

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Christine Jones
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Social Care and Health
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Graham Hodgkinson, Director of Adult Social Services

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 RESIDENTS LIVE HEALTHIER LIVES

Following the annual campaign to encourage eligible Wirral residents to take advantage of the [flu jab](#), indicators of influenza activity are now falling as we move towards the end of the flu season.

This has been a challenging winter period, with seasonal flu generating additional demand for health and care services. As in previous years the multiagency Wirral Seasonal Flu Group continues to meet monthly working together to plan for, and respond to, seasonal flu.

Early indications are that uptake of the flu vaccine in Wirral has been better than in previous years. In an effort to protect the most vulnerable, vaccination of key residential care staff was rolled out in late 2017. A debrief of the flu season will take place in April and a report will be made available with recommendations for the 2018/19 flu season.

Cancer screening is effective in the early identification of disease and therefore longer term health outcomes. This year's Public Health Annual Report highlights the lives that could be saved from a small increase in uptake of breast and bowel cancer screening.

A workshop, led by Public Health, is scheduled for April 2018 to bring together organisations involved with screening to develop a plan to drive improvement locally.

Throughout the year, the Public Health team provide support to manage and respond to health protection outbreaks and incidents. Most recently this has included a large scale Scabies outbreak, a European outbreak of Hepatitis A, measles and scarlet fever. Working with colleagues in the CCG, Public Health are developing local work to ensure that the local response to outbreaks is as effective and efficient as it can be.

A leading men's health charity is looking for walkers from Wirral to take part in a fundraising March for Men after new figures showed, for the first time, the number of men dying from prostate cancer every year has overtaken the number of women dying from breast cancer, making prostate cancer the third biggest cancer killer in the UK. Read more about this in [Wirral View](#).

2 OLDER PEOPLE LIVE WELL

Just over six months ago Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust took on the role of providing adult social care services to older people and those with a disability on behalf of the Council. Positive comments have been received from people who have used the newly integrated service since its transfer. This quote from a person using the newly integrated service demonstrates some early signs that our work is paying dividends;

"I was pleased that I didn't get passed from pillar to post and that I had one worker to deal with, thank you as it has reduced the stress".

We will continue to develop the service, to enable people to receive the right care, in the right place and at the right time.

The launch of the Age Friendly retail pilot in the Pyramids Shopping Centre was successful and well attended, with partners and retailers attending alongside more than 100 older people. I am pleased to tell Council that this initiative is now being explored further, with a view to expanding it throughout the Liverpool City Region.

Look out for the Age Friendly logo in shops in Wirral and find out more from [Wirral View](#).

3 PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES LIVE INDEPENDENTLY

We are working to launch prepaid cards for people who receive a Direct Payment as an alternative to more traditionally arranged care and support services. A prepaid card account is just like a current bank account with a debit card. It can be used by a person to pay for their services which are agreed and detailed in their support plan.

These cards make it much easier and put people more in control of their care arrangements. Wirral are one of a number of Councils to be making good use of innovative ways of delivering care and support to people in a more personalised way.

Finally, a new campaign has been launched in Wirral to improve hospital care for people with a learning disability. 'Treat Me Well' is a three-year campaign that will see national charity Mencap working with partners and hospitals across the country. In Wirral, local affiliated group, Wirral Mencap will work alongside the national organisation and Wirral University Teaching Hospital to meet the aims of the campaign.

More on this is available in [Wirral View](#).