records of success – and are working with them every day to create the best deal for Wirral. We expect to be in a position to put the preferred deal forward very early in 2018.

Members can expect detailed briefings and extensive communications about this programme in January. More information about the Growth Company, including the invitations to tender and the business case which we took to the market, is available on [wirralwellmade.com](http://wirralwellmade.com).

**2 LIBRARIES, LEISURE & CULTURE REVIEW**

We are continuing an extensive review into our Library, Leisure and Cultural services, seeking to find a new way to provide the services to ensure they are sustainable for the long term and are able to meet our residents' needs.

We know the services in this review are important to people. Their impact on residents' health, wellbeing and general quality of life cannot be underestimated. Therefore any changes to how and where they're provided must be delivered sensitively, and in way which ensures a quality service can be provided sustainably for the long-term.

Cabinet recently considered a report which outlined the consultation process which had been delivered so far, and instructed officers to continue work on developing the business case to redesign the services – using the feedback from

staff, members of the public and partners to underpin any new model which is proposed.

That work is now in process, and we expect further progress to be made in early 2018 with reports to Cabinet and more conversations and engagement with all stakeholders.

### **3 CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services has provided an extensive updated on the progress within Children's Services.

A Transformation Plan for children's services is now in place and is being delivered, working to support and complement the existing Improvement Plan which was developed in response to the Ofsted inspection last year.

### **4 ACCESS WIRRAL**

Later this month Wirral residents will start to see communications and promotions encouraging them to take advantage of a much-improved online system for managing Council Tax and Housing Benefit payments.

Part of the Access Wirral transformation programme, the new systems will allow residents to manage their benefit and tax payments in a much easier, more accessible way – reducing their need to call the council or visit One Stop Shops to perform simple tasks.