



HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Wednesday, 3 November 2021

REPORT TITLE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2021-2026
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT SUMMARY

It is a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Reduction Act 1998 for Councils to lead on the production of a coherent Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy).

This report introduces the Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 (Appendix 1 attached) which has been co-produced following significant consultation with a wide range of stakeholders.

Keeping our communities free from crime and anti-social behaviour is a key priority for the Council and community Safety is a key component of Safe and Pleasant Communities one of five key themes of the wider Wirral Plan 2021-2026. The Wirral Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 and the work of the Safer Wirral Partnership Board has one key objective - to make Wirral a safe place to live, work and visit.

The Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 has been presented to and approved by the Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee (14 July 2021) and by Full Council (6 September 2021).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Health & Wellbeing Board is recommended to;

- 1) Note the co-produced Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026).
- 2) Consider how the strategy and its outcomes can be supported by the work undertaken by the Health & Wellbeing Board in the protection of some of the most vulnerable individuals in Wirral's communities and also in enabling improvements in population health.
- 3) Request that the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, Safety and Transport be requested to provide regular updates (at least annually) to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the progress made in respect to the delivery of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Council to produce a Community Safety Strategy. Our Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 is a critical over-arching document in Wirral's drive to improve the safety and perceptions of safety for our residents, businesses and visitors.
- 1.2 The strategy not only sets out the governance structure for the Safer Wirral Partnership Board but also clearly articulates the ten key priority themes which were articulated through the stakeholder engagement process.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 There were no other options considered as it is a statutory requirement to produce a Community Safety Strategy.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The strategy has been co-produced in concert with elected members, victims of crime and other key statutory and voluntary sector agencies.
- 3.2 Five on-line workshops were held to outline the scope of the document, take views on priorities, both local and Wirral-wide and to shape the new direction of travel for this significant piece of work.
- 3.3 The ten priority themes are ASB, Violent Crime, Domestic Abuse, Drugs and Alcohol, Hate Crime, Modern Slavery, Prevent, Road Safety, Emergency Planning and Coastal and Inland Water Safety.
- 3.4 Each of the themes outlined above in 3.3 will be under-pinned by a detailed Action Plan which will focus on operational delivery, driven by partnership working and clear realistic outcomes.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Community Safety Strategy will be delivered within existing budgets and will maximise grant and other income opportunities where they arise.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for Councils to lead on the production of a coherent Community Safety Strategy.
- 5.2 The delivery of this strategy and its accompanying thematic action plans will be overseen by the Safer Wirral Partnership Board.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 There are no specific resource implications arising as a direct result of the strategy.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 All of the ten thematic priorities will be accompanied by their own programme specific risk register.

7.2 There is a risk of partner organisations being unable to fulfil the high standards set out in the strategy. This is mitigated by the robust governance and meetings structure which is hallmark of all community safety work both in Wirral and across the region.

7.3 Furthermore, it is anticipated that the strengthened partnership relationships developed during the course of the Covid pandemic will continue and provide a fruitful base, from which to deliver an outstanding community safety programme of interventions.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The strategy has been written and co-produced, working alongside Elected Members and all key partners via an extensive workshop programme. It has also taken on-board, comments from wider community consultations carried out via specific projects such as, Safer Streets and Cradle to Career.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies and the way it carries out its work, does not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Safer Wirral Partnership Board will be cognisant of the need for all delivery to take account of the Council's declaration of a Climate emergency.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Community Wealth is at the heart of the Community Safety Strategy, its core purpose being to support community development, resilience and safety. Activity under the ten themes shows the work concentrated in the areas of greatest need. Examples include Safer Streets installing alleygates, CCTV cameras, new street lighting, door and window locks, clean ups and 'greening' of alleyways. As well as the physical improvements, the strategy also focuses on people, their health and well-being, working in schools and across the community to raise awareness of the dangers/consequences of certain behaviours and provides support and strategies to change those behaviours.

Commented [SD1]: What Wirral Council mean by Community Wealth?

Wirral wants an economy that benefits all of our residents and one which keeps money within Wirral; a prosperous, inclusive economy where local people can get good jobs and achieve their aspirations. We want to ensure that much more wealth is invested and stays within our Borough. We know that Wirral has some stark economic, social and health inequalities. Our Community Wealth Building Strategy is a key part of how we will tackle this and makes a major contribution to improving the economic, social and health outcomes of the borough.

Examples of CWB and Social Value activity

- Local Employment – creation of local employment and training opportunities
 - Maximising the Wirral Pound – buying locally where possible to reduce unemployment and raise local skills
 - Community development - development of resilient local community and community support organisations, especially in those areas and communities with the greatest need
 - Good Employer - support for staff development and welfare within providers' own organisations and within their supply chain
- Green and Sustainable: protecting the environment, minimising waste and energy consumption and using other resources efficiently, within providers' own organisations and within their supply chain

Additionally, the commissioned services aligned to the strategy encourages local providers to bid/quote for monies and this is evidenced by all monies being spent within Wirral/Merseyside, helping create and sustain local employment.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026
Appendix 2
Appendix 3

Commented [SD2]: Only one appendix included

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Domestic Abuse Strategy
Community Safety Strategy 2016-2020

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Partnerships Committee	9 November 2020
Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee	14 July 2021
Full Council	6 September 2021