

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 28th March 2018

Councillor Michael Cheshire: Leader's Report

Cabinet Lead for: Corporate Strategy, Devolution, quality and Programmes

I am pleased to announce that on 12th March, the Conservative group voted Cllr Michael Wilson to be Leader of the Group following my departure in May. His position as Leader of the Council will be formalised at Full Council on 9th May 2018. I wish to place on record my congratulations to Cllr Wilson, and to wish him and his Cabinet every success for his future – I will be watching events closely from the Principality of Wales.

On Wednesday 7th March, I attended the Annual General Meeting of Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Limited. The 2017 Annual Report are available in the Councillors Coffee room for those who are interested.

Also on 7th March, I was delighted to present nine You're a Star awards to officers. There were some fantastic nominations this quarter with some well-deserved nominees and winners from a wide variety of teams. A running thread through many of the nominations was officer's ability to provide exceptional customer service and a willingness to go above and beyond normal expectations of their role and to always put the customer and the community at the heart of our work.

On Friday 23rd March I attended the fourth annual Havant Borough Council Youth Conference, the theme was 'Positive Choices, Positive Futures'. Pupils from twelve of the borough's secondary schools were invited and took part in various workshops and activities throughout the day. I held a Q&A session with the pupils, which was very enjoyable. We look forward to continuing to engage with the local schools.

I would also like to take the opportunity in this, my final formal report to Council, to offer my sincere thanks to you all who have worked so hard as Ward Councillors in the Borough of Havant. During my leadership tenure, I have not heard one single moan or groan from any resident about the performance of the Ward Member. In fact, the comments that I have received, both in writing and verbally have all, without exception been complementary.

It would also be remiss of me not to thank the Cabinet for the amount of work they all put in for the good of their Borough, their support as we formulated our Corporate Strategy for Havant, and for their good humour during those times that have been, shall we say, challenging. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such talented people from all walks of life.

I could not leave this place without formally thanking the CEO, the Executive Board, Heads of Service and all of their teams for the fantastic work they do, not only for the Membership, but also more importantly for our Residents. Their determination and drive to do the best for our customers are beyond reproach, particularly with the uncertainties of the past and the support difficulties we are currently experiencing. I am sure all officers here will pass on my total thanks to them for a work so professionally and competently undertaken.

Finally, I leave this Council having done the very best I could over the last 12 years. I have lead it in the way I know best over the last 3 and half years, with honour, with passion and with respect and good humour – but I have always had the residents of Havant in mind.

I leave this Council with my head held high, and in very, very capable hands.

End.
