



## Police bosses seek to calm fears over police stations

■ **Consultant report suggests 'closures' ahead**  
■ **Police Authority says 'not in the foreseeable future'**

It was revealed in the Daily Post that police stations in Wirral could be under threat of closure if a new 'Area Command Centre' goes ahead.

The Area Command Centre would lead to an assessment of other 'access points' (stations) for closure, according to a report by the consultants to the Police.

Leah Fraser, prospective Conservative MP for Wallasey, reacted strongly against the idea that stations such as Manor Road could close: "Communities need more visible policing and that

means more police, on the streets, working from local stations.

"Merseyside Police has been struggling for years with a lack of money from the Government. Closing police stations must not be seen as the solution."

Now, the Police Authority has sought to calm fears that the new Area Command Centre will lead to closures.

At a meeting, attended by Leah, the Chairman of the Authority said there was no intention to close stations in Wirral in the 'foreseeable future'.

### Mersey Court: why demolish?

Plans have been announced to 'decommission' Mersey Court and Charter House. Conservatives have called for more consultation with residents and an investigation as to why the original estimates to refurbish the blocks was so inaccurate. **Meanwhile**, Labour wants to stop Councillors having a say in what happens to homes owned by Wirral Partnership Homes.

## 87% say Council neglect made Liscard Hall attack more likely



*The bulldozers move in - the speed at which they did was one of the top comments by residents in the recent Conservative survey*

**There has been a massive response to the Action Team's survey on the destruction of Liscard Hall.**

Almost nine out of ten people who took part said the Council's neglect of this historic Grade II Listed building made the final attack by vandals more likely.

Local campaigner Leah Fraser said: "In spite of what the Council now says, Liscard Hall is a victim of their neglect."

## Liscard Hall: your views

**There was a big response to our survey on Liscard Hall. Here are some of the comments from people in Seacombe and Poulton on what they would like to see happen to the site now:**

"Something for youth and children because there is nothing for them in Wallasey." suggested Mrs H, Gorse Lane.

Mrs R in Hampstead Road asked "Why have we not got any park keepers?"

Security of the Park was also raised by Mr W in York Road: "Shut the Park at dusk, like it used to be."

Mr C in Norman Road felt strongly that the site should remain public.

Mrs B in St Paul's Road added: "Anything that does not make a profit for the Council. They never accepted any proposal in the past."

Mrs M in The Grove asks: "How come the building withstood bombs in the war and who gave permission for demolition?"

Mrs M in Silverbeech Road, overlooking the Park, would like to see a garden created as there is in Vale Park but adds: "Our current council couldn't organise a bus queue!"

Meanwhile, Mr R in Wheatland Lane, who didn't feel the Council's neglect contributed to the attack, says: "If a new building is erected, then a private security company should be brought in to prevent further vandalism."

*Thanks to everyone who replied.*

## Mums and dads hit by Wirral school dinner price hike

The cost of school dinners in Wirral primary schools is to rise by 15%. The move will see Wirral's children paying more than any other in the region.

Leah Fraser said: "Everyone is struggling with the rising cost of living, especially families with young children. If other councils can keep their costs down, I don't see why Wirral cannot."



## Welcome to Wallasey!

Gorsey Lane is one of the main routes into Wallasey from Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The land on the corner with Poulton Road is one of the first things many people see. Leah Fraser is pushing the Council to use their powers to have the area cleaned up. This story also appears in the Wirral Globe.

## The future of Poulton House?

Following a report by the Government's Primary Care Trust, the Council wants to change the way in which Poulton House provides care for the elderly. Now, Leah Fraser has called for the matter to be discussed in public at a meeting of the Area Forum, which she chairs. Look out for details.

## Police arrest robbery suspect

Last month, we reported on the disgusting robbery of a 92-year-old widow in Seacombe as she returned home from the Post Office. Now, police have arrested a female suspect for the crime. Leah Fraser visited the victim and welcomed the arrest: "The Police, like the rest of us, were disgusted by this attack and they've done a cracking job to arrest, and keep in custody, the suspect so quickly."

Local blogs are 'a hit'

August was a record month for the local blog site [www.leahfraser.com](http://www.leahfraser.com). More than 37,000 people have visited the site for local news.

You can also now sign up for news updates on the sites.



### Local issues update

## Norwood Road

Conservatives have asked for the grass area near to Gorsey Lane to be litter picked. Meanwhile, we've also had a street lamp repaired, which hadn't been working since March.

## Clarendon Road

We've asked the Anti Social Behaviour Team to help some residents who complained to us about yobs in the road. Pavements in the road aren't great either and we've asked for a Council inspection to see what can be done.

## Brentwood Street

Conservatives will soon be appointing a new governor to the Early Years Centre. Leah Fraser adds: "We're determined to give more support to young mums and dads and the Early Years Centres do a great job."

## Poulton Road

Residents have contacted the Conservatives, worried about the number of lorries using Poulton Road instead of the Dock Road. We've been in touch with the Highways Department and asked for further investigations.

## Albermarle Street

We've nominated this road for Council action on dog fouling.

# Drivers urge Eagle to rethink road tax hike

## What will you be paying?

- An extra £60 on a 2006 Renault Scenic
- An extra £100 on a 2005 Volvo S60
- An extra £220 on a 2001 Ford Mondeo
- An extra £245 on a 2001 VW Sharan

Four out of five drivers who have bought cars since 2001 will pay more tax.

There has been a massive response to the petition asking MP Angela Eagle to think again on plans to force 9 million drivers to pay higher road tax.

Leah Fraser, who will be challenging the Labour MP at the next election, said: "This tax rise is not a 'green tax'; Angela's plans will see tax for many cars double overnight with no effect on carbon emissions at all."

## new sudoku

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