

**CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT**

<b>REPORT OF</b>	Councillor Paul Stuart
<b>CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR</b>	Law & Order
<b>CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Fiona Johnstone – Corporate Director for Strategy & Partnerships

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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

**WIRRAL'S COMMUNITIES ARE SAFE**

The Safer Wirral Hub has now been operational for over one year. In that time, I am proud to say it has made a huge impact. This unique public sector partnership has helped deliver a 13% reduction in antisocial behaviour in Wirral, including a huge 27% reduction in youth offending.

The results so far are hugely encouraging, including an initial 38% reduction in anti-social behaviour. Over the course of a year this has stabilised at a consistent 13% reduction. Youth offending has been reduced by 27% with highlights including:

- 50% reduction in Public Order offences
- 80% reduction in Motoring offences
- 14% reduction in the number of first time offenders

The Safer Wirral Hub is truly innovative. We believe it is the only such operation of its type in the UK. The team extensively researched the best model – visiting Glasgow and Staffordshire among other places – and overcame huge data sharing barriers to create a truly integrated service.

Local communities have seen huge reductions in ASB, faster processing of early help measures to help the most vulnerable members of our community and most significantly Wirral now has the lowest number of re-offenders (15%) in the Liverpool City Region.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our staff who have worked so hard in making this new service a success. We are under no illusions that we have work still to do, but I do not believe we could have wished for a more positive start.

One such issue where we know residents want more action taken is on off-road or scrambler bikes. I am delighted to inform Members that Operation Brookdale – a joint operation with all partners – is in place to focus on areas where

communities are suffering from the illegal and anti-social use of scrambler bikes, quad bikes and other off-road vehicles.

Wirral Council works in partnership with Merseyside Police and other agencies to assist in identifying those involved and to take action where appropriate – but having information to act upon is key, so partners rely on members of the public reporting problem areas to them.

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

I was pleased to recently support the launch of the 'RED Heart' campaign in Wirral, in partnership with Wirral Change. The RED Heart campaign is a positive new movement to promote respect, equality and diversity in all of our communities. I'm really proud that we have been able to support it and to see the difference that it has made in local communities with lots of people from different backgrounds making a pledge

You can find out more on the RED Heart campaign by reading the full story in [Wirral View](#).

Finally, I would like to use this report to ask Members to encourage their constituents to support our Restorative Justice programme. Wirral Council and Merseyside Police are looking for Volunteer Facilitators. These facilitators play a crucial role in mediating between victims and offenders and resolving issues between the two.

Restorative justice brings those harmed by low-level crime or anti-social behaviour and those responsible into communication with one another. It empowers victims by giving them a voice, offering them the chance to meet with their offender to explain the real impact of the crime.

In Wirral alone, 69 referrals have been made to ROC Restore since February 2017. ROC coordinates the restorative justice scheme and receives referrals from the police, housing providers and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

To find out more about how you can get involved, visit [roc.uk.com/volunteer](http://roc.uk.com/volunteer). These courses fill up fast – so make sure to sign up soon so you don't miss out!