

WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP – EXECUTIVE BOARD**WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2009****REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE / DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES****WIRRAL LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP DATA QUALITY AGREEMENT****1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. The document attached outlines Wirral Strategic Partnership's agreement for the quality and accuracy of all data shared and used to support the partnership. In delivering the vision for a more prosperous and equal Wirral, Wirral LSP relies upon a range of data and information produced by a number of organisations. This information is used to inform decision making by partners, plan for the future and monitor service delivery. Consistent, high quality, timely and comprehensive information is therefore vital to secure the delivery of improved outcomes in line with the vision for Wirral.
- 1.2. Data quality is the responsibility of every member of the partnership entering, extracting or analysing data from any of the partnership's information systems. The commitment to data quality should be communicated clearly throughout the partnership. Partners are asked to sign the Data Quality agreement, and to ensure the data quality requirements set out within the agreement are communicated within their own organisations.
- 1.3. Wirral LSP recognises that each organisation will have established its own procedures to manage the quality and ensure the reliability of its data. This agreement sets out common data quality principles, based upon best practice that demonstrates the commitment of the partnership to provide good quality data.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Wirral Local Strategic Partnership needs to ensure that it has information that is fit for purpose, accurate and reliable to manage services and account for performance. The 2006 Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 have set out a new performance framework for local services, and with the introduction of the new National Indicator Set, against which the Wirral Strategic Partnership will be assessed, a greater reliance will be placed on the quality and accuracy of the data the partnership is using.
- 2.2. Good quality data is essential for reliable performance and financial information. In November 2007, the Audit Commission produced "Improving information to support decision making: standards for better quality data", in which they emphasised the need for all public bodies to be able to rely upon the data they are using for performance and service management. The Audit Commission also recommended in their report that public bodies should clearly specify the partnership's approach to data quality.



- 2.3. Wirral Local Strategic Partnership already has arrangements in place to ensure the quality of the data used and produced by partners, including the use of a common Performance Information Management System (PIMS), which all partners have access to, to enable partnership performance data to be captured and reported on a partnership-wide basis.
- 2.4. The Data Quality agreement for Wirral Local Strategic Partnership, in Appendix One, sets out the Partnership's approach to Data Quality clarifies the partnership's data quality requirements and the responsibilities of those involved.
- 2.5. This agreement does not replace any data quality agreements or protocols in place within partner organisations.
- 2.6. The following partners are asked to sign up to the principles in the Data Quality Agreement:

Wirral Council
NHS Wirral
Jobcentre Plus
Learning & Skills Council
Merseyside Police
Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Voluntary & Community Sectors Network
Connexions
Wirral Partnership Homes
Mersey Travel
Wirral Probation Service
Energy Saving Trust Advisory Centre (ESTAC)
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. Executive Board members are asked to endorse the partnership data quality agreement and named partners are requested to sign and return a copy of the attached agreement.
- 3.2. Thematic Delivery Partnership Chairs are requested to communicate the agreement to each Thematic Delivery Partnership.

Jim Wilkie

Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services

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