

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Christine Jones
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing to Members of the Council on matters relevant to the portfolio.

Mental Health Day:

Just after the last full council we marked World Mental Health Day with the launch of Wirral's "Every Mind Matters" campaign. The national day was aimed at raising awareness of mental health issues and ways in which we can support those around us.

Over 21,000 residents engaged with us on social media.

As part of the awareness raising action day, we worked with a wide range of partners to promote the message and the great work they do every day:

- "Be Well Wirral" - Suicide Prevention Workshop
- Public Health England - Every Mind Matters
- Forum Housing – Resident Workshops
- Paul Lavelle Foundation – Male Mental Health
- Spider Project - Build A Bag of Positivity day
- Tomorrow's Women Wirral - Treat Yourself Thursday
- West Kirby Library – Mindfulness through the written word
- Wirral CAMHS – 'Just Ask'
- Wirral Mind - World Mental Health Day event focusing on suicide prevention.

Safeguarding Adults:

One of the most important roles in the community is ensuring adults are safe from abuse. Earlier this month, we joined with our partners from Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral to celebrate National Safeguarding Adults Week.

During the awareness week, information hubs were set up in community spaces, open to members of the public. Trained staff were on hand to answer questions, offer support and promote safeguarding awareness and information to the people of Wirral. Merseyside Safeguarding Adults Board, formed in 2017, is made up of the four former safeguarding adults boards from Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

Wirral Ways contract:

Back in October Wirral Ways to Recovery were successful in its bid to retain the borough's contract to provide Adult Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Services for a further 5 years.

The contract award followed the service's 'Outstanding' classification, following a recent CQC inspection that was published in August.

Wirral Ways, part of the charity Change Grow Live, is building on its work from the last five years to continue supporting the people of Wirral; working to minimise the harm they experience from drug and alcohol use, so they can go on to live healthier and longer lives. In addition to their current services, which last year supported more than 3,200 people across Wirral, the new contract will see Wirral Ways to Recovery continue to develop strong working links with Wirral's key health organisations and statutory bodies.

Alcohol Awareness:

Just recently we have again successfully collaborated with our health partners – this time for Alcohol Awareness Week. The theme for 2019 was 'Alcohol and me'.

Locally, Wirral's alcohol and substance misuse provider held a celebratory Recovery Event at Nightingales Café, Birkenhead.

Working with Public Health, Nightingales is Wirral's first recovery café, offering alcohol-free fun for all ages.

Flu

With the Flu season upon us once again, a campaign has been launched to encourage parents of 2-3-year olds to ensure their children are vaccinated.

All children aged two and three years old are eligible for a free flu vaccination in the form of a nasal spray. However, not all parents are aware of this or take up the offer.

Not only does the flu vaccine help to protect the children themselves, but by reducing the spread of flu it will also help protect family members, and others in the local community.