

Wirral Plan 2019-20 Q4 - Pledge Overview Report
Transport and technology infrastructure fit for the future

Overview from Lead Cabinet Member

We have continued to make progress in Q4 however due to Covid 19, some works have been suspended. We are working to develop a forward programme for transport to support the climate emergency and ensure active travel is at the heart of our policies and programmes. We are on track to achieve Level 3 in the Department for Transport Highways Asset Management Self-Assessment Process to demonstrate efficient and effective working practices in highways maintenance by the end of this year (2020). Delivery of A41 Key Route Network Improvement Scheme completed early with certificate issued in February 2020. All buses operating in Merseyside can now accept contactless payments and the level of take up of the facility continues to grow. Delivery of the Tower Road Project to implement major public realm improvements to provide high quality facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and reduce traffic speed is due for completion in February 2021. We look forward to continuing to work with partners across the Wirral to develop our transport programme to support our climate action plan.

| Wirral Plan Indicator | Indicator | Wirral Plan Start | Benchmark Data | Year End 2018-19 | 2019-20 Q1 | 2019-20 Q2 | 2019-20 Q3 | 2019-20 Q4 | Year End 2019-20 | Trend (See Key) | Comment |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------|--|
| Increased the volume percentage of people cycling | Annual Higher is better | 0% (index for 2013-14) | | 59% (2017-18) | | | | | | n/a | Action Lead not able to provide update |
| Maintain the condition of Wirral's strategic network – Non-principal Roads | Annual Lower is better | 2.20% (2014-15) | English Metropolitan Authorities: 5.00% (2015-16) North West: 6.00% (2015-16) | 1.65% (2017-18) | | | | | 1.65% (2018-19) | Same | |
| Maintain the condition of Wirral's strategic network – Principal Roads | Annual Lower is better | 1.40% (2014-15) | English Metropolitan Authorities: 4.00% (2015-16) North West: 4.00% (2015-16) | 1.90% (2017-18) | | | | | 1.9% (2018-19) | Same | |
| Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents | Quarterly Lower is better | 140 (2014-15) | English Metropolitan Authorities: 107 (2013-15) North West: 90 (2013-15) | 99 (2019-20) | Green Actual: 19 Target: 22 (Q1) | Green Actual: 36 Target: 47 (Q2) | Green Provisional: 57 Target 70 (Q3) | Green Provisional: 86 Target: 94 (Q4) | Green Provisional: 86 Target: 94 (2019-20) | Better | Better than expected progress in reducing road collisions resulting in death or serious injury arising from current Wirral Council Road Safety Plan and ongoing activities with partner agencies. Additional funding from Road Safety Trust over previous 2 years has assisted in further development of innovative Mind Your Business activity aimed at driving for business. Improved targeted enforcement, education and engineering measures have also assisted. |
| Supporting Measure | Indicator | Wirral Plan Start | Benchmark Data | Year End 2018-19 | 2019-20 Q1 | 2019-20 Q2 | 2019-20 Q3 | 2019-20 Q4 | Year End 2019-20 | Trend | Comment |
| % levels of satisfaction overall with transport and highway services. | Annual Higher is better | 56.7% (2015) | National Highways and Transport Survey: 54.0% (2017) | 54.0% (2018) | | | | | 51.0% (2019) | Worse | |
| Increase levels of public satisfaction with public transport | Annual Higher is better | 64% (2015) | National Highways and Transport Survey: 61% (2017) | 64% (2018) | | | | | 59% (2019) | Worse | |
| Increase levels of public satisfaction with walking/cycling facilities | Annual Higher is better | 56% (2015) | National Highways and Transport Survey: 55% (2017) | 52% (2018) | | | | | 51% (2019) | Worse | |
| Travel Training – Number of successfully travel trained young people (Integrated Transport) | Annual Higher is better | 26 (2014-15 Acad Year) | | 17 (2018-19 Acad year) | | | | | 14 (2019-20 Acad year) | Worse | |

Priority 01: Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently

| Action | Lead Agency | Status Current Period | Timescale | Status | Progress (Outcome / Impact) |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Achieve Level 3 in the Department for Transport Highways Asset Management Self-Assessment Process to demonstrate efficient and effective working practices in highways maintenance. | Wirral Council | Green | May 2018 - Dec 2019 | Ongoing in to 2020-21 | Timescale for achieving Level 3 moved back to 2021 by Department for Transport. February 2020 self-assessment confirms still at Level 2 but updated Policy/ Strategy recently approved by Cabinet Member and continue to make good progress to achieve Level 3 by the end of 2020. |
| Implementation of a marketing and communication programme to improve the perception of the condition of the transport infrastructure and encourage the use of sustainable transport. | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2017 - May 2020 | Complete | <p>Communications in Q4 focussed continued to ensure timely updates were provided on highways and major investment schemes, this included the A41 corridor scheme, new investment around Tower Road, cycling infrastructure and resuming planned maintenance work. Partnership comms supported the launch of Bike Life and road safety projects. The highways asset management communications strategy was updated and work in this area will continue as business as usual in future years.</p> <p>Social media posts to support this work had a combined reach of 85,387 and a combined total engagement of 13,265 on Facebook.</p> <p>Links to full news stories are as below: 131 - 9 Jan A41 Corridor: https://wirralview.com/news/a41-works-be-complete-march 43 - 21 Jan Engage Driving: https://wirralview.com/news/limited-tickets-remaining-local-driving-instructors-engage-seminar 3,559 - 18 Feb Roads works: https://wirralview.com/news/surface-treatments-underway-29-more-roads 176 - 24 Feb Mock Trial: https://wirralview.com/news/mock-trial-encourages-safer-driving-work 100 - 4 March Completion of A41 Corridor: https://wirralview.com/news/major-a41-roadworks-project-completed-ahead-time 852 - 4 March Bike Life: https://wirralview.com/news/bike-life-scheme-launched 2,694 - 13 March Tower Road: https://wirralview.com/news/tower-road-set-receive-improvements-fit-future</p> |
| Street Lighting across the Borough; launch of Phase 2 LED lighting to modernise and improve the street lighting stock and improve energy efficiency. | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2018 - Mar 2021 | Ongoing in to 2020-21 | LED Phase 2 contract awarded to SSE Limited and work commenced late September 2019. Contractor has been making good progress so far exceeding monthly targets for lantern replacements however work suspended at the end of the period due to Covid19. |
| Business case development to deliver transport schemes to support the delivery of regeneration programmes in the Borough - Birkenhead Town Centre, Hind Street and Wirral Waters | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2019 - Mar 2021 | Ongoing in to 2020-21 | Outline Business Case for A41 Phase 1 submitted to the Combined Authority on the 17th March. This OBC, which has been prepared by Mott MacDonald includes the development of a green corridor through Birkenhead town centre along the disused rail line, creation of new road infrastructure around the Hind Street area to provide access to the development site and the removal of the Wirral owned flyover from the A41. This OBC will be submitted to the CA Investment Panel for consideration in May and if successful the Council will be invited to progress to full business case stage with a target sub mission date of this to the CA of October 2020. |
| Delivery of A41 Key Route Network Improvement Scheme - carriageway reconstruction, replacement and renewal of street lighting columns and cabling and road restraint system. | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2019 - Mar 2020 | Ongoing in to 2020-21 | <p>Early Contract completion with certificate issued February 2020. Project site works deemed complete. Remaining works/snagging to be completed as soon as feasible.</p> <p>Outputs New Carriageway Resurfacing: 100% complete- 9400 Delivered Upgraded Street Lighting Columns and LED: 100% complete-114 columns delivered. Upgraded Street Lighting Cable Infrastructure: 96% complete- 5000 Delivered New / Upgraded Vehicle Restraint System: 94% complete – 5750 delivered.</p> <p>Social Value Social Value Committed : £90,420.00 Social Value Achieved (£) : £97,186.65 Social Value Achieved (%) : 107%</p> |
| Implementation of Highways Asset Management System to support efficient and effective working practices in highways management. | Wirral Plan | Green | Apr 2019 - Mar 2020 | Complete | Strengthened project governance introduced and making good progress loading asset data and developing new processes for Phase 1 elements (Street works, Pavement Management System, Street Lighting, Drainage). |
| Update Wirral Council Driving for Work Policy and share as framework document to support consistent policies to be adopted throughout Wirral Partnership and other local Wirral Organisations. | Wirral Council | Amber | Apr 2019 - Mar 2020 | Partially completed: continuing in to 2020-21 | Draft of policy has been prepared and discussions on going with regard to travel policies linked to Covid response and Climate Change strategy. |

Priority 02: Reliable and Affordable Public Transport

| Action | Lead Agency | Status Current Period | Timescale | Status | Progress (Outcome / Impact) |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Continue delivery of the Long Term Rail Strategy to improve accessibility and ensure that rail supports economic growth. | Merseytravel | Green | Jun 2016 - Mar 2020 | Partially completed: continuing in to 2020-21 | <p>*Work to identify options to increase capacity at Liverpool Central Station had moved to the next phase. An Outline Business Case looking at 2-track and 3-track options was due to be completed by autumn 2020.</p> <p>The outcome will inform funding discussions with the Department for Transport.</p> <p>*Work on the Access for All improvements at Birkenhead Park Station. Work will take place during Control Period 6 (2019-24) – design works were due to be completed during 2020. Work to review the design and delivery methodology of the new lift at Liverpool Central Station scheme is progressing.</p> <p>* The Meols Station 'Access for All' Lifts had been installed and were now in service.</p> <p>* Class D230 trains for the Borderlands line were due to arrive shortly. A half hourly service on this route was due to begin in December 2021</p> <p>*The extended park and ride facilities at Spital (71 new spaces, lighting, CCTV etc.) are now complete.</p> <p>*Park and ride improvements at Bromborough would now be undertaken by Merseyrail Electrics. There are due to complete in December 2020.</p> |
| Deliver marketing and communications programmes to encourage new and existing users and change the perception of bus travel, including the development of a dedicated point of contact. | LCR Bus Alliance | Green | Oct 2016 - May 2020 | Complete | <p>The key work areas within the 2019/20 LCR Bus Alliance Business and Investment Plan are to Improve Network Punctuality, Reliability and Resilience; improve the Customer Journey; and Customer Development and Growth. Fare paying patronage continues to grow.</p> <p>The key work areas within the 2019/20 LCR Bus Alliance Business and Investment Plan continue e.g. to Improve Network Punctuality, Reliability and Resilience; improve the Customer Journey; and Customer Development and Growth. Fare paying patronage continues to grow.</p> <p>*The Better by Bus campaign "We cannot wait to tackle climate change" continues to raise awareness of the local and global environmental benefits of travelling by bus and has been pursuing ideas around living and edible bus stops/shelters.</p> <p>*Feedback from the programme of engagement via the LCR Listens initiative seeking views on what groups/members of the public feel is important (including transport), will be used to inform future work.</p> <p>*The new Merseytravel website is now live.</p> <p>*The preferred option for the delivery of future bus services had been identified as bus franchising. Further work on this option would now take place.</p> |
| Deliver a simpler and easier to understand smart ticketing package to ensure value for money. | LCR Bus Alliance | Green | Oct 2016 - Mar 2020 | Complete | <p>All buses operating in Merseyside can now accept contactless payments and the level of take up of the facility continues to grow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on the development of a smartcard portal continued. • Work to introduce ticketing offers via the new MetroCard (MetroSmart website) continued. |
| Deliver new rolling stock to the Merseyrail network to provide a modern fit for purpose rail system. | Merseytravel/ Merseyrail | Green | Apr 2018 - Mar 2021 | Partially completed: continuing in to 2020-21 | <p>The first of the new trains had arrived at Kirkdale Depot and is currently being tested on the Merseyrail Electrics network. This would enable any initial issues identified to be rectified by the manufacturer in advance of further units being delivered. Following successful testing, the new trains will be introduced onto the network on a phased approach during 2020.</p> <p>*Marketing campaign for the new Merseyrail rolling stock will coincide with the arrival of the new rail units</p> |

Priority 03: Encourage Healthy Active Travel

| Action | Lead Agency | Status Current Period | Timescale | Status | Progress (Outcome / Impact) |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Delivery of the Tower Road Project to implement major public realm improvements to provide high quality facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and reduce traffic speed. | Wirral Council / Peel | Green | Mar 2018 - Jun 2020 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Scheme started on site on (agreed revised) schedule on 8th June 2020 (Completion scheduled for February 2021) |
| Delivery of new footway and cycle route along North Bank West | Wirral Council / Peel | Amber | Apr 2019 - Dec 2020 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Award of Contract imminent. Start on site expected 4th August 2020 (Completion scheduled for December 2020) |
| Development of Local Cycling Walking Implementation Plan (LCWIP) Phase 1 – Leasowe to Seacombe Ferry. | LCR / Wirral Council | Amber | Apr 2019 - May 2019 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Design work on schedule. Consultation to start summer 2020. |
| Development and delivery of Local Cycling Walking Implementation Plan (LCWIP) Phase 2 Corridors - New Brighton to Birkenhead via Liscard, and Birkenhead to Wirral Boundary (Junction 5) | LCR / Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2019 - Sep 2021 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Design work on schedule. Consultation to start summer 2020. |
| Delivery of Cycling and Walking Engagement Programme - Bikes and Boots. | Wirral Council / Cycling Projects | Amber | Apr 2019 - Oct 2020 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Project ongoing - some delivery challenges due to Covid restrictions and revised programme to be developed. |
| Submit application to On Street Residential Charge Point Scheme to deliver a pilot charging scheme with a view to developing a Wirral policy. | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2019 - Mar 2020 | Complete | Wirral Council were successful in receiving £38k of funding and the work was due to take place in March but had been paused due to COVID-19 pandemic. Revised delivery programme to be prepared. |

Priority 04: Inclusive integrated transport that supports our residents needs

| Action | Lead Agency | Status Current Period | Timescale | Status | Progress (Outcome / Impact) |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Develop and implement on-line portal to enable improved access to information for key users/ stakeholders | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2018 - Oct 2019 | Partially completed; continuing in to 2020-21 | Further work to complete implementation of MYROUTE on-line portal ongoing and due to updated functionality requirements this is now scheduled for completion in summer/ autumn 2020. |
| Carry out service review to improve efficiency and effectiveness of Assisted Travel Service with focus on improving outcomes, especially in relation to promoting independence, and achieving financial efficiencies | Wirral Council | Green | Apr 2019 - Mar 2020 | Complete | Management review completed and new staffing structure implemented from March 2020. |

Report Key

Trend - Performance is shown as Better, Same or Worse compared with the last reporting period except for Number of People Killed or Seriously Injured which is compared with same period the previous year.

Target - Where targets apply, these are shown as either Blue, Green, Amber, Red based on the agreed tolerance range for individual measures.

Action - These are shown as either:

- Green (on track for delivery on time)
- Amber (off track but action being taken to get back on track)
- Red (off track and won't deliver on time)