

Update on Work Programme for Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

It was agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny Chairs meeting to adopt the following procedure to allow the committee members to monitor their work programme. It is felt that the work programme should be a 'living' document and as such is intended to act as a guide for the Committee throughout the year, while providing the degree of flexibility needed to respond to any emerging or pressing issues as they arise. Committee members, and particularly the Chair, should have a major role in owning and managing the work programme.

The final item on the agenda for each Scrutiny Committee will be 'Review of the Committee Work Programme'.

It is suggested that there should be four short reports. I have attached the following reports:

REPORT 1 - Lists all the issues the committee agreed to include in their Work Programme:

This report lists all items that have been selected by the Committee for inclusion on the work programme for the current year.

It also includes items, such as previous Panel Reviews, where recommendations have been made to Cabinet. It is important that the implementation of these recommendations is monitored. Otherwise there is no measure of the success of scrutiny.

For each item on the work programme, the report gives a description, an indication of how the item will be dealt with, a where possible a relative timescale for the work and brief comments on progress.

REPORT 2 - Suggestions for Additions to Work Programme

The Work Programme for the Committee should be reviewed at each meeting. This will include members having the opportunity to ask for new Items to be added to the programme. This report will list any newly suggested items. Committee will then have the opportunity to agree (or not) for them to be added to the programme.

REPORT 3 - Proposed Outline Meeting Schedule for the Municipal Year

The report lists those items which are likely to be on the meeting agenda. This will give the opportunity for Committee members to take a greater lead in organising their work programme.

REPORT 4 - Progress Report on In-Depth Panel Reviews

This report will give a very brief update on progress / timescales for in-depth panel reviews which are in the 'ownership' of the Committee.

Report

MONITORING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2008/2009

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Comments on Progress	Complete?
JUNE 2008	Underage Sales of Alcohol and Off Licences	Officer Report (Regeneration)	<p style="text-align: center;">Report to the 28th Jan. 09</p> <p>The Director provided details of operational activity, which had focused upon the prevention of the sale of tobacco, fireworks, offensive weapons and alcohol to those under 18 years. He commended the young people aged between 13 and 16 years, who had volunteered to undertake test purchases, and commented that without their help under age sales enforcement activity by Trading Standards and the Police could not be undertaken.</p> <p>The Director reported also upon the lack of powers available to Trading Standards staff under the Licensing Act 2003, to investigate the sale of alcohol to children without a police officer being in attendance. He commented that the lack of investigative powers could frustrate an investigation where, for instance, the staff of licensed premises refused to allow the inspection of a refusals log or access to training records. All the main legislation enforced by Trading Standards gave officers powers to inspect goods, examine documents and seize and detain goods or documents which the officer had reason to believe may be required as evidence in proceedings for a breach of those Regulations. He reported that the Policing and Crime Bill was currently before Parliament and Part 4 of the Bill dealt with Alcohol Misuse, including selling alcohol to children. He sought the views of members as to whether to take the opportunity to request the Home Secretary to include an amendment to the Licensing Act 2003 to give Trading Standards sufficient powers to effectively investigate sales of alcohol to children.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That the Escalation Protocol for Licence Reviews set out in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted, be supported. 3. That the Director of Regeneration write to the Home Secretary proposing an amendment to the Licensing Act 2003 to give Trading Standards powers to effectively investigate the sale of alcohol to children 	

JUNE 2008

Carbon Neutral Wirral Working with Communities, Schools & Businesses to Improve the Environment

Officer Report (Tech Services).

Progress Report to Committee 3rd Dec Minutes:

The Director of Technical Services reported upon significant changes to the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Programme made by the newly formed Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), since the previous report to the Committee (minute 35 (15 January 2008) refers). The CRC was a carbon trading scheme covering large business and public sector organisations with an annual half-hourly metered electricity consumption above 6000 Mega Watt hours and organisations above the threshold were required to include emissions from all energy consumed from non-transport use. The scheme was due to begin in April 2010 and as Wirral Council was well above the qualifying threshold of consumption, the Director set out the actions that were required in advance of the start date.

Schools were now included in the scheme and their emissions would be included under the local authority's 'carbon footprint'. As emissions from schools accounted for approximately 40% of the Council's total emissions, their improved energy efficiency was paramount to the success of the scheme in Wirral. The local authority would be the organisation legally required to calculate emissions, purchase allowances, monitor and report annual consumption and keep an evidence pack for audit purposes. He commented that CO₂ allowances would have to be purchased according to the organisation's emissions and initially, the cost would be set by the Government at £12/tonne for the first 3 years. All revenues collected nationally would be recycled using a league table to determine the value of return and a bonus/penalty would be applied to the base element according to league table position (+/- 10% in year 1, +/- 20% in year 2 and so on to +/-50%). He reported that based on CO₂ emissions in 2007, it was estimated that the Council would have to purchase £510,000 of allowances for the first year of operation, and it was essential therefore, that the financial implications were fully taken into account in the future financial planning for the Council.

He referred to a number of pro-active energy efficiency initiatives undertaken by the Council which, it was anticipated, would secure an early financial advantage and he reported upon additional measures that were required to provide the required year on year improvements.

In response to questions from members, the Director proposed to present a further report once more detailed information on the CRC scheme became available. In addition, he commented that many

			<p>school governing bodies may not yet be fully aware of the inclusion of schools within the scheme and he proposed to undertake extensive consultation with schools in conjunction with CYPD.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That this Committee believes that the value of bonus or penalties should be apportioned across all sites to encourage the individual sites to actively participate. 2. That, to ensure that the costs are not absorbed into utility budgets, and due to its complexity, the CRC scheme be identified as a separate expenditure item. 3. That the details and financial implications of the CRC scheme be included in the future financial planning for the Council, and the report be forwarded to the Cabinet for consideration. 4. That the implementation of the proposals detailed in section 5 of the report now submitted, be endorsed. 5. That further reports be presented to future meetings of the Committee as more detailed information on the CRC scheme becomes available. 	
<p>JUNE 2008</p>	<p>Tackling Dog Fouling.</p>	<p>Officer Report (Regeneration)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Report 3rd Dec. 08.</p> <p>The Director of Regeneration reported upon the Council's continuing 'Don't Give a Dog a Bad Name' campaign to combat dog fouling, which had been launched in April 2008 with an additional one-off budget allocation of £40,000 to maintain the campaign and in particular to tackle dog fouling in coastal areas and country parks. The Director outlined a range of initiatives as part of the campaign, which included –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increased Enforcement Activity He reported upon increased partnership working between the Council's Dog Wardens, Neighbourhood Wardens from Wirral Partnership Homes and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) in conjunction with the Home Office 'Not in my Neighbourhood' initiative. ■ Targeted Clean-Up Operations He referred to a multi-functional clean up/enforcement quad bike that had been purchased which would be used to promote responsible ownership and to reinforce the campaign message. Targeted clean up operations would coincide with enforcement, positive 	

			<p>reinforcement and reward campaigns and would focus on the coastal areas of West Kirby, Hoylake, Meols, Moreton, Leasowe, Wallasey, New Brighton, Egremont and Seacombe.</p> <p>■ Improved Signage and Publicity The Director referred to improved campaign materials that would be used in the targeted areas as part of a rolling programme of promotion and increased enforcement. In response to comments from members in relation to a lack of coverage in the local press regarding the awards that had been presented and the fines that had been imposed, the Director referred to ongoing work with the Council's Marketing Section to generate increased publicity.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That an update report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee 	
<p>JUNE 2008</p>	<p>Clinical Waste - Working with the PCT.</p>	<p>Officer Report (Tech Services)</p>	<p>Update Report to Committee 3rd Dec. 08</p> <p>Minutes:</p> <p>The Director of Technical Services reported upon the limitations and risks associated with the current service provision for the capture of sharps waste from diabetic and other patients on injectable drugs. He indicated that the clinical waste collection policy included free of charge provision of sharps drop-off points at twelve pharmacies across Wirral and he indicated that following a recent procurement exercise undertaken by the PCT, the annual cost of the service to the Council had been reduced from £4500 to £3340.</p> <p>However, he reported that the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) had identified serious concerns over the presence of significant amounts of sharps waste being recovered from the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at Bidston. He commented that whilst some of the items may have been as a result of illicit drug use, he believed that 70% of the waste originated from patients on injectable drugs disposing of medical paraphernalia in their grey bins. Following consultation with the PCT, the Director provided details of a proposed expansion of the drop-off service to all 86 pharmacies in Wirral which, together with a communications campaign, would encourage responsible sharps disposal and maximise the capture of sharps containers as patients visited pharmacies to collect their</p>	

prescriptions. In response to a comment from a member, he expressed the view that the proposal would also include those located within large supermarkets. The cost of the proposed expansion was £30,500 per annum, which would require an increase in budget provision of £25,400, to be funded from within existing resources. The Director reported upon and set out the costs of alternative solutions that had been considered. However, he believed that an increase in the number of drop off points in Wirral pharmacies was the most cost-effective and sustainable method of dealing with the majority of self-administered sharps waste that could be hazardous to human health. He commented that it was essential that the Council acted to reduce the risk of exposure of a hazardous waste stream to employees working in the waste industry.

In response to comments from members, the Director referred to the importance of publicity to encourage people to take advantage of the expanded drop-off service and to take personal responsibility for safe disposal of sharps. The Director confirmed that monitoring would be undertaken to measure the effectiveness of the scheme and he was confident that the PCT would work in partnership with the Council in publicising the expanded scheme. In response to further comments he agreed also to approach the PCT with a view to securing a financial contribution towards the costs of the service.

Resolved –

(1) That the proposed expansion of the sharps drop-off service to all pharmacies in Wirral by April 2009 be endorsed.

(2) That the decision to vire £25,400 from within the existing Waste and Recycling budget to fund the proposed Sharps Drop-off Service on an annual basis, be supported.

(3) That the PCT be requested to make a contribution towards funding the expanded service and to assist the Council in ensuring that it is adequately publicised.

(4) That a progress report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

JUNE 2008

Improving Local Environmental Quality.-

Officer Report
(Tech Services)

Progress Report 7th April 09.

Project Plan Update

Further to minute 180 (4 September 2008), the Director of Technical Services presented the latest version of the Local Environmental Quality (LEQ) Project Plan for 2008/2009. The Plan was prepared by Technical Services in partnership with Biffa Waste Services, Regeneration, Together Neighbourhood Management and local housing associations and it aimed to achieve the LEQ objectives set out in the Council's Corporate Plan and Wirral Local Area Agreement. He outlined completed projects and provided updates in relation to various projects that were ongoing and were contained within the latest plan. He referred to an independent survey of the key Super Output Areas (SOA's) undertaken by Encams, which revealed that the cleansing standards, as scored with the NI195 methodology, were almost three times as poor when compared with the overall Borough-wide scores. He presented the results of both an SOA-specific and a borough wide survey and he commented that the significantly greater improvement in the SOA areas compared to the rest of the Borough had demonstrated that the Council had 'narrowed the gap' in environmental quality standards. He reported that a new LEQ Project Plan was currently being developed for 2009/2010 and he set out projects being developed for next year to address LEQ issues throughout the borough.

A member referred to the continuing problems across the Borough associated with fly tipping, particularly on private land or on land in indeterminate ownership. The Director asked for details of specific problem areas to be notified to him and he commented that issues associated with Merseyrail would be dealt with at a regional strategic level. He referred also to the criteria for awards made under the Tidy Business scheme and agreed with members that greater publicity would help to promote the positive message they sought to convey. In response to a further comment in relation to projects outside SOA's, the Director agreed to hold a workshop for members with regard to the promotion of the Tidy Business Campaign across Wirral.

Resolved – That the progress made in delivering the LEQ Project Plan for 2008/2009 be noted and endorsed.

JUNE 2008

Healthy Food - Takeaway Food Survey

Officer Report (Regeneration)

Report 28th Jan. 09.

Further to minute 45 (5 March 2008), the Director of Regeneration reported upon the progress of Trading Standards in quantifying and mapping the nutritional impact of takeaway food. He commented that lifestyle-related ill-health was caused by a combination of factors and excessive consumption of salt, fat and sugar could become contributory factors in diet related ill health such as Cardio-vascular disease (CVD), coronary heart disease, hypertension, strokes and obesity related ailments. He set out dietary recommendations in relation to Guideline Daily Amounts of calories, total fat (including saturated fat) and salt and presented a summary of nutritional results of a sampling and analysis programme. The survey had involved a geographically representative sample and was broken down by reference to popular takeaway meals, which had been found to contain disproportionate amounts of salt and saturated fats.

He indicated that the raw data was now available to map and evaluate against ward and super output areas and to correlate against health criteria. Initial indications were that some simple steps such as reducing the amount of salt by better recipe management, using alternatives to high fat products and portion control to reduce the weight of the finished products would have health benefits.

However, the challenges were that the takeaway sector was a widely diverse group of small business making a multiplicity of meals, facing a difficult economic environment where customers may see biggest as best.

He reported that discussions would now take place in the Health and Well-Being Co-ordinating Group (Joint PCT/Wirral Group) to examine the following steps to improve the nutritional value of takeaway food and to develop an action plan to take the project forward –

- Work with takeaways to identify how they can reduce health risks
- Raise health profile with consumers
- Promote a healthier takeaway scheme with takeaway businesses
- Repeat and evaluate impact in 2009 and 2010

In response to a comment from a member in relation to controlling the availability of takeaway food in the vicinity of schools, the Director of refer it to Development Control for consideration and liaison with trading standards officers.

			<p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That a further report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee when the action plan has been formulated 	
JUNE 2008	Biffa Waste and Environmental Services.	Officer Report (Tech Services)	<p style="text-align: center;">Second Annual Review Report 28th Jan 09.</p> <p>The Director of Technical Services reported upon the current position with the Environmental Streetscene Services Contract and the development of the service. Since the contract was awarded to Biffa in June 2006, a close working partnership with the company had transformed Environmental Streetscene Services in Wirral and had resulted in a continuous improvement of service quality. Wirral had improved from a 2 star to a 3 star rating in the Environment Block of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment and DEFRA had also named Wirral as the second most improved Council (UK & Wales) with regard to recycling performance in 2007/2008. He set out the contract management framework and reported upon progress in relation to the following key work streams that had been agreed in January 2008 by the Waste Partnership Board, for implementation in 2008/2009 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Garden Waste: Procurement of Treatment Facilities ■ Street Cleansing: Improving Environmental Quality with particular focus on Litter and Detritus ■ Multi-Occupancy Co-mingled Dry Recycling Provision ■ Compaction of Collected Co-mingled Recycling ■ Springboard Integration <p>He highlighted other key achievements in 2008 and indicated that the Partnership was on track to meet the PSA 8 target of 14% (BV199a) for 2008/2009. He provided a detailed performance summary in relation to key performance indicators together with an Analysis of Benefits Realisation and commented that the following work streams had been agreed by the Partnership Board to be the focus of improvement/progress in 2009 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Street Cleansing (including fly tipping) (continued from 2008) ■ Springboard integration ■ Compaction and contamination risk reduction (amended from 2008) ■ ERIC Service: Re-launch of the service and quality monitoring 	

Members were invited to put forward suggestions for additional work streams in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the contract. The Director introduced Zak Shell and Mark Hodgkinson from Biffa's management team who gave a presentation on progress and key achievements. The presentation provided an overview of the company and its organisational structure, and indicated that Wirral was the company's largest municipal contract. The focus for 2009 was to build on successes achieved in the first two years and to secure further improvements in relation to quality and service performance. Information was provided to demonstrate the benefits to be placed on improvements in relation to missed bin collections, the reduction of side waste, improved customer care and safety performance. Links had been forged with the Authority's emergency planning team, which had resulted in liaison with the gritting service to improve safety of winter working. In addition, all vehicles now used a PDA device to give live round information and it was hoped to develop this further with CRM integration. In response to comments from members in relation to a number of issues, the Director reported upon problems associated with the return of wheeled bins and commented that a strategy had been developed to deal with locations with ongoing problems. In relation to the recycling of trade waste, he reported that the Council did not collect trade waste via the Biffa Municipal Contract. Therefore, waste arising from commercial businesses did not form part of the calculation for any of Wirral's waste national indicators. Nationally, there was a drive from DEFRA for Collection and Disposal Authorities to provide alternative recycling solutions for businesses, recycling in the future. However, this was not an option at the present time because of capacity issues at the MRF. Members expressed the view that fly tipping could increase significantly once the proposed charge was introduced for the ERIC service and, in addition, items that the ERIC service refused to collect were often fly tipped. The Director indicated that the list of collectable items would be reviewed by way of negotiation with the contractor and having regard to health and safety. It appeared that much fly tipping related to trade waste and would be monitored as part of a review of the enforcement process. With regard to community spending of 'You Decide' resources on street cleansing, the Director assured members that such resources would not be used for anything included within the Biffa contract.

			<p>With regard to further issues raised by members, the Director indicated that a report in relation to the evaluation of the graffiti removal scheme would be presented to the Cabinet in March 2009. He proposed also to present a report to a future meeting on a review of the operation of Household Waste Recycling Centres, in conjunction with the Mersey Waste Partnership, once the new operator was in place. In relation to a specific issue concerning the removal, by the supermarket, of bring sites at Sainsbury's in Prenton, the Director agreed to contact the supermarket direct with a view to replacement, and to present an update to the next meeting.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the progress of the Environmental Streetscene Services contract be noted. 2. That the following topics be considered for inclusion in the Environmental Streetscene Services Contract Work Streams for 2009/2010 – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Review of the annual leaf fall removal programme. (b) Review of street cleansing and litter bin provision in relation to Match Days at Tranmere Rovers FC. 3. That a monitoring report in relation to any increase in fly tipping, following the introduction of a charge for the ERIC service be presented to the June/July meeting of the Committee 	
<p>JUNE 2008</p>	<p>Reducing the Council's Carbon Footprint - Corporate Improvement Priority</p>	<p>Officer Report (Tech Services)</p>	<p>Progress Report 24th Sept. 08.</p> <p>The Director reported also upon progress on individual Council projects, viz: –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Various schemes included within the three phases of the Investment Energy Efficiency Programme (IEEP). ▪ Related Energy Projects. ▪ The development and implementation of the microgeneration strategy, and extension of the project to include renewable technologies. ▪ The development of 'Green Building' specifications (Wirral GreenSpec). ▪ Ensuring the use of compulsory Site Waste Management Plans on all construction projects over £300,000 in value. 	

- A detailed audit of the Council's waste minimisation and recycling systems.
- The development of the Travel Plan to further reduce Council mileage. However, he commented that an aspect of flexible and agile working was an adverse effect on car sharing, as colleagues often travelled to work at different times or visited their offices less frequently.
- Improvements to the Grounds Maintenance and Arboricultural Contract.
- The introduction of agile working within Highway and Engineering Services, and a review of the procurement process for the new HESPE contract to require tendering companies to provide details of how their environmental policies and systems will minimise the carbon footprint and environmental impact of contract administration
- The use of bio-fuel in the Council's transport fleet. However, although trials of a 20% bio diesel mix had shown no problems, manufacturers maintained that anything over a 5% mix could compromise the vehicle warranties. The Director also noted concerns that had been expressed in relation to the overall environmental impact of bio-fuel, and those concerns would be taken into account when the bio-fuel trials and Council policy was reviewed.

Resolved –

- 1. That the performance and progress of the various Council 'Carbon Footprint Reduction' projects to date undertaken by the Technical Services Department, be noted.**
- 2. That the further 'Carbon Footprint Reduction' projects proposed be endorsed.**
- 3. That the proposed arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the projects, including regular informal briefings for the Cabinet Member for Environment, be endorsed**
- 4. That regular progress reports be presented to future meetings of this Committee.**

Further Progress Report 7th April 09.

Progress Report 7th April 09.

The Director of Technical Services presented a six monthly progress report on the various projects being undertaken by Technical Services to achieve the Council's Corporate Objective to 'Reduce the Council's Carbon Footprint', as set out in the Carbon Reduction Programme. He set out performance to date in relation to the reduction of carbon emissions and commented that with the Cabinet approval of the implementation of the CRed initiative, the Council had now adopted the challenging CRed target of a 60% reduction by 2025 and would be working with residents, communities and both the public and private sectors to achieve their own reductions. He outlined the year on year improvements required by the Council to achieve the target and he provided details of progress on individual Council projects.

In response to various comments from members in relation to microgeneration and renewables, the Director referred to ongoing work to encourage the participation of schools and to alternative proposals for sustainable energy at Thurstaston Visitor Centre. He commented also that the biomass boiler at the Floral Pavilion was now fully operational and there were plans to install similar systems at the new developments at Woodchurch High School and Park Primary School. The boilers were fuelled by woodchip pellets and he indicated that the system was classed as sustainable because of the proximity of supply. In response to a further question regarding staff business mileage, the Director proposed to present a report to a future meeting following analysis of the figures for 2008/2009.

Resolved – That the performance and progress of the various Council 'Carbon Footprint Reduction' projects undertaken to date by the Technical Services Department be noted and endorsed.

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JUNE 2008

**Waste Recycling and Minimisation -
Corporate Improvement Priority**

**Officer Report
(Tech Services)**

Progress Report 28th Jan. 09.

UPDATE

The Director of Technical Services reported that at its meeting on 26 June 2008, the Cabinet (minute 85 refers) endorsed the Recycling and Waste Minimisation Project Plan and the Wirral District Action Plan. (minute 85 refers). He appended the latest version of the Project Plan to his report and set out the current position with regard to the Recycling and Waste Minimisation Action Plan to achieve the Corporate Objective "to create a clean, pleasant, safe and sustainable environment". Increasing levels of recycling was a priority for improvement for the Council and a stretch target of the Local Area Agreement, and he commented that in 2007/2008 Wirral had been recognised by DEFRA for becoming the second most improved Council for Recycling and Composting performance in England. This was attributed to the stepped increase due to the grey and green bin alternate weekly collection service as well as the expansion of the garden waste service. However, Wirral remained below the national average and it was hoped that further increases in performance, as a result of exceeding targets would result in an improved rating for 2008/2009.

The Director set out the current position in relation to infrastructure roll out, to improved communication to residents and with regard to progress on Council Notices of Motion He reported upon projects planned from April 2009, which included mechanical street-sweeping recycling, the new garden waste contract, section 46 enforcement and food waste minimisation.

In response to comments from members, the Director reported that although fines had not yet been imposed, considerable work had been undertaken in relation to changing behaviour to reduce levels of contamination. However, deliberate contamination remained an issue and effective monitoring would enable action to be taken in problem areas. With regard to the MRF at Bidston, the Director reported that it was now operating at full capacity since it had begun taking waste from Liverpool and Knowsley and at peak times waste had been diverted to a similar facility in Ireland.

The Director assured members that all steps would continue to be taken to avoid waste being sent to landfill. In response to a further comment in relation to the disposal of nappies, the Director reported that the Authority currently offered up to 50 vouchers per year that

			<p>were made available for Wirral residents wishing to trial the local Nappy Laundering Services. He commented that the scheme was promoted by "Happy Bums" and that 20 vouchers had been requested so far in 2008/2009. The Council had offered further support by attending roadshows during the annual Real Nappy Week. He reported also that around 4% of Wirral's waste stream was made up of disposable nappies.</p> <p>Resolved – That the report be noted and the progress being made in delivering the Waste, Recycling and Minimisation Action Plan for 2008/2009 be endorsed.</p>	
JUNE 2008	Packaging/recycling in supermarkets	Officer Report (Tech Services)		
JUNE 2008	Markets for plastic recycling in addition to bottles	Officer Report (Tech Services)		
JUNE 2008	Fairtrade in Wirral in the community, business and the Council	Officer Report (Procurement.)		
JUNE 2008	Landfill Tax	Officer Report (Tech Services)		
JUNE 2008	Council Volunteer Scheme	Officer Report		
JUNE 2008	Departmental objectives to reduce the numbers of people killed or seriously injured	Officer Report (Tech Services)		
April 2009	Health and Safety	Officer Report (Regeneration)	<p><u>Report to 7th April Meeting Minutes:</u></p> <p>The Director of Regeneration reported upon recent work undertaken by Environmental Health Officers working within the Health and Safety Enforcement section of the Environmental Health Division and he outlined the progress made by a range of local and regional campaigns aimed at promoting the Health and Safety Commission's 'Fit 3' initiative. The initiative set the following national targets – a 35% reduction in the</p>	

			<p>incidence rate of work related fatal and major injuries; a 6% reduction in incidence rate of cases of work related ill health and; a 9% reduction in the incidence rate of days lost due to work related injuries and ill health. The Health and Safety Enforcement Team had identified and prioritised those 'Fit 3' campaigns, projects and interventions that were most relevant to the workforce in Wirral and had fully supported the 'Fit 3' programme, recognising that in order to effectively contribute towards meeting the national targets, efforts needed to be focused in partnership with the HSE. To promote consistency, good practice and joint working on shared priorities across the Merseyside region the team also worked closely with 'Environmental Health Merseyside', a collaboration of all greater Merseyside Authorities. The Director commented also that whilst officers always tried to take a proportionate, informative and educative approach to enforcement, where there had been a clear and flagrant disregard for health and safety, it was necessary to consider formal action and he set out a number of the most recent prosecutions.</p> <p>In response to comments from members in relation to the recovery of legal costs, the Director indicated that officers always sought to recover the costs incurred by the Department of Law, HR and Asset Management, external agents, and Environmental Health. However, the costs awarded, if any, were entirely at the discretion of the courts.</p> <p>Resolved – That the report be noted and the Health and Safety sections continuing work programme in support of The 'Fit 3' programme, be endorsed.</p>	
<p>7 April</p>	<p>Environmental Streetscene Services Contract Work Streams,</p>	<p>Officer Report (Tech Services)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>VERBAL RESPONSE</u></p> <p>In response to comments from members in relation to items that had been selected for inclusion in the Environmental Streetscene Services Contract Work Streams, the Director of Technical Services agreed to present a report to the next appropriate meeting. He also proposed to report further upon 'signposting' scripts that were being developed to ensure the right advice was given to members of the public.</p> <p>Resolved –</p> <p>(1) That the report be noted and the officers be requested to report to the next meeting of the appropriate Committee in order to agree a work programme for the forthcoming municipal year.</p> <p>(2) That the officers be requested to liaise with officers from Peel Holdings regarding the submission of the local Environmental Plan.</p>	

Report 3

PROPOSED OUTLINE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2008/09

Meeting Date	Topic Description
3 December 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Working with Communities, Schools and Businesses to Improve the Environment - Progress Report (Tech Services).▪ Tackling Dog Fouling (Regeneration).▪ Clinical Waste Update - Working with the PCT (Tech Services).
28 January 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Biffa Waste and Environmental Services - Second Annual Review. (Tech Services - Members from Streetscene & Transport O&S Committee also to be invited).▪ Waste Recycling and Minimisation - Corporate Improvement Priority Progress Report (Tech Services).▪ Underage Sales of Alcohol and Off Licences (Regeneration).▪ Healthy Food - Takeaway Food Survey.
7 April 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Reducing the Council's Carbon Footprint - Corporate Improvement Priority Progress Report (Tech Services).▪ Improving Local Environmental Quality - Progress Report (Tech Services).

Report 4

PROGRESS REPORT ON IN-DEPTH PANEL REVIEWS ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Title of Review	Members of Panel	Progress to Date	Date Due to report to Committee
NONE			